



# Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

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**Issue:** TX-CW0709

**Released:** February 17, 2009

**For the week of:** February 9 - 15, 2009

**Agricultural Summary:** The eastern part of the state received moderate to heavy amounts of moisture. South East Texas received the most moisture with up to 5 inches. Wheat in the High Plains and Southern Low Plains continue to struggle due to lack of moisture. Wheat in the Cross Timbers, Northern Low Plains and the Blacklands responded well to the showers that passed through earlier in the week. Cotton field preparation continued in the Northern Plains and the Trans-Pecos. Corn field preparation continued in the Northern High Plains. Pecans in the Trans-Pecos were being pruned and hedged. Supplemental feeding of livestock was on going across most of the state. Range and pasture conditions across the state were very dry and in need of rain. Top soil moisture was mostly very short to short across the state.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Wheat in the High Plains and Southern Low Plains continue to struggle due to lack of moisture. Wheat in the Cross Timbers, Northern Low Plains and the Blacklands responded well to the showers that passed through. Wheat in the Edwards Plateau continued to experience drought conditions. Statewide, wheat condition was mostly very poor to poor and oat condition was mostly very poor to poor as well.

**Cotton:** Field preparation continued in the Northern Plains and the Trans-Pecos.

**Corn:** Field preparation continued in the Northern High Plains. Pre-irrigation occurred in South and South Central Texas as producers prepared their land.

## Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Pecans in the Trans-Pecos were being pruned and hedged. Fall planted onions in Trans-Pecos were breaking dormancy while preparation for onion harvest began in the Lower Valley. Spinach and cabbage harvest continued in South Texas.

## Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Supplemental feeding of livestock was on going across most of the state. Stock tank levels continued to decline in the Cross Timbers, the Upper Coast, and South Texas. Herd liquidation occurred in the Northern Low Plains, Edwards Plateau, and South Texas. Range and pasture conditions across the state were very dry and in need of rain. Range and Pasture condition was mostly very poor to poor statewide.

**Crop Progress Table – February 15, 2009**

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2009	2008	Average 2004 – 2008
Winter Wheat	Emerged	99	95	98
Oats	Emerged	90	100	100

**Crop Condition Table – February 15, 2009**

Crop	Percent					Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2009	2008
Wheat	2	10	24	26	38	34	34
Oats	0	2	14	25	59	19	36
Range & Pasture	0	4	20	29	47	--	--

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 – February 15, 2009**

Condition	Percent of Acreage, by District *														
	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
Very Short	67	49	63	74	69	27	5	20	67	79	82	90	49	93	30
Short	22	44	24	24	21	38	34	39	23	21	16	10	28	7	43
Adequate	11	7	9	2	10	30	61	32	10	0	2	0	16	0	27
Surplus	0	0	4	0	0	5	0	9	0	0	0	0	7	0	0

\* 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/</sup>

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions <sup>2/</sup>	Previous Week Accumulation (February 9 - 15)	Month-to-Date Accumulation (February 1 - 15)	Year-to-Date Accumulation (Jan 1 - Feb 15)	Annual Normal (1971 - 2000)	Previous Three Months Percent of Normal (Nov, Dec, Jan)
High Plains	0.00	0.40	0.43	19.64	7
Low Rolling Plains	0.04	0.42	0.51	24.51	4
North Central Texas	0.45	0.72	1.29	35.23	26
East Texas	0.91	1.28	2.45	48.08	46
Trans-Pecos	0.00	0.09	0.09	13.19	6
Edwards Plateau	0.07	0.34	0.45	24.73	7
South Central Texas	0.22	0.29	0.51	36.21	18
Upper Coast	0.66	0.77	1.11	50.31	43
South Texas	0.04	0.04	0.06	24.08	10
Lower Valley	0.04	0.04	0.08	25.43	53

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

