



Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

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Issue: TX-CW0509

Released: February 2, 2009

For the week of: January 26 – February 1, 2009

Agricultural Summary: Northeast Texas received anywhere from 0.5 inches to 4 inches of rain while most of the rest of the state received 0.01 to 0.5 inches of rain. Small grain fields improved after recent rains across most of the state, however, conditions are still very dry and wheat could use more moisture. Fertilizer spreading on wheat fields continued in the High Plains. Cotton field preparation and stalk shredding were underway in Trans-Pecos and the Northern Low Plains. In South Texas, dry land sorghum producers began seed bed preparation. Rainfall was needed so they can begin planting in the next three to four weeks. Pecans in Trans-Pecos were being pruned and hedged. Onion growth was progressing well in South Texas due to cool growing conditions. Supplemental feeding of livestock was on going across most of the state. Producers in the Blacklands and South Texas were considering reducing their herd size due to dry conditions. Pasture and range land remained dry and was in need of rain across most of the state. Top soil moisture was mostly very short to short across the state.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Small grain fields improved after recent rains across most of the state, however, conditions are still very dry and wheat could use more moisture. Fertilizer spreading on wheat fields continued in the High Plains. Statewide, wheat condition was mostly very poor to poor and oat condition was mostly very poor to poor.

Cotton: Field preparation and stalk shredding were underway in Trans-Pecos and the Northern Low Plains.

Sorghum: In South Texas, dry land sorghum producers began seed bed preparation. Rainfall was needed so they can begin planting in the next three to four weeks.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Pecans in Trans-Pecos were being pruned and hedged. Fall planted onions in Trans-Pecos were dormant. Onion growth was progressing well in South Texas due to cool growing conditions. Spinach producers prepared for a second cut of fields harvested earlier in the season.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Supplemental feeding of livestock was on going across most of the state. Producers in the Blacklands and South Texas were considering reducing their herd size due to dry conditions. Livestock in the Cross Timbers were stressed due to the cold weather. Pasture and range land remained dry and was in need of rain across most of the state. Range and Pasture condition was mostly very poor to poor statewide.

Crop Progress Table – February 1, 2009

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2009	2008	Average 2004 – 2008
Winter Wheat	Emerged	97	93	97
Oats	Emerged	88	98	93
Pecans	Harvested	99	99	99

Crop Condition Table – February 1, 2009

Crop	Percent					Index ^{1/}	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2009	2008
Wheat	2	10	24	29	35	35	36
Oats	0	2	13	26	59	19	34
Range & Pasture	0	6	23	30	41	--	--

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 – February 1, 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	57	63	74	73	74	26	5	25	63	72	78	80	42	75	23
Short	24	36	25	26	24	47	42	54	24	27	20	20	35	25	51
Adequate	19	1	1	1	2	27	53	19	13	1	2	0	17	0	26
Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	6	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 (Jan 26 – Feb 1)	Month-to-Date Accumulation (January 1 – 31)	Year-to-Date Accumulation (Jan 1 – Feb 1)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months Percent of Normal (Oct – Dec)
High Plains	0.03	0.03	0.03	19.64	119
Low Rolling Plains	0.07	0.09	0.09	24.51	62
North Central Texas	0.15	0.57	0.57	35.23	37
East Texas	0.57	1.17	1.52	48.08	52
Trans-Pecos	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.19	40
Edwards Plateau	0.02	0.11	0.11	24.73	27
South Central Texas	0.04	0.22	0.22	36.21	24
Upper Coast	0.17	0.34	0.45	50.31	56
South Texas	0.00	0.02	0.02	24.08	27
Lower Valley	0.01	0.04	0.04	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

