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TX-CW3506

Texas Crop Weather

Released August 28, 2006 (3:00 PM CDT)
For the week of August 21 - 27, 2006

Agricultural Summary: Most of the Panhandle received rainfall totaling from 0.5 to 2 inches. Isolated showers brought over 3 inches to several counties in the area and over 5 inches and higher to the more fortunate localities, including sections of Randall county that saw over 8 inches. The Southern Plains, along with small sections of the Trans-Pecos and Edwards Plateau, received 0.5 to 1.5 inches of precipitation. Spotty showers brought around the same amount to East Texas and the Upper Coast, along with isolated readings of 2 inches. The remainder of the state was mostly dry. Many areas reported temperatures over 100 degrees, including the Low Plains, Cross Timbers, and North East Texas. Insect pressures around the state were generally very light.

Field Crops Report

Cotton: The additional rainfall helped growers in the Northern Plains by reducing the shedding of bolls. Several boll weevil offices reported catches of weevils as spraying started in this area. Farmers in the Blacklands, South Texas, Upper Coast, Coastal Bend, and the Lower Valley continued to harvest in the midst of mostly dry weather. Statewide, cotton condition was mostly poor to very poor.

Corn: Growers began to harvest in the Northern High Plains. Some farmers in the Blacklands reported to be completely finished harvesting, while others were finishing off the baling of failed corn for hay. The corn condition statewide was mostly fair to very poor.

Sorghum: The recent rains helped an otherwise "fair" crop in the Northern High Plains progress from a pre-boot to a soft-dough stage. Growers in the Northern Plains reported some appearances of aphids. Farmers continued to harvest in the Southern Low Plains. Low yields continued to plague many producers in the Blacklands. Statewide, sorghum condition was mainly fair to very poor.

Peanuts: Peanuts were heavily irrigated in South Texas, where the crop condition looked good. Peanut condition statewide was mostly rated good to fair.

Rice: Conditions improved as harvest was nearly complete in the Upper Coast. The condition of rice was mainly good to fair.

Soybeans: Growers baled soybeans for hay in the Blacklands and North East Texas. Statewide, the condition was mostly rated poor to very poor.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Pumpkins continued to progress well in the **Northern High Plains**, where harvest was expected to take place within the next week. Growers reported that the later planted fields should have higher yields than earlier planted acreage.

Pecans: Growers experienced some insect problems in the Cross Timbers and South Central Texas.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Grass and rangeland conditions improved in the Plains. Livestock water was reported as very low, to the point where many producers were selling livestock at a dramatically increasing rate in the Northern Low Plains and in the Cross Timbers. At the same time the quality of hay had become a big problem. Pastures were deteriorating rapidly in the Blacklands and North East Texas.

Crop Progress Table – August 27, 2006

Crop	Stage	2006	2005	Average 2001-2005
- Percent -				
Corn	Dough	99	99	98
	Dented	91	88	90
	Mature	70	68	69
	Harvested	67	56	56
Cotton	Setting Bolls	96	94	94
	Bolls Opening	22	18	24
	Harvested	10	15	13
Peanuts	Pegging	99	100	99
Rice	Headed	99	100	100
	Harvested	87	68	75
Sorghum	Headed	88	89	87
	Turning Color	70	57	66
	Mature	66	52	55
	Harvested	62	51	52
Soybeans	Harvested	41	55	47
Sunflowers	Harvested	17	16	24
Winter Wheat	Planted	2	3	2
Oats	Planted	1	0	0

Crop Condition Table – August 27, 2006

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index ^{1/}	
	Percent					2006	2005
Corn	3	17	28	18	34	42	62
Cotton	6	15	24	25	30	42	76
Peanuts	14	35	39	7	5	72	88
Rice	5	40	44	11	0	71	83
Sorghum	1	20	24	21	34	40	76
Soybeans	1	12	21	25	41	33	52
Range & Pasture	1	4	14	24	57	--	--

^{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 27, 2006 *

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	25	34	47	76	93	89	73	33	24	88	64	58	2	63	53
Short	30	32	24	18	7	11	22	45	23	11	33	37	8	22	27
Adequate	43	33	26	6	0	0	5	22	52	1	3	5	61	15	20
Surplus	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	29	0	0

* High Plains: 1-N, 1-S; Low Rolling Plains: 2-N, 2-S; North Central Plains: 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/}

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous Week (Aug 21 - 27) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Aug 1 - 27) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Aug 27) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (May - July) Percent of Normal
High Plains	1.36	3.98	9.69	18.87	47
Low Rolling Plains	0.84	2.10	9.95	23.78	58
North Central Texas	0.72	1.18	15.17	34.00	46
East Texas	0.80	1.35	23.05	45.69	67
Trans Pecos	0.37	2.40	5.21	12.96	40
Edwards Plateau	0.36	0.66	9.22	24.01	55
South Central Texas	0.00	0.32	11.91	34.48	70
Upper Coast	0.77	2.96	32.29	47.63	159
South Texas	0.00	0.25	5.56	23.49	57
Lower Valley	0.22	0.83	6.41	25.34	63

^{1/} Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

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 Agricultural Extension Service

Texas Department of Agriculture

National Weather Service

