



# Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

Texas Field Office · Post Office Box 70, Austin, Texas 78767 · 800-842-1331 · [www.nass.usda.gov/tx](http://www.nass.usda.gov/tx)

*Issue: TX-CW3810, September 20, 2010*

*For the week of September 13 – 19, 2010*

**Agricultural Summary:** Most areas of the state received 0.01 to 3.0 inches of rain while the Coastal Bend observed up to 6.0 inches. Winter wheat seedings continued. Some new crop wheat had emerged, but most of the dry land fields will not emerge until more moisture is received in the Northern High Plains. Some Blacklands producers were seeding oats while others waited on cooler weather. In the Northern High Plains, cotton has progressed well with the heat units and many dry land bolls were beginning to open. Sorghum harvest was delayed this week due to the heavy rain and high moisture conditions in the Southern Low Plains. In the Northern High Plains corn was drying in the fields with some producers able to begin harvest while others waited for drier conditions. Generally, livestock were in good condition. Producers were in the middle of fall works, such as weaning calves, preconditioning, pregnancy checking, and shipping. Topsoil moisture was mostly short to adequate across the state.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Winter wheat seedings continued. Some new crop wheat had emerged, but most of the dry land fields will not emerge until more moisture is received in the Northern High Plains. Irrigated wheat was being watered to establish stands. In the Southern Low Plains, wheat producers that will graze out the crop have started sowing wheat. Many stands of early planted winter wheat are seeing substantial growth. Oat seeding was progressing; some producers have begun spraying for armyworms in the Northern Low Plains and the Cross Timbers. Some Blacklands producers were seeding oats while others waited on cooler weather.

**Cotton:** In the Northern High Plains, cotton has progressed well with the heat units and many dry land bolls were beginning to open. In the Northern Low Plains, cotton bolls were starting to open, benefiting from the recent rainfall. Along the Upper Coast, some cotton remains in the field due to wet, rainy weather. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Corn:** In the Northern High Plains corn was drying in the fields with some producers able to begin harvest while others waited for drier conditions. In the Blacklands, the wet soil conditions have hindered the remaining corn fields that have not been harvested. Statewide, corn condition was mostly fair to good.

**Sorghum:** In the Northern High Plains, grain sorghum has suffered from hot, dry weather. Sorghum harvest was delayed this week due to the heavy rain and high moisture content in the Southern Low Plains. Sorghum condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Rice:** Along the Upper Coast, the ratoon rice crop made good progress. Spraying and fertilizing occurred last week on some of the rice fields but no reports of disease or insect problems. Statewide, rice condition was mostly fair to good.

**Soybeans:** Most of the soybeans have been harvested in the Blacklands. Soybean harvest began last week as conditions were finally favorable for plants to dry down in South Central Texas. Statewide, soybean condition was mostly fair to good.

**Peanuts:** In the Northern Low Plains, peanuts were not fully mature with digging activities approaching. However, dry land Spanish peanuts will soon be dug as they are mature. Peanuts progressed well in South Texas with the good rains last week. Statewide, peanut condition was mostly good to excellent.

**Sunflowers:** Sunflower harvest continued in the Southern High Plains.

#### **Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report**

Peas were continuing to progress in the Southern High Plains. Cantaloupe harvest concluded with small but sweet melons in the Trans-Pecos. The rains from last week improved pastures and hay meadows. Most producers have a sufficient supply of hay for the winter months.

**Pecans:** Pecan harvesting will begin soon but the heat stress in August caused scab and black spot issues in the Blacklands. Pecan irrigation resumed in the Edwards Plateau and the crop was progressing. Very little moisture last week prompted pecan producers to apply irrigation water in South Texas.

#### **Livestock, Range and Pasture Report**

Generally, livestock were in good condition. Producers were in the middle of fall works, such as weaning calves, preconditioning, pregnancy checking, and shipping. Some producers continued supplemental feeding of livestock due to hot temperatures. Feral hog problems were increasing in North East Texas. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good.

**Crop Progress Table – September 19, 2010 \***

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2010	2009	Average 2005 – 2009
Corn	Dough	99	100	100
	Dent	93	96	98
	Mature	77	73	82
	Harvested	57	69	70
Cotton	Setting Bolls	99	97	99
	Bolls Opening	53	39	40
	Harvested	13	14	16
Peanuts	Harvested	3	3	2
Rice	Harvested	99	91	94
Sorghum	Headed	100	98	99
	Coloring	90	81	84
	Mature	66	67	71
	Harvested	46	65	68
Soybeans	Dropping Leaves	86	71	64
	Harvested	60	49	63
Sunflowers	Harvested	71	10	24
Winter Wheat	Planted	25	30	24
Oats	Planted	5	6	11

\* Visit our web site to view the crop progress regional **maps**, available the following working day of this release at [www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Texas/Publications/Crop\\_Progress\\_&\\_Condition/maps/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Texas/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/maps/)

**Crop Condition Table – September 19, 2010**

Crop	Percent					Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2010	2009
Corn	17	45	19	9	10	73	54
Cotton	18	48	27	5	2	81	60
Peanuts	19	69	11	1	0	90	88
Rice	12	48	36	3	1	79	64
Sorghum	10	54	28	6	2	78	49
Soybeans	8	34	40	14	4	67	61
Range & Pasture	7	38	36	14	5	-	-

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 19, 2010**

Condition	Percent of Acreage, by District <sup>1/</sup>														
	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	16	3	6	5	4	0	31	19	16	11	3	0	10	0	0
Short	54	50	30	30	41	19	41	42	55	29	12	7	12	13	0
Adequate	28	45	62	58	55	77	28	39	29	57	73	53	37	64	53
Surplus	2	2	2	7	0	4	0	0	0	3	12	40	41	23	47

1/ 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.

**Precipitation Table – September 19, 2010 <sup>1/</sup>**

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions <sup>2/</sup>	Inches of Accumulation				Percent
	Previous Week (Sep 13 – 19)	Month-to-Date (Sep 1 – 19)	Year-to-Date (Jan 1 – Sep 19)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months of Normal (Jun - Aug)
High Plains	0.37	0.49	17.73	19.64	109
Low Rolling Plains	0.82	2.21	22.43	24.51	122
North Central Texas	0.16	5.46	25.80	35.23	90
East Texas	0.08	1.88	22.25	48.08	89
Trans-Pecos	0.32	0.62	10.97	13.19	125
Edwards Plateau	0.35	1.97	18.75	24.73	87
South Central Texas	2.73	7.91	28.47	36.21	91
Upper Coast	1.94	6.51	36.52	50.31	119
South Texas	3.00	5.58	23.63	24.08	102
Lower Valley	3.58	6.72	28.29	25.43	169

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

