



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:** November 24 - 30, 2008

**Agricultural Summary:** Parts of East Texas received up to 3 inches of rain. Most of the state observed 0.01 to 0.50 inches of precipitation. Wheat and oats planting neared completion across most areas of the state and was in need of moisture. Cotton harvest in the Southern High Plains continued while producers in the Southern Low Plains were beginning to harvest some of the early fields which survived the June storms. Corn harvest in the Northern High Plains continued while some corn stalks were already being plowed under. Sorghum harvest in the High Plains was almost complete and yields varied. Peanut harvest was near completion in most areas of the state. Pecan harvest continued in the Cross Timbers, Blacklands, Trans-Pecos, and Edwards Plateau and showed poor yields. Livestock were in fair to good condition across the state with supplemental feeding taking place. Pasture and range land was in need of moisture in South Texas. Top soil moisture was mostly very short to adequate across the state.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Wheat in the High Plains had established a good root system but was in need of moisture. Wheat in the Southern Low Plains was in need of moisture as there were increased concerns over falling conditions. Wheat in the Cross Timbers and Blacklands was concerning producers because the crop could be lost due to dry conditions. Statewide, wheat condition was mostly fair to good and oat condition was mostly poor to fair.

**Cotton:** Harvest in the Northern Plains was in full swing showing decreasing yields and quality from previous years. Harvest in the Southern High Plains continued while producers in the Southern Low Plains were beginning to harvest some of the early fields which survived the June storms. Harvest in the Blacklands, Trans-Pecos and South Central Texas was almost complete. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Corn:** Harvest in the Northern High Plains was almost complete while some corn stalks were already being plowed under.

**Sorghum:** Harvest in the High Plains was almost complete and yields varied. There were some fields of sorghum in the Southern High Plains that were not going to be harvested.

**Peanuts:** Peanuts continued to be harvested in some areas of the state and harvest was near completion.

## Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Pecan harvest continued in the Cross Timbers, Blacklands, Trans-Pecos, and Edwards Plateau and showed poor yields. Cabbage and spinach harvest took place in South Texas while onion and spinach harvest showed good progress due to cooler weather.

## Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Livestock were in fair to good condition across the state with supplemental feeding taking place. Pasture and range land were in need of rainfall in the Low Plains. Pasture and range land was in need of moisture in South Texas. Grass growth was slow in the Upper Coast due to late planting and cooler weather. Range and Pasture condition was mostly poor to fair statewide.

**Crop Progress Table – November 30, 2008**

Crop	Stage	2008	2007	Average 2003 – 2007
– Percent –				
Corn	Harvested	100	100	100
Cotton	Bolls Opening	99	100	99
	Harvested	67	78	70
Peanuts	Harvested	99	99	94
Sorghum	Mature	100	100	99
	Harvested	95	98	90
Soybeans	Harvested	100	100	100
Sunflower	Harvested	78	99	97
Winter Wheat	Planted	96	94	96
	Emerged	89	72	84
Oats	Planted	96	93	96
	Emerged	80	68	48
Pecans	Harvested	41	62	59

**Crop Condition Table – November 30, 2008**

Crop	Percent					Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2007	2008
Cotton	8	28	33	19	12	59	--
Wheat	12	36	37	10	5	71	43
Oats	0	10	29	33	28	36	41
Range & Pasture	1	15	33	30	21	--	--

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 – November 30, 2008 \***

Condition	Percent of Acreage														
	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	9	25	28	37	28	33	1	4	64	48	56	63	18	50	30
Short	33	48	38	47	58	38	12	31	27	42	37	35	30	49	37
Adequate	54	27	33	16	14	29	74	53	9	10	7	2	35	1	33
Surplus	4	0	1	0	0	0	13	12	0	0	0	0	17	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.

**Weather Information Table <sup>1/ 2/</sup>**

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous Week (Nov 24 - 30) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Nov 1 – 30) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 – Nov 30) Accumulation	1961 – 1990 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (Aug – Oct) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.03	0.05	17.55	18.87	148
Low Rolling Plains	0.03	0.04	18.61	23.78	110
North Central Texas	0.13	0.88	22.84	34.00	81
East Texas	0.65	3.07	35.97	45.69	124
Trans-Pecos	0.01	0.01	9.16	12.96	81
Edwards Plateau	0.00	0.10	15.01	24.01	73
South Central Texas	0.00	0.68	16.97	34.48	56
Upper Coast	0.16	3.79	33.60	47.63	78
South Texas	0.00	0.13	16.22	23.49	96
Lower Valley	0.00	1.68	26.82	25.34	111

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)

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

