



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

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For the week of: March 1 - 7, 2010

Agricultural Summary: South Texas received little to no precipitation while the remaining parts of the State received 0.01 to 1.0 inch of rainfall. Winter wheat in the Northern High Plains benefitted from the recent increase of warm weather. Oat fields were making good progress in the Northern Low Plains and were recovering from some freeze damage that occurred in South Central Texas. Corn planting was delayed in most of the Blacklands due to wet conditions. Sorghum fieldwork resumed as conditions began to dry in the Northern High Plains. Excessively wet conditions have slowed fieldwork for cotton in the Southern Low Plains. Growers were waiting for drier conditions to apply herbicides. Sugarcane, citrus, and vegetables continued to be harvested in the Lower Valley. Onions made good progress with additional irrigation. Recent rains helped improve pastures and livestock conditions in most areas of the State. Spring lambing and kidding were taking place in the Edwards Plateau. Topsoil moisture was mostly adequate to surplus across the state.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Winter wheat in the Northern High Plains benefitted from the recent increase of warm weather. There was standing water in low areas of wheat fields in the Cross Timbers. Wheat condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Oat fields were making good progress in the Northern Low Plains and were recovering from some freeze damage that occurred in South Central Texas. Oat condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Corn: Corn planting was delayed in most of the Blacklands due to wet conditions. In the Upper Coast and South Texas, farmers attempted to plant corn where it was dry enough.

Sorghum: Sorghum fieldwork resumed as conditions began to dry in the Northern High Plains. In South Central Texas and the Coastal Bend area, producers were actively planting.

Cotton: Excessively wet conditions have slowed fieldwork for cotton in the Southern Low Plains. Growers were waiting for drier conditions to apply herbicides. Land was being prepared for planting in the Trans-Pecos.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Sugarcane, citrus, and vegetables continued to be harvested in the Lower Valley. Onions made good progress with additional irrigation.

Livestock, Range and Pasture Report

Recent rains helped improve pastures and livestock conditions in most areas of the State. Spring lambing and kidding were taking place in the Edwards Plateau. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good.

Crop Progress Table – March 7, 2010 *

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2010	2009	Average 2005 – 2009
Corn	Planted	6	19	17
Sorghum	Planted	3	6	10

* Visit our web site to view the crop progress regional maps, available the following working day of this release at www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Texas/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/maps/index.htm.

Crop Condition Table – March 7, 2010

Crop	Percent					Index ^{1/}	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2010	2009
Wheat	9	36	37	13	5	68	34
Oats	9	30	27	14	20	58	19
Range & Pasture	4	25	38	23	10	-	-

^{1/} The formula for the condition index is $I = (5V + 25P + 60F + 90G + 110E)/100$ where I=crop condition Index and V, P, F, G, E = percentage of crop rated very poor, poor, fair, good, excellent.

Top Soil Moisture by District – March 7, 2010

Condition	Percent of Acreage, by District ^{1/}														
	1-N	1-S	2-N	2-S	3	4	5-N	5-S	6	7	8-N	8-S	9	10-N	10-S
Very Short	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	24	3	0	0	1	2	0
Short	14	8	6	0	0	0	0	4	43	5	0	3	4	12	7
Adequate	75	77	72	65	43	35	43	66	33	76	50	57	35	82	93
Surplus	10	11	22	35	57	65	57	29	0	16	50	40	60	4	0

^{1/} High Plains: 1-N, 1-S; Low Rolling Plains: 2-N, 2-S; North Central Texas: 3, 4; East Texas: 5-N, 5-S. Trans-Pecos: 6; Edwards Plateau: 7; South Central Texas: 8-N, 8-S; Upper Coast: 9; South Texas: 10-N; Lower Valley: 10-S.

Precipitation Table – March 7, 2010 ^{1/}

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions ^{2/}	Inches of Accumulation				Percent
	Previous Week (March 1 – 7)	Month-to-Date (March 1 – 7)	Year-to-Date (Jan 1 – Mar 7)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months of Normal (Dec - Feb)
High Plains	0.11	0.11	3.25	19.64	200
Low Rolling Plains	0.22	0.22	3.51	24.51	146
North Central Texas	0.48	0.48	5.90	35.23	102
East Texas	0.53	0.53	6.55	48.08	83
Trans-Pecos	0.03	0.03	1.89	13.19	137
Edwards Plateau	0.10	0.10	4.45	24.73	150
South Central Texas	0.04	0.04	6.61	36.21	141
Upper Coast	0.39	0.39	7.54	50.31	114
South Texas	0.01	0.01	4.16	24.08	166
Lower Valley	0.00	0.00	4.25	25.43	201

1/ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

2/ High Plains: 1-N, 1-S; Low Rolling Plains: 2-N, 2-S; North Central Texas: 3, 4; East Texas: 5-N, 5-S. Trans-Pecos: 6; Edwards Plateau: 7; South Central Texas: 8-N, 8-S; Upper Coast: 9; South Texas: 10-N; Lower Valley: 10-S.

For more weather information, please visit the following web sites:

www.srh.noaa.gov/ufcshare/precip_analysis_new.php and www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html

Cooperating Agencies:

- Texas AgriLife Extension Service
- Texas Department of Agriculture
- National Weather Service

