



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

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For the week of: September 28 – October 4, 2009

Agricultural Summary: Scattered showers were observed across much of the state. The eastern and southern parts of the state received the most rain with up to 2 to 6 inches in isolated areas. Low lying areas of the Northern High Plains experienced freezing conditions. Winter wheat planting continued, cool temperatures slowed cotton maturity, and corn harvest made good progress in the Northern High Plains. Recent rainfall improved wheat growing conditions in the Northern Plains. Wheat planting was in full-swing in the Cross Timbers. Producers sprayed defoliant on cotton in the Northern Low Plains. Cotton received adequate moisture for boll development in the Edwards Plateau. Cotton harvest continued in southern areas of the state. Cotton ginning continued in South Texas. Sorghum harvest neared completion in the northern part of the state. Soybeans were dropping leaves in North East Texas. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued to decline due to improved pasture conditions. Range and pastures progressed well due to the recent rainfall across most of the state. Top soil moisture was mostly short to adequate across the state.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Winter wheat planting continued in the Northern High Plains. Recent rainfall improved wheat growing conditions in the Northern Plains. Wheat planting was in full-swing in the Cross Timbers. Army worms caused early-planted wheat and oats to suffer in the Blacklands.

Cotton: In the Northern High Plains, cool temperatures slowed cotton maturity. Producers sprayed defoliant on cotton in the Northern Low Plains. Cotton received adequate moisture for boll development in the Edwards Plateau. Cotton harvest continued in southern areas of the state. Cotton ginning continued in South Texas. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Corn: Corn harvest made good progress in the Northern High Plains, however, some producers were waiting for drier conditions to continue harvest. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Sorghum: Cool temperatures delayed sorghum maturity in the Northern High Plains. Sorghum harvest neared completion in the northern part of the state. Sorghum condition was mostly very poor to fair statewide.

Peanuts: Producers were digging peanuts in parts of the Northern Low Plains. Peanuts progressed well in the Southern Low Plains. Peanut condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Rice: Rice condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Soybeans: Soybean harvest was active in the Northern High Plains. Soybeans were dropping leaves in North East Texas and the Upper Coast. Soybean condition was mostly poor to fair statewide.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Chilies were mostly red and drying as harvest neared in the Trans-Pecos. Sesame and sunflowers continued to dry as harvest neared. Spinach planting was active and cabbage progressed well in South Texas. Fall vegetable planting continued in the Lower Valley.

Pecans: Pecan development made good progress in the Blacklands. In the Trans-Pecos, Pawnee pecan cultivar harvest was active and the Western pecan shell was in the hardening stage. Pecan shuck split was active in the Edwards Plateau.

Livestock, Range and Pasture Report

Supplemental feeding of livestock continued to decline due to improved pasture conditions. Stock tank levels in some areas of the state continued to be replenished due to the recent rainfall. Some hay was still being cut and baled in localized areas of the state. Producers were increasing hay supplies for the winter months in the Northern High Plains. Army worms caused damage to hay meadows and pastures across most of the state. Range and pastures improved due to the recent rainfall across most of the state. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Top Soil Moisture by District – October 4, 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	4	15	5	2	2	0	0	7	22	13	7	21	8	2	32
Short	67	66	42	34	6	2	4	19	52	25	26	24	31	9	6
Adequate	29	18	53	61	90	80	65	49	26	60	59	53	46	87	27
Surplus	0	1	0	3	2	18	31	25	0	2	8	2	15	2	35

* 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.

Crop Progress Table – October 4, 2009

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2009	2008	Average 2004 – 2008
Corn	Mature	92	87	96
	Harvested	72	68	79
Cotton	Setting Bolls	99	100	100
	Bolls Opening	60	60	65
	Harvested	17	19	22
Peanuts	Harvested	32	12	12
Rice	Harvested	99	99	99
Sorghum	Headed	100	100	100
	Coloring	87	84	91
	Mature	69	71	78
	Harvested	67	70	70
Soybeans	Dropping Leaves	86	94	94
	Harvested	61	81	77
Sunflowers	Harvested	19	44	47
Winter Wheat	Planted	53	52	54
	Emerged	28	24	26
Oats	Planted	56	42	43

Crop Condition Table – October 4, 2009

Crop	Percent					Index ^{1/}	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2009	2008
Corn	6	31	24	14	25	54	59
Cotton	9	30	28	17	16	59	66
Peanuts	17	61	22	0	0	87	81
Rice	10	30	39	9	12	64	80
Sorghum	3	20	38	16	23	49	67
Soybeans	3	21	47	26	3	57	57
Range & Pasture	8	28	36	19	9	-	-

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.

Weather Information Table ^{1/}

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions ^{2/}	Previous Week Accumulation (Sep 28 – Oct 4)	Month-to-Date Accumulation (Sep 1 – 30)	Year-to-Date Accumulation (Jan 1 – Oct 4)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months Percent of Normal (Jun – Aug)
High Plains	0.04	1.19	13.00	19.64	104
Low Rolling Plains	0.22	2.74	16.19	24.51	97
North Central Texas	1.20	5.45	24.27	35.23	79
East Texas	3.99	6.90	32.55	48.08	73
Trans-Pecos	0.29	1.04	7.80	13.19	84
Edwards Plateau	0.59	3.34	14.26	24.73	54
South Central Texas	2.09	4.91	14.16	36.21	18
Upper Coast	3.07	4.82	23.55	50.31	39
South Texas	0.52	4.28	8.75	24.08	13
Lower Valley	0.35	5.90	10.68	25.43	29

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

