



# Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

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**Issue:** TX-CW4808

**Released:** November 24, 2008

**For the week of:** November 17 - 23, 2008

**Agricultural Summary:** There was very little rainfall across the state, with only a few showers observed in the southern part of the state which received between 0.01 to 0.5 inches. Small grains could use moisture. Cotton harvest continued in Trans-Pecos and Edwards Plateau while harvest was mostly complete in South Central Texas. Corn harvest in the Northern High Plains was almost complete. Sorghum harvest in the Northern High Plains continued but was showing poor yields due to late maturity and freezing temps. Peanuts continued to be harvested in some areas of the state. Pecan harvest continued in the Trans-Pecos with average yields while onions were showing good yields. Cabbage and spinach harvest continued in South Central Texas. Sunflower harvest continued in the Southern High Plains. Livestock were in fair to good condition across the state with supplemental feeding taking place. Pasture and range land were in need of rainfall in the Low Plains. Top soil moisture was mostly short to adequate statewide.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Wheat in the Southern Plains was slow to develop and is in need of moisture while some winter wheat was being dry planted. The winter wheat crop in the Northern Plains was looking good and planting was nearing completion while needing moisture. The Cross Timbers and Blacklands were showing dry conditions and the winter wheat was suffering. The majority of wheat and oats have been planted in the Blacklands. Statewide, wheat condition was mostly fair to good and oat condition was mostly poor to fair.

**Cotton:** Cotton harvest was in full swing in the Northern Plains but the yields have not been good due to late maturity and freezing temperatures. Harvest continued in the Southern Plains, however, cotton bolls has been slow to open and was slowing down harvest. The Trans-Pecos and Edwards Plateau showed cotton being harvested and yields were fairly good. Harvest was near completion in South Central Texas. Statewide, cotton condition was mostly fair to good.

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

**Sorghum:** Harvest in the Northern High Plains continued, however yields are poor due to late maturity and freezing temps. The Northern Low Plains showed an excellent crop. Harvest was near completion in Edwards Plateau and South Central Texas. Statewide, sorghum condition was mostly fair to good.

**Peanuts:** Peanuts continued to be harvested in some areas of the state. Peanut condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

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

In the Trans-Pecos, pecan harvest continued with average yields and onion harvest was showing good yields. Cabbage and spinach harvest continued in South Central Texas. Sunflower harvest continued in the Southern High Plains.

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

Livestock were in fair to good condition across the state with supplemental feeding taking place. Pasture and range land were in need of rainfall in the Low Plains. Pasture and range land continued to decline in the Cross Timbers, Blacklands, South Texas, Lower Valley and South East Texas due to cooler weather and lack of moisture. Pasture and range condition was mostly poor to fair statewide.

**Crop Progress Table – November 23, 2008**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>Stage</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>Average 2003 – 2007</b>
– Percent –				
Corn	Harvested	99	100	100
Cotton	Bolls Opening	98	99	98
	Harvested	53	66	60
Peanuts	Harvested	97	97	90
Sorghum	Mature	99	100	99
	Harvested	91	97	86
Soybeans	Harvested	99	100	99
Sunflower	Harvested	77	94	92
Winter Wheat	Planted	95	92	94
	Emerged	85	69	80
Oats	Planted	95	91	94
	Emerged	73	63	45
Pecans	Harvested	12	52	51

**Crop Condition Table – November 23, 2008**

Crop	Percent					Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2007	2008
Corn	4	38	26	16	16	59	--
Cotton	8	31	32	19	10	61	83
Peanuts	3	63	31	2	1	79	--
Sorghum	5	40	36	14	5	67	--
Soybeans	2	33	29	27	9	57	--
Wheat	7	41	36	12	4	69	40
Oats	1	13	27	33	26	39	41
Range & Pasture	1	17	34	32	16	--	--

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 – November 23, 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	10	14	35	34	27	22	5	7	35	42	55	32	9	63	22
Short	34	43	46	42	50	39	12	39	43	48	37	55	39	36	25
Adequate	52	43	19	24	23	37	81	47	22	10	8	13	47	1	53
Surplus	4	0	0	0	0	2	2	7	0	0	0	0	5	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/ 2/</sup>**

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous Week (Nov 17 - 23) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Nov 1 - 23) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Nov 23) Accumulation	1961 - 1990 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (Aug - Oct) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.00	0.02	17.52	18.87	148
Low Rolling Plains	0.00	0.01	18.58	23.78	110
North Central Texas	0.00	0.75	22.71	34.00	81
East Texas	0.04	2.42	35.32	45.69	124
Trans-Pecos	0.00	0.00	9.15	12.96	81
Edwards Plateau	0.00	0.10	15.01	24.01	73
South Central Texas	0.04	0.68	16.97	34.48	56
Upper Coast	0.07	3.63	33.44	47.63	78
South Texas	0.12	0.13	16.22	23.49	96
Lower Valley	0.21	1.68	26.82	25.34	111

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

