



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 29 – April 4, 2010

Agricultural Summary: The central and northeastern part of the state received up to 0.50 inches of rainfall while the rest of the state received little to no rainfall. Across the Plains, corn field preparation for spring planting took place and wheat condition improved due to warmer temperatures and adequate soil moisture. Producers sprayed wheat in some areas of the Blacklands due to stripe and leaf rust. Dryland wheat and oats suffered in South Texas due to lack of rainfall. Corn planting was delayed in the Blacklands due to wet conditions. Sorghum field preparation was active in the Cross Timbers. Spring planting was active in South East Texas. Sorghum progressed well in the Coastal Bend due to improved growing conditions. Cotton field preparation was active in the northern part of the state. Irrigation on cotton fields was active in the Trans-Pecos. Cotton planting in the Coastal Bend made good progress due to improved conditions. Supplemental feeding of livestock decreased in most areas of the state due to improved spring pastures. Topsoil moisture was mostly adequate to surplus across the state.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Wheat condition across the Plains improved due to warmer temperatures and adequate soil moisture. Producers sprayed wheat in some areas of the Blacklands due to stripe and leaf rust. Dryland wheat and oats suffered in South Texas due to lack of rainfall. Wheat condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Oat condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Corn: Corn field preparation for spring planting took place in most areas of the Plains. Corn planting was delayed in the Blacklands due to wet conditions. Spring planting was active in the southern part of the state due to drier conditions.

Sorghum: Sorghum field preparation was active in the Cross Timbers. Sorghum planting was active in South East Texas. Sorghum progressed well in the Coastal Bend due to improved growing conditions. Sorghum emerged in South Texas.

Cotton: Cotton field preparation was active in the northern part of the state. Pre-planting irrigation on cotton fields was active in the Trans-Pecos. Cotton planting in the Coastal Bend made good progress due to improved conditions.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Vegetable planting made good progress in the Cross Timbers. Vegetable field preparation was active in North East Texas due to improving conditions.

Livestock, Range and Pasture Report

Supplemental feeding of livestock decreased in most areas of the state due to improved spring pastures. Range and pasture progressed well across the state due to adequate moisture and warmer temperatures. Livestock conditions improved across the state due to adequate forage. Sheep and goats were being worked in the Edwards Plateau. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good.

Crop Progress Table – April 4, 2010 *

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2010	2009	Average 2005 – 2009
Corn	Planted	40	56	57
	Emerged	24	39	40
Cotton	Planted	6	6	10
Rice	Planted	35	64	49
Sorghum	Planted	37	42	45
Soybeans	Planted	13	14	22
Winter Wheat	Headed	5	22	11
Oats	Headed	11	46	34

* 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 – April 4, 2010

Crop	Percent					Index ^{1/}	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2010	2009
Wheat	13	47	31	7	2	77	33
Oats	17	43	27	9	4	76	27
Range & Pasture	8	37	35	15	5	-	-

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 – April 4, 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	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	24	2	0	0	1	1	0
Short	15	15	18	9	6	0	4	6	49	24	3	9	5	25	20
Adequate	83	76	76	81	82	64	75	78	27	62	77	85	83	74	80
Surplus	0	7	6	10	12	36	21	14	0	12	20	6	11	0	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 – April 4, 2010 ^{1/}

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions ^{2/}	Inches of Accumulation				Percent
	Previous Week (Mar 29 – Apr 4)	Month-to-Date (March 1 – 31)	Year-to-Date (Jan 1 – Apr 4)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months of Normal (Dec – Feb)
High Plains	0.00	1.12	4.26	19.64	200
Low Rolling Plains	0.07	1.13	4.49	24.51	146
North Central Texas	0.14	2.54	8.10	35.23	102
East Texas	0.05	2.59	8.66	48.08	83
Trans-Pecos	0.00	0.14	2.00	13.19	137
Edwards Plateau	0.00	1.17	5.52	24.73	150
South Central Texas	0.00	1.18	7.75	36.21	141
Upper Coast	0.01	1.61	8.77	50.31	114
South Texas	0.00	0.60	4.75	24.08	166
Lower Valley	0.00	0.35	4.60	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/rfcshare/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

