



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: October 13 - 19, 2008

Agricultural Summary: Scattered showers across the state brought moderate amounts of rain to the Panhandle and eastern parts of the state. The Plains received between 1 and 2 inches of rain, while East Texas and the Upper Coast received about 1.5 inches. Small grains continued to be planted in the Cross Timbers and the Blacklands. The rains delayed corn harvest in the Northern High Plains. Hot weather was still needed for the cotton crop in the Plains. Cool, wet weather in the Southern High Plains slowed maturity in sorghum. Peanuts continued to look good in the Southern High Plains, while harvest continued in the Low Plains and South Texas. Cabbage harvest began and green beans continued to develop in South Texas, while pumpkin harvest continued in the Northern High Plains and in the Trans-Pecos. Livestock conditions remained good as the fly populations slowly decreased. The recent showers across the state helped green up pastures and ranges. Top soil moisture was mostly short to adequate statewide.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Small grains planting continued in the Cross Timbers and the Blacklands; however, armyworms were still a problem in some areas. Statewide, wheat condition was mostly fair to good and oat condition was mostly very fair to good.

Corn: Corn harvest was delayed in the Northern High Plains due to rain. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Cotton: The cotton crop still needs some hot weather in order to mature in the Plains. Some early cotton was picked in some areas of the Southern High Plains. Statewide, cotton condition was mostly fair to good.

Sorghum: Sorghum has been slow to mature due to the wet and cool weather in the Southern High Plains. Warm weather is needed to finish it out. Statewide, sorghum condition was mostly fair to good.

Peanuts: Peanut harvest continued in the Low Plains and South Texas, while peanuts continued to look good in the Southern High Plains. Peanut condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Pumpkin harvest continued in the Northern High Plains and in the Trans-Pecos. In South Texas, cabbage harvest began and green beans continued to develop.

Pecans: Pecans are in the shuck split stage in the Trans-Pecos.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Livestock remained in good condition in most areas, while fly populations started to decrease. Pasture and range benefited greatly from the recent showers across parts of the state. Pasture and range condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Crop Progress Table – October 19, 2008

Crop	Stage	2008	2007	Average 2003 – 2007
– Percent –				
Corn	Mature	96	100	100
	Harvested	77	93	93
Cotton	Bolls Opening	78	85	81
	Harvested	21	25	26
Peanuts	Harvested	31	33	28
Sorghum	Coloring	94	100	96
	Mature	81	98	84
	Harvested	72	92	71
Soybeans	Dropping Leaves	98	99	100
	Harvested	91	95	86
Sunflowers	Harvested	54	64	67
Winter Wheat	Planted	77	72	75
	Emerged	59	42	51
Oats	Planted	67	59	68
	Emerged	27	29	16

Crop Condition Table – October 19, 2008

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index ^{1/}	
	Percent					2008	2007
Corn	4	38	26	16	16	59	76
Cotton	10	31	34	16	9	64	--
Peanuts	7	63	27	2	1	81	85
Sorghum	5	40	36	14	5	67	--
Soybeans	2	33	29	27	9	57	--
Wheat	11	38	38	12	1	72	61
Oats	1	27	47	14	11	58	54
Range & Pasture	4	27	35	23	11	--	--

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 ^{1/ 2/}

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous Week (October 13 - 19) Accumulation	Month-to-date (October 1 – 19) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 – Oct 19) Accumulation	1961 – 1990 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (Jul – Sep) Percent of Normal
High Plains	1.61	3.37	17.32	18.87	112
Low Rolling Plains	1.79	2.82	18.57	23.78	97
North Central Texas	0.84	2.16	21.96	34.00	76
East Texas	1.20	2.04	32.63	45.69	119
Trans-Pecos	0.49	0.88	9.15	12.96	95
Edwards Plateau	0.32	1.34	14.91	24.01	76
South Central Texas	0.93	1.09	16.28	34.48	86
Upper Coast	1.17	1.73	29.31	47.63	87
South Texas	0.94	0.98	16.01	23.49	144
Lower Valley	0.56	1.08	25.14	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/rfcshare/precip_analysis_new.php and www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html

Top Soil Moisture by District – October 19, 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	3	3	3	6	11	1	6	25	26	34	2	19	26	30
Short	6	14	7	21	35	30	19	24	32	47	39	20	52	38	3
Adequate	53	64	60	75	58	58	77	57	40	27	20	67	29	36	67
Surplus	41	19	30	1	1	1	3	13	3	0	7	11	0	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.

Cooperating Agencies:
Texas AgriLife Extension Service
Texas Department of Agriculture
National Weather Service

