

Study Area

The study area is comprised of 41 counties overlying the Ogallala Aquifer which are shaded in Figure 2. Within the study area, there are nine groundwater conservation districts overseeing and monitoring the Ogallala Aquifer within their respective counties or district. These include Garza County, High Plains, Llano Estacado, Mesa, North Plains, Panhandle, Permian Basin, Sandy Land, and South Plains Underground Water Conservation Districts. Gross revenue data for agricultural crop production were available from previous studies (Amosson et al., 2011; Weinheimer et al., 2011; 2012) for the 33 counties shaded in blue (the black shaded counties were either not considered in the original analyses or are not covered by a groundwater conservation district). These data were used to generate the backward-linked and forward-linked regional economic contributions from agricultural crop production under the baseline scenario.

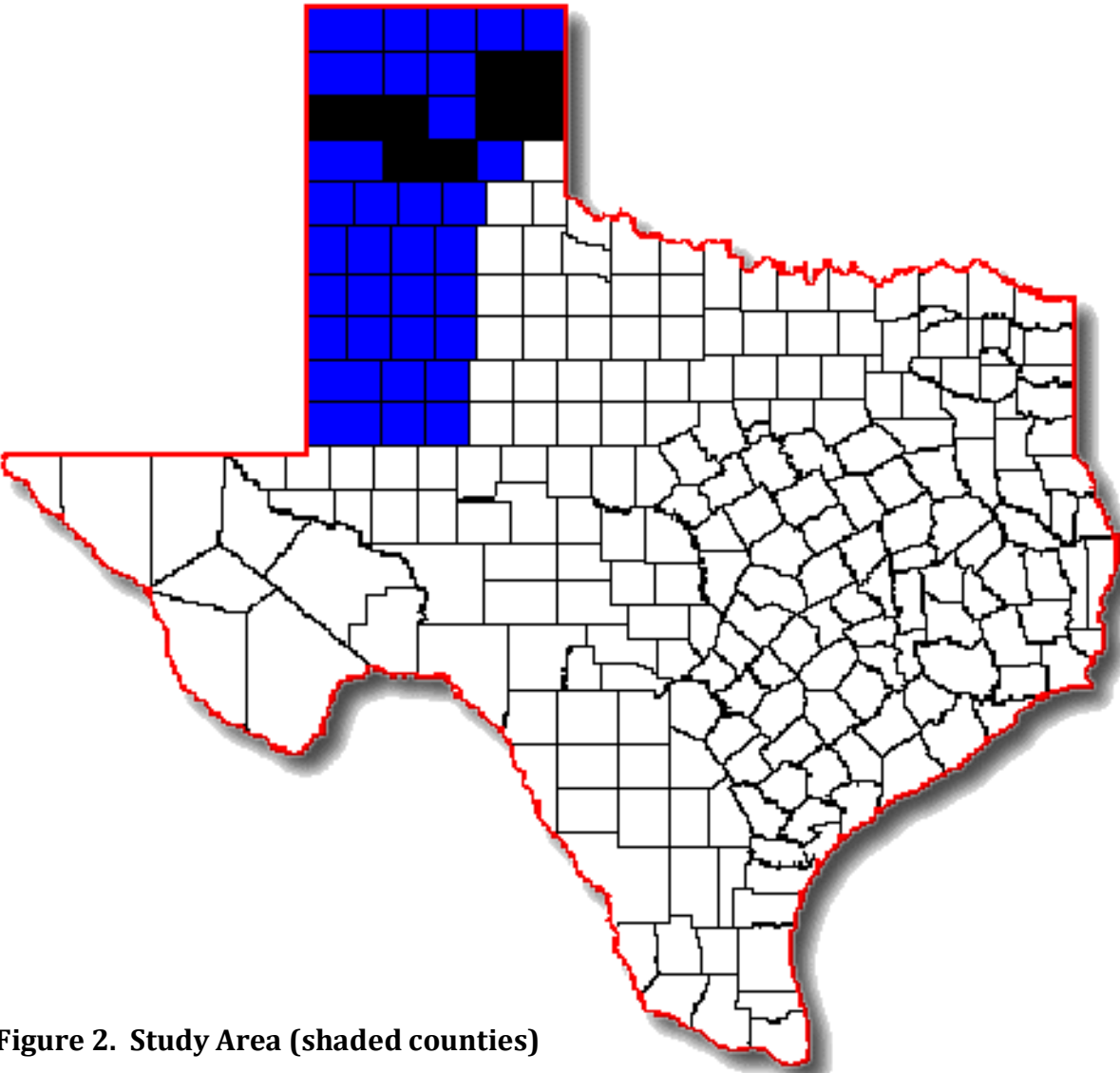


Figure 2. Study Area (shaded counties)