



Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

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Issue: TX-CW3108

Released: July 28, 2008

For the week of: July 21 – 27, 2008

Agricultural Summary: Hurricane Dolly provided some much needed rain to most of Southern Texas, however some unharvested sorghum and cotton was damaged in the process. Southern Texas received as much as 10 inches of rain in some areas. The Upper Coast and South Central Texas received 1.0 to 3.0 inches of rainfall. Trans-Pecos received 0.10 to 2.0 inches rainfall. The Panhandle and Northern Half of the state received the least amount with zero to 0.25 inches of rainfall. Top soil moisture was mostly short to adequate statewide. Small grain harvest was completed and some producers were preparing for fall plantings. Cotton fields in the Northern Low Plains continued to develop but could use some rain as some areas were suffering from heat stress. Corn continued to develop in the Northern High Plains as harvest continued in the Blacklands and Southern Texas. Sorghum in the Panhandle was showing signs of heat stress as harvest was in full swing in South East Texas. Soybeans were looking good in the Northern High Plains. Fruit and vegetable harvest continued in the Cross Timbers and North East Texas. Livestock continued to be in good shape but could use some rain to improve pasture conditions and refill stock tanks. Producers in Southern Texas were anticipating range and pasture conditions to improve due to the rainfall from Hurricane Dolly.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Wheat harvest was completed for the state while some producers were preparing for fall plantings.

Cotton: Hot and dry conditions caused cotton in the Southern High Plains to develop rapidly. Some fields in the Northern Low Plains were suffering from heat stress. Most of the cotton in the Blacklands was blooming close to the top. Cotton was setting bolls and developing well in Trans-Pecos. Cotton harvest was halted with some damage reported in Southern Texas due to Hurricane Dolly. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Corn: Corn was doing well in the Northern High Plains with most of the crop tasseled and growing well. Much of the corn in the Blacklands was being harvested. Rain delayed harvest in Southern Texas. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Sorghum: Sorghum in the Panhandle was showing signs of stress due to lack of rainfall and intense heat. Harvest was in full swing in South East Texas. Recent rains from Hurricane Dolly improved the conditions of late planted sorghum in South Central Texas. Some crop

damage was reported in the Lower Valley due to the hurricane. Sorghum condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Peanuts: Peanuts were pegging and looking good in the Southern High Plains.

Soybeans: Soybeans were looking good in the Northern High Plains. Soybean condition was poor to fair statewide.

Pecans: Pecans were forming and developing in the Edwards Plateau and Trans-Pecos.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Vegetable crops in North East Texas were starting to drop in production as the end of the season nears. Fruit and vegetable harvest continued in the Cross Timbers and North East Texas.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Vegetable crops in North East Texas were starting to drop in production as the end of the season nears. Fruit and vegetable harvest continued in the Cross Timbers and North East Texas.

Crop Progress Table – July 27, 2008

Crop	Stage	2008	2007	Average 2003 – 2007
– Percent –				
Corn	Silked (Tasseled)	91	78	95
	Dough	64	64	71
	Dent	60	56	60
	Mature	51	31	45
Cotton	Squaring	81	79	84
	Setting Bolls	41	28	41
	Bolls Opening	15	5	9
Peanuts	Pegging	81	71	79
Rice	Emerged	77	86	84
Sorghum	Headed	67	90	68
	Coloring	59	76	56
	Mature	51	52	45
	Harvested	40	24	32
Soybeans	Blooming	92	91	33
	Setting Pods	79	61	12
Sunflowers	Planted	73	100	100

Crop Condition Table – July 27, 2008

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index ^{1/}	
	Percent					2008	2007
Corn	4	29	41	14	12	59	82
Cotton	8	24	35	22	11	57	70
Peanuts	4	47	43	5	1	74	89
Rice	13	49	36	1	1	80	71
Sorghum	6	33	39	16	6	64	80
Soybeans	1	21	42	23	13	52	90
Range & Pasture	1	14	36	31	18		

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 – July 27, 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	14	28	31	36	46	35	24	39	48	43	27	0	6	3	30
Short	42	40	56	43	42	57	46	35	41	50	45	8	20	15	3
Adequate	44	31	13	21	11	8	30	21	11	7	28	72	60	77	34
Surplus	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	20	14	5	33

* 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/ 2/}

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous Week (July 21 – 27) Accumulation	Month-to-date (July 1 – 27) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 – Jul 27) Accumulation	1961 – 1990 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (April – June) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.00	1.79	7.43	18.87	80
Low Rolling Plains	0.00	1.12	9.21	23.78	81
North Central Texas	0.01	0.52	14.14	34.00	66
East Texas	0.20	0.67	19.80	45.69	69
Trans-Pecos	0.88	1.87	4.19	12.96	64
Edwards Plateau	0.33	0.85	8.74	24.01	71
South Central Texas	1.91	3.48	10.34	34.48	28
Upper Coast	1.88	3.73	18.80	47.63	47
South Texas	1.98	3.98	7.80	23.49	35
Lower Valley	3.86	9.67	13.85	25.34	32

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/rfcs/share/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

