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TX-CW3706

Texas Crop Weather

Released September 11 2006
For the week of September 4 - 10 2006

Agricultural Summary: The Southern Plains, Cross Timbers, Edwards Plateau, Southeast Trans-Pecos and South Central all received rainfall ranging from 0.5 to 2.0 inches. The Trans-Pecos, Blacklands, North East Texas, South Texas, and the Northern Plains for the most part received 0.01 to 0.5 inches of rain. Along the Coastal Bend down to the Lower Valley, rainfall amounted to 0.5 to 1.5 inches, while some areas received 2.0 to 6.0 inches. Insect pressure increased dramatically as many experienced problems of armyworms.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Planting of wheat progressed slowly in the Northern High Plains due to an increase in wet conditions. Rains had more of a positive effect in the Southern High Plains as sub-soil moisture was stored, which will be very beneficial for small grains. The Cross Timbers and Blacklands began planting oats. Producers in South Texas started pre-plant watering activities for oats, wheat, and rye.

Cotton: In the Northern High Plains, growth was slowed due to drastic decreases in temperature. On the other hand, cotton in the Southern High Plains continued to mature as more bolls began to open. Statewide, cotton condition was mostly fair to very poor.

Corn: Producers in the High Plains will resume harvest as soon as fields dry. The corn condition statewide was mostly fair to very poor.

Sorghum: Producers in the High Plains were pleased as sorghum was aided by the recent rainfall. Cooler temperatures allowed earworms and armyworms to appear. Despite this misfortune, the crop headed out with good head size and seed amount. Producers along the Coastal Bend were not as fortunate as drier weather conditions stressed the sorghum crop. Statewide, sorghum condition was mainly fair to very poor.

Peanuts: As peanuts neared harvest in the Northern High Plains, producers prepared for digging. High moisture along with cooler temperatures caused diseases to be prevalent as some producers experienced blight and web blotch. Peanuts continued to develop in South Texas. Peanut condition statewide was mostly rated good to fair.

Rice: Rice was headed out. The condition of rice was mainly good to fair.

Soybeans: Harvest began to wind down in the Upper Coast. Many fields were sprayed due to the problems of Asian Soybean Rust, stinkbugs, and snails. Statewide, the condition was mostly fair to very poor.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Growers in the Lower Valley prepared for sugarcane harvest.

Pecans: Disease was an issue as the crop started to fill in the Cross Timbers and North East Texas. Farmers in the Cross Timbers experienced high levels of pecan weevil while those in North East Texas had less serious issues of webworms. Pecans remained in the shell-hardening stage in the Trans-Pecos area.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Grass and rangeland conditions continued to improve throughout the Plains. Forage growth increased in the Northern Low Plains, causing many ranches that intended to start early culling and shipping yearlings to hold off a little while longer. Although pastures began to green up in the Cross Timbers, livestock remained in poor condition as more rainfall is needed to refill farm ponds. Many areas of the state continued liquidating livestock due to unavailable water and forage.

Crop Progress Table – September 10, 2006

Crop	Stage	2006	2005	Average 2001-2005
- Percent -				
Corn	Dented	99	95	96
	Mature	85	76	81
	Harvested	69	64	63
Cotton	Bolls Opening	40	24	35
	Harvested	18	20	17
Peanuts	Harvested	1	1	2
Rice	Harvested	93	94	91
Sorghum	Headed	97	97	94
	Turning Color	75	65	74
	Mature	68	56	64
	Harvested	64	55	57
Soybeans	Harvested	81	53	59
Sunflowers	Harvested	39	35	41
Winter Wheat	Planted	12	18	17
Oats	Planted	7	6	8

Crop Condition Table – September 10, 2006

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index ^{1/}	
	Percent					2006	2005
Corn	3	17	28	18	34	42	62
Cotton	5	18	28	24	25	46	76
Peanuts	11	30	46	9	4	69	87
Rice	5	40	44	11	0	71	83
Sorghum	1	20	24	21	34	41	70
Soybeans	1	15	22	22	40	35	53
Range & Pasture	1	6	16	29	48	--	--

^{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 – September 10, 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	20	7	17	23	20	60	65	33	6	40	73	63	9	66	53
Short	18	28	21	19	40	36	28	53	32	41	27	35	25	21	37
Adequate	47	55	56	57	39	4	7	14	54	19	0	2	58	13	10
Surplus	15	10	6	1	1	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	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 (Sep 4 - 10) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Sep 1 - 10) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 – Sep 10) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (Jun - Aug) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.44	2.14	12.06	18.87	81
Low Rolling Plains	0.73	2.33	12.36	23.78	51
North Central Texas	0.64	1.18	16.98	34.00	54
East Texas	0.07	0.07	23.43	45.69	78
Trans Pecos	0.38	0.93	6.60	12.96	82
Edwards Plateau	0.96	1.12	10.97	24.01	56
South Central Texas	0.48	0.48	12.44	34.48	55
Upper Coast	1.05	1.07	33.40	47.63	149
South Texas	0.93	0.93	6.50	23.49	50
Lower Valley	1.69	1.69	8.10	25.34	58

^{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

