



# Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

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**For the week of:** August 25 – 31, 2008

**Agricultural Summary:** Parts of the Trans-Pecos, Edwards Plateau, and South Texas received the most rain with isolated thunderstorms, while the rest of the state just received scattered showers. Land preparation for small grains continued in the Blacklands. Cotton harvest continued in parts of the Upper Coast and South Texas, but heavy rains delayed getting into the fields in parts of South Texas and Edwards Plateau. Corn harvest continued in North East Texas and South Central Texas. Sorghum continued to mature in the Southern High Plains. Peanuts continued to improve in the Northern Low Plains, while some producers prepared for harvest in the Southern Low Plains. Soybeans continued to be harvested in the Blacklands and North East Texas. Peas and sunflowers continued to mature in the Southern High Plains, and pumpkins progressed well in the Northern High Plains. Pecans were sprayed for pecan weevils in the Cross Timbers and Edwards Plateau. Livestock continued to improve due to the steady rains received. Top soil moisture was mostly short to adequate statewide.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Recent rainfall in the Blacklands was beneficial to producers for small grains land preparations. Some producers started planting wheat in the High Plains and the Southern Low Plains, and oats in the Blacklands.

**Cotton:** Cotton harvest continued in the Upper Coast and South Texas; however, some producers were delayed due to heavy rains in parts of South Texas and Edwards Plateau. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Corn:** Corn harvest continued in North East Texas and South Central Texas. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Sorghum:** Sorghum continued to mature in the Southern High Plains. Sorghum condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Peanuts:** Producers prepared for peanut harvest in the Southern Low Plains, and peanuts continued to improve in the Northern Low Plains. Peanut condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Soybeans:** Soybean harvest continued in the Blacklands and North East Texas. Soybean condition was poor to fair statewide.

## Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Pumpkins progressed well in the Northern High Plains, and peas and sunflowers continued to mature in the Southern High Plains. Fall vegetable planting continued in North East Texas as well as South Texas.

**Pecans:** Pecans were sprayed for pecan weevils in the Cross Timbers and Edwards Plateau. In the Trans-Pecos, pecans were finishing the water stage and looking good.

## Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Livestock condition continued to improve slowly with help from improved pastures due to recent scattered showers. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Crop Progress Table – August 31, 2008**

Crop	Stage	2008	2007	Average 2003 – 2007
– Percent –				
Corn	Silked (Tasseled)	100	100	100
	Dough	97	99	99
	Dent	89	96	92
	Mature	65	71	72
	Harvested	62	47	58
Cotton	Squaring	99	99	100
	Setting Bolls	89	92	94
	Bolls Opening	20	17	21
	Harvested	12	4	12
Rice	Headed	100	100	100
	Harvested	80	76	80
Sorghum	Headed	87	97	89
	Coloring	67	81	67
	Mature	61	66	59
	Harvested	60	58	55
Soybeans	Setting Pods	97	99	35
	Dropping Leaves	72	50	15
	Harvested	25	16	41
Sunflowers	Harvested	1	9	20

**Crop Condition Table – August 31, 2008**

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Percent					2008	2007
Corn	4	38	26	16	16	59	83
Cotton	9	31	31	20	9	62	74
Peanuts	13	53	28	5	1	80	88
Rice	0	48	46	3	3	72	66
Sorghum	5	40	36	14	5	67	72
Soybeans	2	8	37	38	15	42	92
Range & Pasture	4	23	39	23	11	--	--

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 – August 31, 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	1	11	12	19	22	0	1	5	35	20	12	6	3	5	30
Short	24	47	15	20	36	25	10	26	35	43	37	13	39	25	3
Adequate	69	41	69	60	34	73	70	44	30	37	46	56	50	65	64
Surplus	6	1	4	1	8	2	19	25	0	0	5	25	8	5	3

\* 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 (August 25 – 31) Accumulation	Month-to-date (August 1 – 31) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 – Aug 31) Accumulation	1961 – 1990 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (May – July) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.24	3.60	11.40	18.87	88
Low Rolling Plains	0.50	3.66	13.16	23.78	74
North Central Texas	0.13	3.80	18.14	34.00	49
East Texas	0.12	6.40	26.20	45.69	58
Trans-Pecos	0.52	1.49	5.89	12.96	92
Edwards Plateau	0.85	3.33	12.14	24.01	68
South Central Texas	0.14	3.38	13.72	34.48	44
Upper Coast	0.15	5.60	24.44	47.63	54
South Texas	1.10	5.08	12.88	23.49	76
Lower Valley	0.69	3.37	17.22	25.34	140

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/fcshare/precip\\_analysis\\_new.php](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/fcshare/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

