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TX-CW3906

Texas Crop Weather

Released September 25, 2006

For the week of September 18-24, 2006

Agricultural Summary: The Plains, Edwards Plateau, and the Trans-Pecos all received mainly 0.01 to 0.25 inches of rain, as rains brought 0.50 to 1.5 inches to the Northern High Plains and a small section of the Trans-Pecos. The Cross Timbers, Blacklands, North East Texas, and Edwards Plateau all received 0.5 to 1.5 inches of rain. The South and Southeastern section of the state received mainly 0.50 to 4.0 inches of rainfall, as isolated showers brought as much as 6.0 inches. Throughout the state, insect pressure increased drastically as many experienced large populations of horn flies.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Early planted wheat continued to progress in the Northern High Plains due to good soil moisture. Planting of wheat continued in the Southern High Plains. Producers in the Blacklands who planted early oats began spraying as they experienced heavy army worm problems.

Cotton: In the Northern High Plains, cotton bolls began to open as many producers applied harvest aids to fields. Progress was slowed in the Southern High Plains due to cooler temperatures at night along with continued disease problems. However, some producers prepared for stripping. Harvest continued in the Southern Low Plains and neared completion in the Blacklands. Along the Upper Coast, rains halted completion of cotton harvest as many producers experienced rotting. Statewide, cotton condition was mostly fair to poor.

Corn: Harvest continued in the Northern High Plains. The corn condition statewide was mostly fair to very poor.

Sorghum: Grain sorghum matured as harvest neared in the Northern High Plains. Statewide, sorghum condition was mainly fair to very poor.

Peanuts: In the Southern High Plains, digging continued. Crop continued to progress in South Texas as many planned on harvest to begin in the next two or three weeks. Peanut condition statewide was mostly rated good to fair.

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

Soybeans: Soybean Rust reappeared once again in many fields along the Upper Coast. Statewide, the condition was mostly fair to very poor.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Pumpkin harvest began in the Northern High Plains. In South Texas, producers continued seedbed preparation for cabbage, carrots, spinach, and onion planting.

Pecans: Pecans in the Trans-Pecos area began splitting. Harvest began for some of the early varieties in South Central.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Many seedling grasses in the Trans-Pecos area emerged, greatly improving range condition by covering large areas that were previously bare ground. Pasture and livestock conditions in the Edwards Plateau remained fair with some improvements due to recent rains. Producers experienced increased green growth in South Central Texas. Livestock producers in South Texas decreased the volume of supplemental feeds to livestock due to recent rains and available forage in range and pastures. Liquidation decreased around most of the state.

Crop Progress Table – September 24, 2006

Crop	Stage	2006	2005	Average 2001-2005
- Percent -				
Corn	Mature	87	89	93
	Harvested	71	72	74
Cotton	Bolls Opening	66	49	57
	Harvested	22	23	21
Peanuts	Harvested	3	4	7
Rice	Harvested	98	98	98
Sorghum	Turning Color	85	85	86
	Mature	73	65	72
	Harvested	69	59	63
Soybeans	Harvested	86	60	68
Sunflowers	Harvested	50	40	52
Winter Wheat	Planted	41	40	45
	Emerged	12	10	17
Oats	Planted	26	24	31

Crop Condition Table – September 24, 2006

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index ^{1/}	
	Percent					2006	2005
Corn	3	17	28	18	34	42	62
Cotton	6	20	28	25	21	49	73
Peanuts	12	27	48	9	4	69	86
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	2	6	23	31	38	--	--

^{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 24, 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	8	12	21	13	17	40	60	33	24	36	38	0	0	4	10
Short	24	23	40	32	35	46	33	52	26	43	37	20	22	14	17
Adequate	61	58	35	55	48	14	7	14	49	20	25	50	68	76	73
Surplus	7	7	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	30	10	6	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 18 - 24) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Sep 1 - 24) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 – Sep 24) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (Jun - Aug) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.02	2.49	12.41	18.87	81
Low Rolling Plains	0.00	2.52	12.55	23.78	51
North Central Texas	0.30	2.46	18.26	34.00	54
East Texas	0.58	2.02	25.38	45.69	78
Trans Pecos	0.07	1.34	7.01	12.96	82
Edwards Plateau	0.11	2.44	12.29	24.01	56
South Central Texas	0.71	2.58	14.54	34.48	55
Upper Coast	1.83	3.95	36.28	47.63	149
South Texas	1.02	4.29	9.86	23.49	50
Lower Valley	2.44	6.97	13.38	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

