



# Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

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**Issue:** TX-CW4208

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**For the week of:** October 6 - 12, 2008

**Agricultural Summary:** Isolated showers and thunderstorms went across some areas of the Plains, mostly the Northern Plains. Much of the rest of the state received little to no rainfall. Small grains continued to be planted in much of the Plains, Cross Timbers, South Central and South Texas. Corn harvest continued, while more heat units were needed for cotton in most areas of the High Plains. Sorghum harvest continued in many areas of the state, but hot weather is still needed in some areas of the Northern High Plains. Peanut harvest continued in the Southern High Plains and South Texas, while digging and thrashing occurred in some areas of the Northern Low Plains. Pumpkin harvest continued in the Northern High Plains and sunflower harvest continued in the Southern High Plains. Red chilies and paprika were in the drying process in the Trans-Pecos. Pecan orchards continued to be irrigated in parts of Edwards Plateau. Although supplemental feeding occurred in some areas of the state, livestock remained in good condition across most of the state. Top soil moisture was mostly short to adequate statewide.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Winter wheat continued to be planted in the much of the Plains, Cross Timbers, South Central Texas, and South Texas. Armyworms remained a problems in some areas of the Low Plains, the Cross Timbers, and the Blacklands. Statewide, wheat condition was mostly fair to good and oat condition was mostly very poor to poor.

**Corn:** Corn harvest continued in the High Plains. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Cotton:** Heat units are still needed for cotton in most areas of the High Plains. Statewide, cotton condition was mostly fair to good.

**Sorghum:** Harvest continued in many areas of the state. More hot weather is needed to finish sorghum in the Northern High Plains. Statewide, sorghum condition was mostly fair to good.

**Peanuts:** Harvesting of peanuts continued in the Southern High Plains and South Texas. Digging and thrashing occurred in some areas of the Northern Low Plains. Peanut condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

## Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Pumpkin harvest was in full swing in the Northern High Plains, while sunflower harvest continued in the Southern High Plains. Red chilies and paprika were in the drying process in the Trans-Pecos.

**Pecans:** Pecan orchards continued to be irrigated in parts of Edwards Plateau. Black spot diseases continued to increase in some areas of the state.

## Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Although supplemental feeding occurred in some areas of the state, livestock remained in good condition across most of the state. Pasture and range condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Crop Progress Table – October 12, 2008**

Crop	Stage	2008	2007	Average 2003 – 2007
– Percent –				
Corn	Mature	93	100	99
	Harvested	76	92	89
Cotton	Bolls Opening	70	77	74
	Harvested	20	24	24
Peanuts	Harvested	25	24	20
Rice	Harvested	100	100	100
Sorghum	Coloring	90	100	94
	Mature	77	97	81
	Harvested	71	91	70
Soybeans	Dropping Leaves	97	96	97
	Harvested	88	91	82
Sunflowers	Harvested	52	53	62
Winter Wheat	Planted	70	63	68
	Emerged	46	33	41
Oats	Planted	57	47	59
	Emerged	11	19	10

**Crop Condition Table – October 12, 2008**

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Percent					2008	2007
Corn	4	38	26	16	16	59	83
Cotton	10	31	33	16	10	63	76
Peanuts	1	69	26	3	1	80	89
Rice	16	50	28	3	3	80	--
Sorghum	5	40	36	14	5	67	72
Soybeans	2	33	29	27	9	57	92
Wheat	8	34	42	14	2	68	62
Oats	0	11	24	30	35	64	60
Range & Pasture	4	28	36	22	10	--	--

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.

**Weather Information Table <sup>1/ 2/</sup>**

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous Week (October 6 - 12) Accumulation	Month-to-date (October 1 – 12) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 – Oct 12) Accumulation	1961 – 1990 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (Jul – Sep) Percent of Normal
High Plains	1.04	1.76	15.71	18.87	112
Low Rolling Plains	0.13	1.03	16.78	23.78	97
North Central Texas	0.51	1.32	21.12	34.00	76
East Texas	0.80	0.84	31.43	45.69	119
Trans-Pecos	0.13	0.39	8.66	12.96	95
Edwards Plateau	0.16	1.02	14.59	24.01	76
South Central Texas	0.16	0.16	15.35	34.48	86
Upper Coast	0.56	0.56	28.14	47.63	87
South Texas	0.04	0.04	15.07	23.49	144
Lower Valley	0.52	0.52	24.58	25.34	209

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](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ftcshare/precip_analysis_new.php) and [www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html](http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html)

Top Soil Moisture by District – October 12, 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	8	3	5	4	12	9	1	16	12	26	50	10	15	23	23
Short	23	25	9	39	32	42	27	47	35	47	41	45	73	50	2
Adequate	64	65	76	56	54	48	71	31	52	27	9	42	12	25	50
Surplus	5	7	10	1	2	1	1	6	1	0	0	3	0	2	25

\* 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

