



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: January 12 - 18, 2009

Agricultural Summary: Southeast Texas received up to 0.5 inches of rain while the rest of the state observed trace amounts of rain. Most areas of the state, due to dry conditions, continue to experience highly stressed wheat crop. Cotton field preparation was underway in the Northern High Plains and South Central Texas. Dry weather in the Low Plains increased the pace of harvest in the remaining cotton fields. Corn producers in South Central Texas had prepared most of their land for planting. Sorghum moisture was needed for planting of this year's crop in the Coastal Bend. Pecans in Trans-Pecos were being pruned or hedged. Supplemental feeding of livestock was on going across most of the state. Pasture and range land continued to be very dry and was in need of rain across most of the state. Top soil moisture was mostly very short to adequate across the state.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Most areas of the state, due to dry conditions, continue to experience highly stressed wheat crop. However, the wheat crop was progressing well in some areas of the Blacklands following a recent rainfall. Statewide, wheat condition was mostly poor to fair and oat condition was mostly very poor to poor.

Cotton: Field preparation was underway in the Northern High Plains and South Central Texas. Dry weather in the Low Plains increased the pace of harvest in the remaining cotton fields. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Corn: Producers in South Central Texas had prepared most of their land for planting.

Sorghum: Moisture was needed for planting of this year's crop in the Coastal Bend.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Pecans in Trans-Pecos were being pruned or hedged. Producers were preparing to plant onions in North East Texas and the Lower Valley. Spinach and cabbage harvest continued in South Texas.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Supplemental feeding of livestock was on going across most of the state. Pasture and range land continued to be very dry and was in need of rain across most of the state. Stock tank water levels were slowly decreasing for livestock in the Southern Low Plains, Cross Timbers, and Blacklands. Range and Pasture condition was mostly very poor to poor statewide.

Crop Progress Table – January 18, 2009

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2009	2008	Average 2004 – 2008
Cotton	Harvested	99	99	97
Winter Wheat	Emerged	95	90	95
Oats	Emerged	86	96	92
Pecans	Harvested	94	97	96

Crop Condition Table – January 18, 2009

Crop	Percent					Index ^{1/}	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2008	2009
Cotton	8	28	33	19	12	59	--
Wheat	2	14	29	30	25	41	35
Oats	0	5	19	30	46	26	37
Range & Pasture	1	10	25	30	34	--	--

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 – January 18, 2009

Condition	Percent of Acreage, by District *														
	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	44	47	62	69	76	28	0	11	44	65	73	73	28	73	30
Short	37	49	36	25	18	46	11	36	38	34	23	25	38	27	33
Adequate	19	4	2	6	6	26	86	44	18	1	4	2	25	0	37
Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	9	0	0	0	0	9	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 ^{1/}

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions ^{2/}	Previous Week Accumulation (January 12 – 18)	Month-to-Date Accumulation (January 1 – 18)	Year-to-Date Accumulation (January 1 – 18)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months Percent of Normal (Oct – Dec)
High Plains	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.64	119
Low Rolling Plains	0.00	0.02	0.02	24.51	62
North Central Texas	0.00	0.42	0.42	35.23	37
East Texas	0.00	0.95	0.95	48.08	52
Trans-Pecos	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.19	40
Edwards Plateau	0.00	0.09	0.09	24.73	27
South Central Texas	0.00	0.18	0.18	36.21	24
Upper Coast	0.00	0.25	0.25	50.31	56
South Texas	0.00	0.02	0.02	24.08	27
Lower Valley	0.00	0.03	0.03	25.43	56

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

Cooperating Agencies:

Texas AgriLife Extension Service
 Texas Department of Agriculture
 National Weather Service

