



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

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Issue: TX–CW1809

Released: May 4, 2009

For the week of: April 27 – May 3, 2009

Agricultural Summary: The central and northern part of the state received up to 10 inches of rainfall while the rest of the state received moderate amounts of moisture. Wheat has improved in the High Plains due to the recent rainfall. Producers were ready to harvest wheat and oats in South Texas. Cotton field preparation continued in parts of the Plains. Most of the cotton crop has emerged in the Edwards Plateau. Corn was being planted in the Northern High Plains. Corn has begun to tassel in South Texas. Cabbage harvest continued this past week while producers have begun to harvest green beans and potatoes. Pecan trees bloomed in the Trans-Pecos. Range and pasture conditions improved across the state due to the recent rainfall. Top soil moisture was mostly very short to adequate across the state.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Wheat has improved in the High Plains due to the recent rainfall. Freeze and drought damage to the wheat crop across the state was becoming more evident as the crop matured. Producers in the Cross Timbers were near completion of baling wheat hay before the recent rainfall. Producers were ready to harvest wheat and oats in South Texas. Statewide, wheat condition was mostly very poor to poor and oat condition was mostly very poor to poor.

Cotton: In the High Plains, producers were waiting for an additional rainfall to continue planting. Recent rainfall in the Northern Low Plains has prompted producers to begin planting. Most of the crop had emerged in the Edwards Plateau due to improved soil moisture.

Corn: Corn was being planted in the Northern High Plains, however, the recent rainfall had caused delays. Warmer weather has improved growing conditions in the Blacklands. Wind caused damage in the Edwards Plateau. Corn has begun to tassel in South Texas. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Sorghum: Planted grain sorghum was progressing well in the Northern Low Plains. Moisture was needed in the Coastal Bend for planting. Sorghum was under stress in South Texas due to lack of moisture. Sorghum condition was mostly very poor to fair statewide.

Rice: Rice condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Soybeans: Soybean condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Pumpkin field preparation took place in the Northern High Plains. Sunflower planting continued in the Southern High Plains. Cabbage harvest continued this past week while producers have begun to harvest green beans and potatoes.

Pecan: Trees suffered from the recent hail damage in the Blacklands. Trees bloomed in the Trans-Pecos. Nut case bearer traps were out in the Edwards Plateau and the Blacklands.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Supplemental feeding of livestock continued in parts of the state. Spring calving also continued. Most producers have completed spring branding in the Trans-Pecos. Range and pasture conditions improved across the state due to the recent rainfall. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Crop Progress Table – May 3, 2009

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2009	2008	Average 2004 – 2008
Corn	Planted	75	71	79
	Emerged	68	60	64
Cotton	Planted	22	24	24
Peanuts	Planted	21	13	9
Rice	Planted	95	97	91
	Emerged	89	89	83
Sorghum	Planted	63	66	59
	Headed	1	1	2
Soybeans	Planted	59	79	73
	Emerged	28	44	31
Sunflowers	Planted	10	13	25
Winter Wheat	Headed	66	53	63
Oats	Headed	86	85	83

Crop Condition Table – May 3, 2009

Crop	Percent					Index ^{1/}	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2009	2008
Corn	1	46	38	10	5	68	74
Rice	1	35	59	4	1	69	68
Sorghum	1	17	26	27	29	40	63
Soybeans	0	22	77	1	0	66	79
Wheat	1	11	13	24	51	27	45
Oats	1	8	23	27	41	31	67
Range & Pasture	4	25	31	21	19	--	--

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 – May 3, 2009

Condition	Percent of Acreage, by District *														
	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	14	44	18	15	22	0	0	0	66	27	21	90	2	69	50
Short	44	41	33	50	15	7	2	8	24	26	39	10	22	29	30
Adequate	41	15	39	33	48	63	74	53	10	47	34	0	54	2	20
Surplus	1	0	10	2	15	30	24	39	0	0	6	0	22	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 ^{1/}

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions ^{2/}	Previous Week Accumulation (Apr 27 – May 3)	Month-to-Date Accumulation (April 1 – 30)	Year-to-Date Accumulation (Jan 1 – May 3)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months Percent of Normal (Jan – Mar)
High Plains	0.17	1.57	2.48	19.64	39
Low Rolling Plains	0.99	2.29	3.78	24.51	40
North Central Texas	2.44	4.08	8.94	35.23	63
East Texas	3.27	5.23	14.31	48.08	66
Trans-Pecos	0.12	0.16	0.86	13.19	57
Edwards Plateau	0.60	2.48	5.02	24.73	66
South Central Texas	0.38	2.13	4.27	36.21	32
Upper Coast	1.46	5.92	9.70	50.31	36
South Texas	0.09	0.67	1.24	24.08	16
Lower Valley	0.00	0.04	0.86	25.43	21

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/ftcshare/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

