



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

Texas Field Office · Post Office Box 70 · Austin, Texas 78767  
(512) 916-5581 · (800) 842-1331 FAX · [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

**Issue:** TX-CW1907

**Released:** May 7, 2007

**For the week of:** April 30 - May 6, 2007

**Agricultural Summary:** Wet conditions prevailed in most areas of the state as producers experienced strong thunderstorms for the third consecutive week. Many of these storms were accompanied by moderate to heavy rainfall and high winds. Persistent windy conditions caused some crop damage in the Blacklands. There were reports of hail in some areas, mainly in the Trans-Pecos and Edwards Plateau. Field activities were delayed for many producers across the state due to wet conditions, as minor flooding was reported. The Panhandle and Southern Texas received mostly 0.01 to 1.0 inch of rainfall, as isolated showers brought as much as 2.0 inches to small sections. Central and Eastern Texas received much higher accumulations as torrential downpours brought as much as 1.0 to 6.0 inches of rainfall. Conditions were a bit drier along the Mexico border as most producers experienced little to no rainfall. Supplemental feeding continued to decline.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Most producers in the Northern High Plains reported good wheat condition, but spraying was active in some fields due to reports of Russian aphids and powdery mildew. Some wheat fields in the Southern High Plains were being cut and baled for hay, as indications continue to show more damage from the Easter freeze. Heavy rains and strong winds, reported as high as 90 mph, caused lodging in many fields in the Blacklands. There were also reports of Hessian fly infestation in the Blacklands. Wheat producers in South Texas anticipate harvest to begin next week if weather conditions allow. Statewide, wheat and oat condition was mostly fair to good.

**Cotton:** Moisture levels were good in the Northern High Plains as pre-plant activities were in full swing. Recent rainfall and low soil temperatures delayed planting for many producers in the Southern High Plains. Planting is expected to begin in the Southern High Plains as soon as fields dry. The recent rainfall was beneficial to cotton producers in the Northern Low Plains as much needed soil moisture was added.

**Corn:** Planting was possible in some areas of the Northern High Plains, while many other areas remained too wet for farming activities. In South Texas, corn benefited from the recent rainfall but moisture is still needed. Statewide, corn condition was mostly fair to excellent.

**Sorghum:** Sorghum progressed in South Texas due to additional moisture. Statewide, sorghum condition was mostly good to excellent statewide.

**Peanuts:** Wet conditions delayed planting in the Southern High Plains.

### Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Peaches continued to progress in most areas of the state. Vegetable planting was in full swing in North East Texas. Sugarcane, citrus, spring onions, and various other vegetables continued to be harvested in the Lower Valley.

### Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Livestock remained in good condition in the Northern Low Plains as pastures continued to “green up.” Pasture condition continues to improve in the Cross Timbers. Stock tanks for livestock water were full or close to full in most areas of the Cross Timbers. Although recent rainfall was beneficial to livestock producers in the Cross Timbers, it slowed the cutting of small grains for hay. Calving continued in North East Texas, and some producers were baling ryegrass and clover for hay. Pastures began to improve in the Trans-Pecos. Many producers were unable to resume applications of herbicides as pastures were too wet. Isolated showers provided additional moisture to improving ranges and pastures in South Texas, but additional moisture is needed in some areas. Statewide, range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good.

Crop Progress Table – May 6, 2007

Crop	Stage	2007	2006	Average 2002 – 2006
- Percent -				
Corn	Planted	82	89	87
	Emerged	68	64	69
	Silked (Tasseled)	2	1	1
Cotton	Planted	26	30	26
Peanuts	Planted	8	15	16
Rice	Planted	84	92	95
	Emerged	75	90	88
Sorghum	Planted	64	68	54
	Headed	9	6	4
Soybeans	Planted	77	87	67
	Emerged	49	74	15
Sunflowers	Planted	39	39	29
Winter Wheat	Headed	66	73	71
Oats	Headed	98	83	--
	Harvested	1	2	--

**Crop Condition Table – May 6, 2007**

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Percent					2007	2006
Corn	17	50	17	9	7	77	64
Rice	3	52	44	1	0	77	69
Sorghum	22	62	15	1	0	89	40
Soybeans	8	53	33	6	0	78	73
Wheat	23	43	26	6	2	81	26
Oats	13	36	29	10	12	67	33
Range & Pasture	15	46	27	9	3	--	--

<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 – May 6, 2007 \***

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	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	11	4	0	0	0	2	13
Short	17	4	3	4	0	3	7	10	43	14	1	33	1	27	54
Adequate	69	74	73	65	58	43	62	47	46	62	70	55	59	60	33
Surplus	12	22	24	30	42	54	31	42	0	20	29	12	40	11	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 30 - May 6) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Apr 1 - 30) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - May 6) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (Jan - Mar) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.79	1.19	6.59	18.87	219
Low Rolling Plains	0.72	1.97	6.67	23.78	132
North Central Texas	2.12	2.35	12.75	34.00	133
East Texas	2.56	2.42	16.57	45.69	111
Trans Pecos	0.43	1.09	3.61	12.96	179
Edwards Plateau	1.53	1.95	9.49	24.01	184
South Central Texas	0.97	2.78	13.13	34.48	160
Upper Coast	0.85	3.74	18.81	47.63	160
South Texas	0.44	1.07	6.42	23.49	162
Lower Valley	0.41	0.61	5.16	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/ftcshare/precip\\_analysis\\_new.php](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ftcshare/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

