



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:** October 12 – 18, 2009

**Agricultural Summary:** Showers swept across the eastern part of the state leaving up to 2 to 6 inches of moisture in isolated areas. The rest of the state observed light to moderate amounts of rainfall. Freezing temperatures in the Northern High Plains virtually ended development of late planted cotton and sorghum. Winter wheat planting continued, producers were spraying cotton, and sunflower harvest was active in the Southern High Plains. Winter wheat in the Northern Low Plains emerged and was in need of sunshine for growth and cotton maturity was delayed due to cooler weather. Wheat planting was delayed in the Cross Timbers due to wet conditions. Wheat and oats continued to emerge in South Texas. Cotton made good progress in the Edwards Plateau. Supplemental feeding of livestock took place in localized areas of the state but continued to decline due to increased forage growth in the southern part of the state. Range and pastures continued to improve 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 Southern High Plains. Winter wheat in the Northern Low Plains emerged and was in need of sunshine for growth. Wheat planting was delayed in the Cross Timbers due to wet conditions. Wheat and oats made good progress in the Edwards Plateau in response to increased soil moisture. Wheat and oats continued to emerge in South Texas. Wheat condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Oat condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Cotton:** Freezing temperatures in the Northern High Plains caused some damage to cotton. Producers were spraying cotton in the Southern High Plains. Cotton maturity was delayed in the Northern Low Plains due to cooler weather and was in need of sunshine. Cotton made good progress in the Edwards Plateau. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Corn:** Corn harvest continued in the Northern High Plains as producers worked around wet conditions. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Sorghum:** Freezing temperatures damaged late planted sorghum in the Northern High Plains. Sorghum condition was mostly very poor to fair statewide.

**Peanuts:** Producers were digging peanuts in areas of the Plains and South Texas. Wet conditions delayed peanut harvest in the Southern Low Plains. Peanut condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Soybeans:** Soybean condition was mostly poor to fair statewide.

### Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Sunflower harvest was active in the Southern High Plains. Sesame and sunflower harvest was delayed due to wet conditions in the Coastal Bend. Spinach and onion planting was active while cabbage made good progress in South Texas.

**Pecans:** Pecans were beginning to open in area where adequate moisture was available early in the development stage.

### Livestock, Range and Pasture Report

Supplemental feeding of livestock took place in localized areas of the state but continued to decline due to increased forage growth in the southern part of the state. Stock tank levels in some areas of the state continued to be replenished; however, more rainfall was needed to return tanks to adequate levels. Some hay was still being cut and baled in localized areas of the state. Army worms and feral hogs continued to cause damage to hay meadows and pastures across most of the state. Range and pastures continued to improve due to the recent rainfall across most of the state. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Crop Condition Table – October 18, 2009**

Crop	Percent					Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2009	2008
Corn	6	31	24	14	25	54	59
Cotton	10	32	28	16	14	61	64
Peanuts	12	55	33	0	0	83	81
Sorghum	3	20	38	16	23	49	67
Soybeans	3	21	47	26	3	57	57
Wheat	3	44	37	15	1	69	72
Oats	4	47	40	7	2	73	58
Range & Pasture	7	32	35	17	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.

**Crop Progress Table – October 18, 2009**

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2009	2008	Average 2004 – 2008
Corn	Mature	99	96	99
	Harvested	84	77	89
Cotton	Bolls Opening	81	77	80
	Harvested	19	21	24
Peanuts	Harvested	34	30	30
Sorghum	Coloring	89	93	97
	Mature	71	80	85
	Harvested	69	72	73
Soybeans	Dropping Leaves	92	98	99
	Harvested	74	91	86
Sunflowers	Harvested	21	54	63
Winter Wheat	Planted	73	76	73
	Emerged	50	57	49
Oats	Planted	68	66	64
	Emerged	24	25	20

**Weather Information Table <sup>1/</sup>**

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions <sup>2/</sup>	Previous Week Accumulation (Oct 12 – 18)	Month-to-Date Accumulation (Oct 1 – 18)	Year-to-Date Accumulation (Jan 1 – Oct 18)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months Percent of Normal (Jul – Sep)
High Plains	0.07	0.43	13.39	19.64	88
Low Rolling Plains	0.07	1.48	17.45	24.51	96
North Central Texas	0.74	4.04	27.15	35.23	132
East Texas	1.57	5.67	36.27	48.08	140
Trans-Pecos	0.24	0.59	8.20	13.19	57
Edwards Plateau	0.27	1.45	15.30	24.73	80
South Central Texas	0.35	3.12	15.48	36.21	69
Upper Coast	0.92	4.78	25.75	50.31	67
South Texas	0.19	0.76	9.27	24.08	70
Lower Valley	0.29	0.92	11.38	25.43	77

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](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/rfcshare/precip_analysis_new.php) and [www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html](http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html)

Top Soil Moisture by District – October 18, 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	3	15	9	4	0	0	0	1	19	16	7	22	1	3	3
Short	68	60	34	44	7	0	2	11	50	22	7	41	18	22	22
Adequate	29	23	56	50	71	47	29	61	31	59	72	37	78	75	74
Surplus	0	2	1	2	22	53	69	27	0	3	14	0	3	0	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.

**Cooperating Agencies:**

Texas AgriLife Extension Service  
 Texas Department of Agriculture  
 National Weather Service

