



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

Texas Field Office · Post Office Box 70 · Austin, Texas 78767
(512) 916-5581 · (800) 842-1331 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov

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For the week of: July 7 – 13, 2008

Agricultural Summary: Mild, windy conditions were prevalent across most areas of the state. Drought conditions continued to plague the vast majority of producers, as there were several reports of grass fires. Producers in some areas of the state were spaying weeds in cotton fields. Cooler temperatures were experienced in some areas of the Edwards Plateau. Southern Texas, parts of the Northern High Plains, and areas along the Mexican border experienced the most rainfall with 0.50 to 2.0 inches, as isolated showers brought as much as 3-6 inches to some sections. The remaining areas of the state only received traces of rain. Range and pasture conditions continued to decline due to high temperatures and lack of moisture. Supplemental feeding was ongoing across many areas of the state. Hay quality has become a concern in many areas of the state as fertilization of pastures has decreased due to high fertilizer costs.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Throughout the state, harvest of small grains was virtually complete except for some late planted wheat in the Northern High Plains.

Cotton: Weather conditions have been detrimental to the cotton crop in the Southern High Plains, as recent reports have indicated losses as high as 100,000 acres in some sections. In the Low Plains, cotton was in all stages as many producers continued to re-plant fields destroyed by early season storms. Reports of failed or very poor crops continue to surface as insurance adjusters continue assessing damage. Meanwhile, wet conditions in the Lower Valley delayed harvest. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Corn: Tasseling continued to increase in the Northern High Plains, while some producers in the Blacklands have already begun harvest. Harvest continued in South Central Texas with marginal results. Statewide, corn condition was mostly fair to good.

Sorghum: Planting continued in the Northern High Plains. Sorghum condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Peanuts: Across the state, peanuts continued to improve, and pegging was ongoing. Statewide, peanut condition was mostly fair to good.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Despite the high temperatures and lack of moisture, vegetable harvest continued. In North East Texas, peaches continued to look good. Wine grape production was doing well with some harvest underway in the Trans-Pecos area.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Quality of native pastures continued to deteriorate in the Southern Low Plains. In North East Texas, grazing pastures were poor, as some producers tried to supplement with hay where applicable. Some pastures in South East Texas began to burn up due to temperatures in the higher 90's and lack of moisture. However, recent rains in South Central and South Texas have increased the outlook on ranges and pastures. Increased moisture in these areas has nurtured some native ranges and pastures back to life, as growth has increased very quickly. This increased rainfall had also contributed to improved levels of stock tanks in South Central and South Texas. Tank levels across most other areas of the state continued to decrease due to the lack of rainfall. Range and pasture condition was mostly poor to fair statewide.

Crop Progress Table – July 13, 2008

Crop	Stage	2008	2007	Average 2003 – 2007
– Percent –				
Corn	Silked (Tasseled)	70	72	77
	Dough	57	52	58
	Dent	48	51	45
	Mature	31	9	19
Cotton	Planted	100	100	100
	Squaring	52	59	61
	Setting Bolls	18	18	21
	Bolls Opening	6	1	3
Peanuts	Pegging	55	24	46
Rice	Headed	58	63	62
Sorghum	Headed	57	87	61
	Coloring	50	71	50
	Mature	39	38	33
	Harvested	23	15	18
Soybeans	Blooming	71	75	27
	Setting Pods	21	12	2
Sunflowers	Planted	71	98	97
Winter Wheat	Harvested	99	85	95
Oats	Harvested	100	94	97

Crop Condition Table – July 13, 2008

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index ^{1/}	
	Percent					2008	2007
Corn	7	33	32	15	13	61	84
Cotton	5	27	34	24	10	57	70
Peanuts	2	51	42	4	1	74	81
Rice	9	52	37	1	1	79	64
Sorghum	5	27	46	18	4	62	88
Soybeans	13	38	25	16	8	68	90
Wheat	5	20	36	29	10	53	--
Oats	3	39	22	20	16	57	--
Range & Pasture	2	17	35	28	18	--	--

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 – July 13, 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	7	31	27	16	38	27	3	26	59	29	41	19	18	6	28
Short	34	36	44	39	46	49	48	42	33	56	38	46	47	28	7
Adequate	54	32	29	45	16	24	48	27	8	15	21	35	35	65	41
Surplus	5	1	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	24

* 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 ^{1/ 2/}

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous Week (July 7 - 13) Accumulation	Month-to-date (July 1 - 13) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 – Jul 13) Accumulation	1961 – 1990 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (April – June) Percent of Normal
High Plains	1.17	1.47	7.11	18.87	80
Low Rolling Plains	0.54	0.98	9.07	23.78	81
North Central Texas	0.18	0.18	13.80	34.00	66
East Texas	0.23	0.23	19.36	45.69	69
Trans-Pecos	0.57	0.65	2.97	12.96	64
Edwards Plateau	0.25	0.52	8.41	24.01	71
South Central Texas	0.74	1.49	8.35	34.48	28
Upper Coast	0.75	1.61	16.68	47.63	47
South Texas	0.88	2.00	5.82	23.49	35
Lower Valley	1.74	5.81	9.99	25.34	32

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 and www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html

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

