



Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

Texas Field Office · Post Office Box 70, Austin, Texas 78767 · 800-842-1331 · www.nass.usda.gov/tx

Issue: TX-CW3910, September 27, 2010

For the week of September 20 – 26, 2010

Agricultural Summary: Most areas of the state received 0.01 to 1.0 inch of rain while the Coastal Bend and parts of the Low Plains observed up to 5.0 inches. Winter wheat seeding continued with many producers going from the combine to the wheat drill in the Northern High Plains. Oats seeding is also underway in the Blacklands and producers were scouting the fields regularly for armyworms. Cotton progress continued with many dry land fields opening bolls in the Northern High Plains. Harvest aid chemicals were being applied on some fields. Soybean harvest continued in the Blacklands with some fields left to be harvested. Sorghum in the Northern High Plains was continuing to progress with good weather conditions. In the Northern High Plains, corn was progressing with some producers harvesting, but high moisture levels delayed harvest in some areas. Pecan trees are reaching maturity and nuts have started to fall on the early maturing trees in the Northern Low Plains. Generally, livestock remained in good condition throughout the state. Topsoil moisture was mostly short to adequate across the state.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Winter wheat seeding continued with many producers going from the combine to the wheat drill in the Northern High Plains. In the Northern Low Plains, wheat seeding was in full swing and several farmers have had to spray fields this year rather than plowing to prepare seed beds, due to wet field conditions. Producers are tilling fields in preparation for wheat seeding in the Blacklands. Oats seeding is also underway in the Blacklands and producers were scouting the fields regularly for armyworms. The wet weather over the last week has slowed oats seeding in the Edwards Plateau.

Cotton: Cotton progress continued with many dry land fields opening bolls in the Northern High Plains. Harvest aid chemicals were being applied on some fields. Cotton harvest activities continued in South East Texas with concerns of armyworms in some areas. Some cotton will be lost due to the excessive rains over the last month in South Texas. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Corn: In the Northern High Plains, corn was progressing with some producers harvesting, but high moisture levels delayed harvest in some areas. Corn harvest neared completion in the Blacklands. Statewide, corn condition was mostly fair to good.

Sorghum: Sorghum in the Northern High Plains was continuing to progress with good weather conditions. Grain sorghum harvest continued in the Southern High Plains and the Northern Low Plains. Sorghum condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Rice: Along the Upper Coast, there was limited fieldwork for rice due to the soil saturation. Armyworm activity was high in the area. Statewide, rice condition was mostly fair to good.

Soybeans: Soybean harvest continued in the Blacklands with some fields left to be harvested. Statewide, soybean condition was mostly fair to good.

Peanuts: In the Southern High Plains, scattered showers have delayed peanut harvest. Producers were harvesting peanuts in the Southern Low Plains with the threat of wild hogs in the fields at night. Peanuts continue to progress in South Texas and farmers have not had to irrigate as much due to additional rain. Statewide, peanut condition was mostly good to excellent.

Sunflowers: Sunflower harvest continued in the Southern High Plains.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Spinach producers will begin forming beds for planting as conditions allow. Hay producers are getting another cutting from coastal fields in the Cross Timbers. There is an ample supply of hay due to the good growing conditions in the Northern parts of the state. However, cuttings have slowed in the Southern parts because of the recent rainfall.

Pecans: Pecan trees are reaching maturity and nuts have started to fall on the early maturing trees in the Northern Low Plains. Pecan harvest has begun in South Central Texas and some varieties were sprouting in the shell.

Livestock, Range and Pasture Report

Generally, livestock remained in good condition throughout the state. Stock tank levels were very low in the some areas of the Southern Low Plains and some cattlemen were relocating stock to prevent danger of bogged down cattle in critically low tanks. Some cattle producers were culling herds and starting to feed hay. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good.

Crop Progress Table – September 26, 2010 *

| Crop | Stage | Percent | | |
|--------------|-----------------|---------|------|------------------------|
| | | 2010 | 2009 | Average 2005 – 2009 |
| Corn | Dough | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| | Dent | 98 | 99 | 99 |
| | Mature | 91 | 77 | 78 |
| | Harvested | 64 | 70 | 73 |
| Cotton | Setting Bolls | 100 | 98 | 100 |
| | Bolls Opening | 68 | 50 | 52 |
| | Harvested | 14 | 16 | 19 |
| Peanuts | Harvested | 21 | 3 | 27 |
| Rice | Harvested | 100 | 92 | 97 |
| Sorghum | Coloring | 96 | 85 | 87 |
| | Mature | 79 | 68 | 73 |
| | Harvested | 60 | 66 | 70 |
| Soybeans | Dropping Leaves | 93 | 75 | 72 |
| | Harvested | 72 | 58 | 70 |
| Sunflowers | Harvested | 81 | 17 | 34 |
| Winter Wheat | Planted | 36 | 39 | 37 |
| | Emerged | 9 | 11 | 11 |
| Oats | Planted | 22 | 38 | 27 |

* Visit our web site to view the crop progress regional **maps**, available the following working day of this release at www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Texas/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/maps/.

Crop Condition Table – September 26, 2010

| Crop | Percent | | | | | Index ^{1/} | |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|---------------------|------|
| | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | Very Poor | 2010 | 2009 |
| Corn | 17 | 45 | 19 | 9 | 10 | 73 | 54 |
| Cotton | 16 | 44 | 31 | 7 | 2 | 78 | 60 |
| Peanuts | 20 | 70 | 9 | 1 | 0 | 91 | 87 |
| Rice | 12 | 48 | 36 | 3 | 1 | 79 | 64 |
| Sorghum | 7 | 52 | 29 | 10 | 2 | 75 | 49 |
| Soybeans | 8 | 34 | 40 | 14 | 4 | 66 | 61 |
| Range & Pasture | 9 | 38 | 33 | 14 | 6 | - | - |

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 26, 2010

| Condition | Percent of Acreage, by District ^{1/} | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|-----|----|------|------|
| | 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 | 16 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 0 | 37 | 11 | 13 | 9 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Short | 54 | 40 | 30 | 28 | 35 | 15 | 42 | 39 | 53 | 27 | 5 | 6 | 12 | 2 | 3 |
| Adequate | 29 | 51 | 61 | 41 | 54 | 77 | 21 | 49 | 33 | 60 | 60 | 27 | 24 | 80 | 65 |
| Surplus | 1 | 5 | 3 | 24 | 6 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 34 | 67 | 54 | 18 | 32 |

1/ 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.

Precipitation Table – September 26, 2010 ^{1/}

| National Weather Service Climatic Divisions ^{2/} | Inches of Accumulation | | | | Percent |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| | Previous Week (Sep 20 – 26) | Month-to-Date (Sep 1 – 26) | Year-to-Date (Jan 1 – Sep 26) | Annual Normal (1971 – 2000) | Previous Three Months of Normal (Jun - Aug) |
| High Plains | 0.40 | 0.89 | 18.13 | 19.64 | 109 |
| Low Rolling Plains | 0.70 | 2.91 | 23.13 | 24.51 | 122 |
| North Central Texas | 1.00 | 6.46 | 26.80 | 35.23 | 90 |
| East Texas | 0.41 | 2.29 | 22.66 | 48.08 | 89 |
| Trans-Pecos | 0.42 | 1.04 | 11.39 | 13.19 | 125 |
| Edwards Plateau | 0.59 | 2.56 | 19.34 | 24.73 | 87 |
| South Central Texas | 0.85 | 8.76 | 29.32 | 36.21 | 91 |
| Upper Coast | 0.49 | 7.00 | 37.01 | 50.31 | 119 |
| South Texas | 0.92 | 6.50 | 24.55 | 24.08 | 102 |
| Lower Valley | 1.90 | 8.62 | 30.19 | 25.43 | 169 |

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/rfcshare/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

