



# Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

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**Issue:** TX-CW4408

**Released:** October 27, 2008

**For the week of:** October 20 - 26, 2008

**Agricultural Summary:** There was very little rainfall across the state, with only a few showers observed in the Northern Plains, South East Texas, and the Upper Coast. The first freeze and frost occurred in areas of the High Plains and West Texas. Small grain planting was halted, but resumed by the end of the week in parts of the Panhandle where rain was received. Mature cotton continued to be stripped in the Plains. As fields dried out from last week's rain, corn harvest resumed. Sorghum harvest was in full swing in South Central Texas, while warm weather was still needed in the High Plains. Peanut harvest continued in the Southern High Plains and South Texas. Pumpkin harvest continued in the Northern High Plains and Trans-Pecos, while fall vegetable harvest continued in North East Texas. Some producers prepared for pecan harvest in the Trans-Pecos, while harvest continued in the Blacklands. Livestock conditions continued to look good, with some supplementation occurring where forage growth was decreasing. Top soil moisture was mostly short to adequate statewide.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** In the parts of the Panhandle where rain was received, small grain planting was halted, but resumed by the end of the week. Statewide, wheat condition was mostly fair to good and oat condition was mostly fair to good.

**Cotton:** Producers continue to strip the mature cotton, but a frost late last week could affect the immature cotton in parts of the Plains. Statewide, cotton condition was mostly fair to good.

**Corn:** Corn harvest resumed as fields dried out from the previous week's rain. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Sorghum:** Warm weather was still needed for sorghum in the High Plains, while harvest was in full swing in South Central Texas. Statewide, sorghum condition was mostly fair to good.

**Peanuts:** Peanut harvest continued in South Texas and the Southern High Plains. Peanut condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

## Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Fall vegetable harvest continued in North East Texas, while fall crops continued to progress in the Lower Valley. Pumpkin harvest continued in the Northern High Plains and in the Trans-Pecos.

**Pecans:** Pecan harvest continued in the Blacklands, while some producers prepared to harvest in the Trans-Pecos.

### Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Livestock conditions continued to look good, with some supplementation occurring where forage growth was decreasing. Pasture and range condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Crop Progress Table – October 26, 2008**

Crop	Stage	2008	2007	Average 2003 – 2007
– Percent –				
Corn	Mature	99	100	100
	Harvested	78	96	95
Cotton	Bolls Opening	83	90	87
	Harvested	22	26	29
Peanuts	Harvested	42	45	39
Sorghum	Coloring	96	100	97
	Mature	85	100	88
	Harvested	73	93	74
Soybeans	Dropping Leaves	99	100	100
	Harvested	94	98	90
Winter Wheat	Planted	81	78	81
	Emerged	66	52	60
Oats	Planted	74	71	78
	Emerged	41	38	25

**Crop Condition Table – October 26, 2008**

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Percent					2008	2007
Corn	4	38	26	16	16	59	--
Cotton	9	31	33	16	11	62	77
Peanuts	4	66	26	3	1	80	86
Sorghum	5	40	36	14	5	67	--
Soybeans	2	33	29	27	9	57	--
Wheat	14	38	37	10	1	74	58
Oats	1	36	36	14	13	59	54
Range & Pasture	4	24	37	23	12	--	--

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 <sup>1/ 2/</sup>**

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous Week (October 20 - 26) Accumulation	Month-to-date (October 1 - 26) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Oct 26) Accumulation	1961 - 1990 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (Jul - Sep) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.18	3.55	17.50	18.87	112
Low Rolling Plains	0.00	2.82	18.57	23.78	97
North Central Texas	0.00	2.16	21.96	34.00	76
East Texas	0.27	2.31	32.90	45.69	119
Trans-Pecos	0.00	0.88	9.15	12.96	95
Edwards Plateau	0.00	1.34	14.91	24.01	76
South Central Texas	0.01	1.10	16.29	34.48	86
Upper Coast	0.49	2.22	29.80	47.63	87
South Texas	0.00	0.98	16.01	23.49	144
Lower Valley	0.00	1.08	25.14	25.34	209

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 26, 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	0	2	3	6	6	9	7	5	24	18	47	3	18	28	30
Short	3	22	7	29	46	38	15	23	45	56	32	32	43	45	10
Adequate	79	64	78	64	47	53	74	64	31	26	12	62	38	27	60
Surplus	18	12	12	1	1	0	4	8	0	0	9	3	1	0	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.

**Cooperating Agencies:**  
 Texas AgriLife Extension Service  
 Texas Department of Agriculture  
 National Weather Service

