



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

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**For the week of:** August 18 – 24, 2008

**Agricultural Summary:** Rains continued across much of the Eastern and Southern parts of the state dropping as much as 5 or 6 inches in some areas. The Panhandle received heavy isolated storms with some hail, while the Trans-Pecos and Edwards Plateau received little rain. Land preparation for small grains continued in the Cross Timbers and much of the Plains. Cotton harvest was delayed in parts of the Coastal Bend and South Texas, while irrigation decreased in parts of the Plains region. Corn harvest was delayed in the Blacklands. Even though sorghum benefited from recent rains, the wet conditions halted grain sorghum harvest in the Blacklands. Soybean harvest was delayed in the Upper Coast and North East Texas due to the wet conditions. Melon harvest slowed, and chiles continued to develop in the Trans-Pecos. Pecans entered the nut gel stage in the Trans-Pecos and the Blacklands. Pastures and ranges continued to improve with recent rains and cooler temperatures. Top soil moisture was mostly adequate statewide.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Land preparation continued in anticipation of small grains planting in the Cross Timbers and much of the Plains.

**Cotton:** Irrigation decreased in parts of the Plains, while harvest was delayed in parts of the Coastal Bend and South Texas due to recent rains. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Corn:** Corn harvest neared completion, but was delayed due to wet conditions in the Blacklands. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Sorghum:** Sorghum benefited from recent rains; however, the wet conditions halted the remainder of grain sorghum harvest in the Blacklands. Sorghum condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Peanuts:** Peanuts continued to look good in the Southern Low Plains and South Texas. Peanut condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Soybeans:** Wet conditions delayed soybean harvest in the Upper Coast and North East Texas. Soybean condition was fair to good statewide.

## Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Sunflowers continued to mature in the Southern High Plains. Melon harvest slowed, while chiles continued to develop in the Trans-Pecos.

**Pecans:** Pecans entered the nut gel stage in the Blacklands and the Trans-Pecos. The crop showed some insect pressure in the Edwards Plateau..

## Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Livestock continued to improve; however, some producers continued to supplement to maintain body condition and reproductive efficiency. Pastures and ranges continued to improve with recent rains and cooler temperatures. Range and pasture condition was mostly poor to fair statewide.

**Crop Progress Table – August 24, 2008**

| Crop        | Stage             | 2008 | 2007 | Average<br>2003 – 2007 |
|-------------|-------------------|------|------|------------------------|
| – Percent – |                   |      |      |                        |
| Corn        | Silked (Tasseled) | 99   | 100  | 100                    |
|             | Dough             | 95   | 94   | 97                     |
|             | Dent              | 83   | 85   | 86                     |
|             | Mature            | 64   | 60   | 67                     |
|             | Harvested         | 61   | 31   | 51                     |
| Cotton      | Squaring          | 98   | 97   | 99                     |
|             | Setting Bolls     | 79   | 81   | 88                     |
|             | Bolls Opening     | 19   | 12   | 18                     |
|             | Harvested         | 7    | 2    | 9                      |
| Rice        | Headed            | 99   | 100  | 100                    |
|             | Harvested         | 70   | 67   | 67                     |
| Sorghum     | Headed            | 77   | 94   | 85                     |
|             | Coloring          | 66   | 80   | 64                     |
|             | Mature            | 60   | 58   | 56                     |
|             | Harvested         | 57   | 47   | 52                     |
| Soybeans    | Blooming          | 100  | 100  | 40                     |
|             | Setting Pods      | 95   | 97   | 32                     |
|             | Dropping Leaves   | 60   | 29   | 6                      |
|             | Harvested         | 11   | 5    | 27                     |

**Crop Condition Table – August 24, 2008**

| Crop            | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | Very Poor | Index <sup>1/</sup> |      |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|---------------------|------|
|                 | Percent   |      |      |      |           | 2008                | 2007 |
| Corn            | 4         | 36   | 26   | 14   | 20        | 58                  | 83   |
| Cotton          | 7         | 31   | 34   | 18   | 10        | 61                  | 72   |
| Peanuts         | 11        | 52   | 31   | 6    | 0         | 79                  | 87   |
| Rice            | 16        | 61   | 21   | 1    | 1         | 81                  | 66   |
| Sorghum         | 5         | 35   | 38   | 16   | 6         | 64                  | 72   |
| Soybeans        | 0         | 32   | 26   | 27   | 15        | 52                  | 93   |
| Range & Pasture | 4         | 22   | 38   | 24   | 12        | --                  | --   |

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 24, 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             | 0   | 9   | 0   | 15  | 20 | 1  | 1   | 1   | 33 | 18 | 14  | 6   | 3  | 7    | 30   |
| Short                  | 32  | 41  | 14  | 21  | 22 | 22 | 8   | 13  | 37 | 50 | 44  | 10  | 6  | 35   | 3    |
| Adequate               | 51  | 47  | 59  | 63  | 55 | 60 | 71  | 60  | 30 | 32 | 42  | 59  | 45 | 45   | 5    |
| Surplus                | 17  | 3   | 27  | 1   | 3  | 17 | 20  | 26  | 0  | 0  | 0   | 25  | 46 | 13   | 62   |

\* 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 18 – 24) Accumulation | Month-to-date (August 1 – 24) Accumulation | Year-to-date (Jan 1 – Aug 24) Accumulation | 1961 – 1990 Annual Normal | Previous Three Months (May – July) Percent of Normal |
|---|---|--|--|---------------------------|--|
| High Plains                                 | 0.32  | 3.36                                       | 11.16                                      | 18.87                     | 88   |
| Low Rolling Plains                          | 0.53  | 3.16                                       | 12.66                                      | 23.78                     | 74   |
| North Central Texas                         | 1.89  | 3.67                                       | 18.01                                      | 34.00                     | 49   |
| East Texas                                  | 2.99  | 6.28                                       | 26.08                                      | 45.69                     | 58   |
| Trans-Pecos                                 | 0.28  | 0.97                                       | 5.37                                       | 12.96                     | 92   |
| Edwards Plateau                             | 0.82  | 2.48                                       | 11.29                                      | 24.01                     | 68   |
| South Central Texas                         | 1.75  | 3.24                                       | 13.58                                      | 34.48                     | 44   |
| Upper Coast                                 | 3.06  | 5.45                                       | 24.29                                      | 47.63                     | 54   |
| South Texas                                 | 2.74  | 3.98                                       | 11.78                                      | 23.49                     | 76   |
| Lower Valley                                | 2.18  | 2.68                                       | 16.53                                      | 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/rfcs/share/precip\\_analysis\\_new.php](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/rfcs/share/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

