



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:** December 3 - 9, 2007

**Agricultural Summary:** Unseasonably warm temperatures were observed throughout the week until a weekend cold front came through dropping temperatures into the low 40's. Small grains continued to struggle due to lack of rainfall. Cotton harvest neared completion in the Panhandle and Edwards Plateau. Grain sorghum harvest was virtually complete in the Northern High Plains. Excellent yields were reported in North East Texas as pecan harvest neared completion. Citrus and vegetable harvest continued in the Lower Valley. Soil moisture was mostly short to adequate across the state. Very little rainfall was observed across the state. The Panhandle and Central Texas each received zero to 0.10 inches of rain. The rest of the state observed no rainfall. Supplemental feeding of hay increased across most areas of the state as pasture conditions continue to decline due to lack of rainfall.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Continued dry conditions affected the wheat crop in the Panhandle. Wheat farmers in the Cross Timbers were busy preparing fields for last minute planting as a wet front was approaching. Winter wheat pastures were doing well in the Blacklands and Trans-Pecos, but could use some rain. Winter wheat in South Central Texas continued to suffer due to lack of rain. Wheat condition was mostly poor to fair statewide. Oats condition was mostly poor to fair statewide.

**Cotton:** Good yields were reported in the High Plains as harvest was winding down. Cotton harvest neared completion in the Low Plains. Harvest was nearly complete in Trans-Pecos. Harvest was in full swing in the Edwards Plateau.

**Sorghum:** Sorghum harvest was virtually complete in the Northern High Plains. Sorghum conditions were mostly fair to good statewide.

**Peanuts:** Peanut harvest continued in South Texas. Peanut conditions were mostly fair to good statewide.

## Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Pecan harvest was in full swing in the Southern Low Plains and the Blacklands. Excellent yields were reported in North East Texas as pecan harvest neared completion. Pecan harvest neared completion in the Edwards Plateau and South Central Texas. Cabbage, spinach, and green

bean harvest continued in South Texas. Citrus and vegetable harvest continued in the Lower Valley.

### Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Supplemental feeding of livestock continued due to lack of winter forage. Hay feeding continued to increase. Ranges and Pastures continued to show signs of stress due to lack of rainfall across the state. Range and Pasture conditions were fair to good statewide.

**Crop Progress Table – December 9, 2007**

Crop	Stage	2007	2006	Average 2002 – 2006
- Percent -				
Cotton	Harvested	86	87	79
Peanuts	Harvested	100	100	96
Sorghum	Harvested	99	98	94
Winter Wheat	Planted	97	100	97
	Emerged	77	95	91
Oats	Planted	96	99	98
	Emerged	77	97	--
Pecans	Harvested	70	67	69

**Crop Condition Table – December 9, 2007**

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Percent					2007	2006
Wheat	1	11	35	31	22	42	66
Oats	0	19	27	28	26	42	45
Range & Pasture	4	27	43	18	8	--	--

<sup>1/</sup> 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 – December 9, 2007 \***

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	54	10	50	6	10	8	4	7	18	20	4	37	0	15	0
Short	40	63	42	46	46	41	39	28	29	52	50	53	22	72	63
Adequate	6	26	8	48	44	50	56	63	51	28	46	10	67	13	37
Surplus	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	11	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 (Dec 3 -9) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Dec 1 - 9) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Dec 9) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (Sep - Nov) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.00	0.02	18.21	18.87	57
Low Rolling Plains	0.02	0.02	23.31	23.78	32
North Central Texas	0.07	0.07	36.80	34.00	57
East Texas	0.04	0.06	42.64	45.69	61
Trans-Pecos	0.00	0.00	12.62	12.96	50
Edwards Plateau	0.04	0.04	30.94	24.01	59
South Central Texas	0.00	0.00	38.10	34.48	54
Upper Coast	0.01	0.04	56.72	47.63	70
South Texas	0.00	0.00	29.02	23.49	45
Lower Valley	0.00	0.04	23.56	25.34	64

<sup>1/</sup> Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

<sup>2/</sup> 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 Agricultural Extension Service
- Texas Department of Agriculture
- National Weather Service

