



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

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**Issue:** TX-CW1608

**Released:** April 14, 2008

**For the week of:** April 7 - 13, 2008

**Agricultural Summary:** Strong storms with winds were observed in some Northern regions of Texas. Some of the High Plains received up to ½ inch of rain, and parts of the Low Plains received up to 2 or 3 inches of rain. The Cross Timber, the Blacklands, and North East Texas observed from 0.25 up to 2 or 3 inches in some areas. The rest of the state received very little to no rainfall. Small grains continued to benefit from the recent rains in the Cross Timbers. Pre-watering and land preparations continued for the upcoming cotton planting in the Plains. Corn planting continued in the Blacklands, while land preparations continued in the Northern High Plains. Some producers planted some early sorghum in the Southern Low Plains. Fall planted onions showed good growth in the Trans-Pecos, while onion harvest continued in the Lower Valley. Pecan trees were beginning to leaf out in North East Texas, the Trans-Pecos, Edwards Plateau, and South Central. Top soil moisture was mostly short to adequate statewide. Supplemental feeding of livestock decreased as pastures began to green up in most areas of the state.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Small grains continued to benefit from the recent rains in the Cross Timbers. Some producers in the Blacklands sprayed for rust. Wheat has headed in some parts of Edwards Plateau and in South Central. Wheat condition was mostly fair to poor statewide. Oat condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Cotton:** Pre-watering and land preparations continued for the upcoming cotton planting in the Plains. Cotton planting slowed in parts of the Blacklands due to the recent rains. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Corn:** Planting continued in the Blacklands, while land preparations continued in the Northern High Plains. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Sorghum:** Some producers planted some early sorghum in the Southern Low Plains. Sorghum condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

## Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Fall planted onions showed good growth in the Trans-Pecos, while onion harvest continued in the Lower Valley. Spring planting of tomatoes and other vegetable crops continued in North East Texas. Carrot harvest started along with some early potato fields.

**Pecans:** Pecan trees were beginning to leaf out in North East Texas, the Trans-Pecos, Edwards Plateau, and South Central.

## Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Supplemental feeding of livestock decreased as pastures began to green up in most areas of the state. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Crop Progress Table – April 13, 2008**

Crop	Stage	2008	2007	Average 2003 – 2007
- Percent -				
Corn	Planted	59	65	64
	Emerged	44	61	54
Cotton	Planted	16	12	16
Rice	Planted	80	44	69
	Emerged	58	30	42
Sorghum	Planted	60	55	49
Soybeans	Planted	44	35	41
Sunflowers	Planted	8	9	13
Winter Wheat	Headed	13	25	19
Oats	Headed	54	64	57

**Crop Condition Table – April 13, 2008**

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Percent					2008	2007
Corn	5	39	42	10	4	69	69
Cotton	0	34	19	29	18	50	--
Sorghum	0	40	33	19	8	61	--
Wheat	3	16	34	26	21	46	80
Oats	7	41	26	13	13	64	64
Range & Pasture	6	28	37	19	10	--	--

<sup>1/</sup> 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 13, 2008 \***

Condition	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
- Percent of Acreage -															
Very Short	57	45	16	9	1	0	0	0	59	20	9	84	9	66	60
Short	35	45	41	30	16	4	3	12	29	52	59	16	36	32	40
Adequate	8	10	37	58	76	60	49	64	12	28	32	0	50	2	0
Surplus	0	0	6	3	7	36	48	24	0	0	0	0	5	0	0

\* 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.

**Weather Information Table <sup>1/ 2/</sup>**

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous Week (April 7 - 13) Accumulation	Month-to-date (April 1 - 13) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Apr 13) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (Jan - Mar) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.43	0.43	0.77	18.87	16
Low Rolling Plains	1.27	1.31	2.71	23.78	43
North Central Texas	0.93	1.41	7.45	34.00	91
East Texas	0.70	1.66	11.57	45.69	93
Trans-Pecos	0.00	0.00	0.32	12.96	27
Edwards Plateau	0.22	0.39	2.69	24.01	65
South Central Texas	0.02	0.17	4.05	34.48	63
Upper Coast	0.01	0.20	9.22	47.63	101
South Texas	0.09	0.09	1.15	23.49	34
Lower Valley	0.00	0.00	1.93	25.34	54

<sup>1/</sup> Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

<sup>2/</sup> 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/rfcsshare/precip\\_analysis\\_new.php](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/rfcsshare/precip_analysis_new.php) and [www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html](http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html)

**Cooperating Agencies:**

Texas Agricultural Extension Service  
 Texas Department of Agriculture  
 National Weather Service

