



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

Issue: TX-CW4310, October 25, 2010

For the week of October 18 - 24, 2010

Agricultural Summary: Precipitation varied across the state from 0.01 to 4.0 inches of rain. Most of the winter wheat has been seeded, but about half has emerged in the Northern High Plains. In the Southern High Plains the cotton harvest is well underway, but this week storms slowed down harvest operations for a short time. In the Northern High Plains the corn crop harvest is nearing completion with some late planted acres still in the fields. In Cross Timbers sorghum harvest is very near completion. Soybean harvest in the Northern High Plains is progressing. Range and pasturelands are mostly fair around the state of Texas. Topsoil moisture was mostly short to adequate across the state.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Most of the winter wheat has been seeded, but about half of it has emerged in the Northern High Plains. Recent rains in the district should move crop progress along. In the Southern Low Plains the continued lack of rainfall is beginning to show up in the wheat crop. Showers early in the week have offered only temporary relief to offset the dry, warmer conditions. Small grain conditions were mostly fair to good statewide.

Cotton: The cotton harvest is at a standstill in some areas in the Northern High Plains until more favorable weather returns. In the Southern High Plains the cotton harvest is well underway, but this week storms slowed down harvest operations for a short time. In the Northern Low Plains some isolated areas received hail damage on cotton creating a total loss of crop. Other farmers indicate that their cotton yields are excellent and ready for harvest. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Corn: In the Northern High Plains the corn crop harvest is nearing completion with some late planted acres still in the fields. Statewide, corn condition was mostly fair to good.

Sorghum: In the Northern High Plains the grain sorghum harvest is coming along with mostly dryland and corners of the pivots remaining. In Cross Timbers sorghum harvest is very near completion. Sorghum condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Soybeans: Soybean harvest in the Northern High Plains is progressing. Statewide, soybean condition was mostly fair to good.

Peanuts: Peanut harvest was nearing completion in the Northern Low Plains. In the Southern Low Plains the local peanut producers are busy harvesting their crops. Statewide, peanut condition was mostly fair to good.

Sunflowers: Producers are nearing completion of the 2010 sunflower crop.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

A very dry month of October in South Texas thus far has kept producers busy applying irrigation water to onion, spinach, cabbage, and carrot crops currently in critical plant development stages.

Pecans: Pecan harvest is going well in the Cross Timbers. In the Edwards Plateau the pecan harvest should begin in the next couple of weeks. In South Central Texas, harvest continued.

Livestock, Range and Pasture Report

Generally, livestock are in excellent condition around the state. Range and pasturelands are mostly fair around the state of Texas. However, in the Blacklands pastures and rangelands are experiencing drought like conditions again this week. The ranges are in need of substantial moisture. Ranchers are now supplementing livestock with hay. In South Texas, quality on native range and pastures continues to decline prompting livestock producers to begin free choice protein supplementation for livestock through molasses and other similar products. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good.

Crop Progress Table – October 24, 2010 *

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2010	2009	Average 2005 – 2009
Corn	Mature	100	100	100
	Harvested	93	87	90
Cotton	Bolls Opening	96	86	87
	Harvested	37	20	25
Peanuts	Harvested	64	43	40
Sorghum	Mature	97	74	86
	Harvested	79	70	76
Soybeans	Dropping Leaves	100	93	98
	Harvested	91	75	88
Sunflowers	Harvested	92	22	58
Winter Wheat	Planted	81	75	78
	Emerged	49	56	57
Oats	Planted	78	79	72
	Emerged	41	38	37

* 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/.

Crop Condition Table – October 24, 2010

Crop	Percent					Index ^{1/}	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2010	2009
Corn	17	45	19	9	10	73	54
Cotton	16	41	31	10	2	76	60
Peanuts	16	61	22	1	0	86	81
Sorghum	7	52	29	10	2	75	49
Soybeans	8	34	40	14	4	67	57
Wheat	5	24	42	17	12	57	70
Range & Pasture	4	29	40	18	9	-	-

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.

Precipitation Table – October 24, 2010 ^{1/}

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions ^{2/}	Inches of Accumulation				Percent
	Previous Week (Oct 18 - 24)	Month-to-Date (Oct 1 - 24)	Year-to-Date (Jan 1 – Oct 24)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months of Normal (Jul - Sep)
High Plains	1.15	1.23	19.36	19.64	95
Low Rolling Plains	1.42	1.47	24.60	24.51	129
North Central Texas	0.86	1.02	27.82	35.23	141
East Texas	0.70	1.39	24.05	48.08	74
Trans-Pecos	0.01	0.01	11.40	13.19	100
Edwards Plateau	0.32	0.32	19.66	24.73	91
South Central Texas	0.00	0.00	29.32	36.21	150
Upper Coast	0.00	0.11	37.12	50.31	144
South Texas	0.00	0.00	24.55	24.08	153
Lower Valley	0.00	0.00	30.19	25.43	149

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/ftcshare/precip_analysis_new.php and www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html

Top Soil Moisture by District – October 24, 2010

Condition	Percent of Acreage, by District ^{1/}														
	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	20	6	6	21	11	16	29	51	25	20	10	0	21	11	0
Short	57	45	19	17	53	49	51	37	49	50	54	47	37	41	20
Adequate	23	38	51	58	35	35	20	12	26	30	32	53	41	48	78
Surplus	0	11	24	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	0	2

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.

Cooperating Agencies:

- Texas AgriLife Extension Service
- Texas Department of Agriculture
- National Weather Service

