



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

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**Issue:** TX-CW1707

**Released:** April 23, 2007

**For the week of:** April 16 - 22, 2007

**Agricultural Summary:** Weather conditions were unsettled during the week. Thunderstorms occurred over some areas of the state. Rainfall amounts varied from just a trace to 2.0 inches depending on the location of the storms. There were some reports of hail in areas of the Plains and Cross Timbers, but damage was minimal. Warmer temperatures, accompanied by windy, dry conditions reduced soil moisture in other areas of the state. The Panhandle received mostly 0.10 to 1.5 inches of rainfall, as isolated showers brought as much as 2.0 inches to small sections. A large section of the Cross Timbers and small areas of South East Texas received as much as 1.0 inch of rainfall, while the remaining areas of Central Texas received mostly 0.01 to 0.25 inches. Conditions in the Trans-Pecos area and South Texas were a bit drier as most producers experienced little to no rainfall. Currently, indications show that wheat damage from the previous cold front was much less than anticipated. As temperatures continue to increase, producers will be able to conduct further assessment of freeze damage. Supplemental feeding continued to decline across most areas of the state as forage growth increased.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Some producers in the Northern High Plains reported stem and node damage in wheat fields. In the Southern Low Plains, producers resumed spraying fields as some reported Hessian fly damage. Statewide, wheat and oat condition was mostly fair to good.

**Cotton:** Producers in the Southern Low Plains applied yellow herbicides as conditions allowed. Planting was ongoing in the Blacklands.

**Corn:** Planting was possible in some areas of the Northern High Plains, while many other areas remained too wet for farming activities. Statewide, corn condition was mostly fair to good.

## Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Harvest of cabbage continued in South Texas. Sugarcane, citrus, spring onions, and various other vegetables were being harvested in the Lower Valley.

**Pecans:** Leaf catkin development progressed in the Trans-Pecos.

## Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Pastures were “greening up” in the Northern Low Plains, but cold temperatures have slowed the progression of some warm season grasses. Fertilization of pastures continued to increase in North East Texas. Pasture condition continued to improve in the Edwards Plateau. Also in the Edwards Plateau, many producers were shearing sheep and goats and marking lambs. Pasture condition also continued to improve in South Central Texas due to continued moisture. In South Texas, there were some reports of adequate moisture levels allowing for good forage production while others indicated that more rainfall was needed in order to maintain the lush conditions. Statewide, range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good.

**Crop Progress Table – April 22, 2007**

Crop	Stage	2007	2006	Average 2002 – 2006
- Percent -				
Corn	Planted	68	71	69
	Emerged	65	61	60
Cotton	Planted	14	23	19
Rice	Planted	69	88	82
	Emerged	47	81	69
Sorghum	Planted	58	64	50
Soybeans	Planted	50	76	54
Sunflowers	Planted	16	27	15
Winter Wheat	Headed	39	36	31
Oats	Headed	76	66	--

**Crop Condition Table – April 22, 2007**

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Percent					2007	2006
Corn	9	44	24	13	10	68	59
Wheat	24	39	27	8	2	80	24
Oats	9	34	33	12	12	64	29
Range & Pasture	12	41	32	11	4	--	--

<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 22, 2007 \***

<b>Condition</b>	<b>1-N</b>	<b>1-S</b>	<b>2-N</b>	<b>2-S</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5-N</b>	<b>5-S</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8-N</b>	<b>8-S</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10-N</b>	<b>10-S</b>
- Percent of Acreage -															
Very Short	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	2	15	7	0	0	0	2	15
Short	5	13	11	7	9	8	18	19	58	29	1	18	1	23	35
Adequate	84	58	60	88	80	74	76	72	27	61	90	79	81	70	50
Surplus	11	29	29	4	11	16	5	7	0	3	9	3	18	5	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>**

<b>National Weather Service Climatic Divisions</b>	<b>Previous Week (April 16 - 22) Accumulation</b>	<b>Month-to-date (Apr 1 - 22) Accumulation</b>	<b>Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Apr 22) Accumulation</b>	<b>1961-90 Annual Normal</b>	<b>Previous Three Months (Jan - Mar) Percent of Normal</b>
High Plains	0.30	0.83	5.54	18.87	219
Low Rolling Plains	0.31	1.00	5.26	23.78	132
North Central Texas	0.35	0.87	9.77	34.00	133
East Texas	0.23	1.15	12.97	45.69	111
Trans Pecos	0.00	0.17	2.26	12.96	179
Edwards Plateau	0.04	0.45	6.99	24.01	184
South Central Texas	0.12	1.43	11.26	34.48	160
Upper Coast	0.22	1.91	16.25	47.63	160
South Texas	0.00	0.63	5.74	23.49	162
Lower Valley	0.00	0.61	4.75	25.34	116

<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/rfcshare/precip\\_analysis\\_new.php](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/rfcshare/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

