



Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture
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For the week of: September 15 – 21, 2008

Agricultural Summary: Only trace amounts of rain were observed across most of the state. Wheat continued to be planted in much of the Panhandle, Cross Timber, the Blacklands, Edwards Plateau, and South Central Texas. Cotton progressed in the Plains, but warmer days will be needed to continue. Corn harvest resumed in the Northern High Plains due to drier weather. Sorghum continued to progress with help from recent rains in the High Plains and Northern Low Plains. Peanuts matured in the Northern Low Plains, Southern High Plains, and South Texas. Land preparation continued for vegetables in South Texas, while sunflowers and peas continued to mature in the Southern Low Plains. Pecans in the Trans-Pecos reached the water stage, while some producers sprayed for weevils in the Cross Timbers. Livestock body condition and pastures improved due to recent rains that helped to fill tanks. Top soil moisture was mostly adequate statewide.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Planting of wheat continued in much of the Plains, Cross Timbers, the Blacklands, and some areas of Edwards Plateau, and South Central Texas.

Cotton: Cotton continued to progress in the Plains, but more heat units will be needed to reach maturity. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Corn: Harvest resumed in the Northern High Plains late in the week with help from the drier weather. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Sorghum: Recent rains in the High Plains and Northern Low Plains helped sorghum continue to progress. Sorghum condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Peanuts: Peanuts continued to mature and look good in the Northern Low Plains, Southern High Plains, as well as South Texas. Peanut condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Sunflowers and peas continued to mature in the Southern Low Plains, while land preparation continued for vegetables in South Texas.

Pecans: Some producers sprayed for weevils in the Cross Timbers, while pecans in the Trans-Pecos were in the water stage and will harden soon.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Recent rains helped improved pastures and livestock, as well as fill tanks with some much needed water. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Crop Progress Table – September 21, 2008

Crop	Stage	2008	2007	Average 2003 – 2007
– Percent –				
Corn	Dough	100	100	100
	Dent	98	100	99
	Mature	75	92	90
	Harvested	65	77	72
Cotton	Setting Bolls	99	100	100
	Bolls Opening	30	41	46
	Harvested	17	13	18
Peanuts	Harvested	3	1	3
Rice	Harvested	92	96	97
Sorghum	Headed	98	100	98
	Coloring	78	97	83
	Mature	68	87	69
	Harvested	67	84	65
Soybeans	Dropping Leaves	89	84	89
	Harvested	70	61	66
Sunflowers	Harvested	10	21	36
Winter Wheat	Planted	22	16	33
Oats	Planted	9	10	23

Crop Condition Table – September 21, 2008

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index ^{1/}	
	Percent					2008	2007
Corn	4	38	26	16	16	59	83
Cotton	11	31	34	16	8	65	70
Peanuts	7	60	30	2	1	80	88
Rice	16	50	28	3	3	80	66
Sorghum	5	40	36	14	5	67	72
Soybeans	2	33	29	27	9	57	92
Range & Pasture	7	34	37	14	8	--	--

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 – September 21, 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	15	2	2	2	8	12	0	0	8	18	19	7	7	1	0
Short	27	20	13	27	29	21	5	13	17	43	51	33	27	36	0
Adequate	50	70	58	70	60	65	84	71	69	33	30	48	65	59	100
Surplus	8	8	27	1	3	2	11	16	6	6	0	12	1	4	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/ 2/}

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous Week (Sep 15 – 21) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Sep 1 – 21) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 – Sep 21) Accumulation	1961 – 1990 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (Jun – Aug) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.00	2.55	13.95	18.87	103
Low Rolling Plains	0.00	2.59	15.75	23.78	97
North Central Texas	0.00	1.66	19.80	34.00	82
East Texas	0.00	4.31	30.51	45.69	101
Trans-Pecos	0.01	2.38	8.27	12.96	90
Edwards Plateau	0.01	1.43	13.57	24.01	93
South Central Texas	0.05	1.22	14.94	34.48	81
Upper Coast	0.00	3.04	27.48	47.63	88
South Texas	0.19	1.69	14.57	23.49	134
Lower Valley	2.09	4.80	22.02	25.34	185

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/fcshare/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

