



Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

Texas Field Office · Post Office Box 70 · Austin, Texas 78767
(512) 916-5581 · (800) 842-1331 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov

Issue: TX–CW1909

Released: May 11, 2009

For the week of: May 4 – 10, 2009

Agricultural Summary: The eastern part of the state received up to 6 inches of rainfall while the rest of the state received trace amounts of moisture. Wheat continued to suffer in the High Plains. Winter wheat was heading out in the Trans-Pecos. In the High Plains, cotton planting was in full swing. Most of the cotton crop has been planted in the Blacklands. Corn was being planted in the High Plains. Corn was tasseling in South Texas. Sorghum was being planted in the Southern High Plains. Cabbage harvest continued this past week in South Texas while producers harvested green beans, potatoes and onions. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued in parts of the state. Range and pasture conditions improved across the state due to the earlier rainfall. Top soil moisture was mostly very short to adequate across the state.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Wheat continued to suffer in the High Plains due to disease, insects and lack of moisture. Freeze damage to the wheat crop across the state was becoming more evident as the crop matured. Fields were turning color in the Cross Timbers. Winter wheat was heading out in the Trans-Pecos. Producers harvested wheat and oats in South Texas. Statewide, wheat condition was mostly very poor to poor and oat condition was mostly very poor to fair.

Cotton: In the High Plains, planting was in full swing. Improved soil moisture in the Northern Low Plains has caused producers to increase planting activities. Most of the crop has been planted in the Blacklands due to improved soil moisture. Earlier rainfall in the Edwards Plateau improved planting conditions. Planting has begun in South Texas.

Corn: Due to higher soil temperatures, corn was being planted in the High Plains. Warmer weather and recent rainfall has improved growing conditions in the Blacklands. Corn was tasseling in South Texas. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Sorghum: Sorghum was being planted in the Southern High Plains. The crop was progressing well due to the recent month's rainfall. In South Texas, sorghum was reaching critical development stages where water applications were essential. Sorghum condition was mostly very poor to fair statewide.

Rice: Due to recent flooding, some planted rice did not germinate in the Upper Coast. Rice condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Soybeans: Soybean condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Pumpkin field preparation continued in the Northern High Plains. Sunflower planting continued in the Southern High Plains. Fall planted onions have begun to bulb in the Trans-Pecos. Cabbage harvest continued this past week in South Texas while producers harvested green beans, potatoes and onions.

Pecan: Nut casebearer flight was delayed due to the late freeze in the Blacklands. Trees bloomed and pollen was released in the Trans-Pecos.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Supplemental feeding of livestock continued in parts of the state. Cattle were progressing well in the Blacklands and North East Texas. In the Edwards Plateau, ranchers continued shearing sheep and goats while marking lambs. In the Trans-Pecos, goat herds have kidded out and mare bands were in the middle of foaling and breeding season. Range and pasture conditions improved across the state due to the earlier rainfall. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Crop Progress Table – May 10, 2009

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2009	2008	Average 2004 – 2008
Corn	Planted	80	83	89
	Emerged	69	67	70
	Silked	2	1	3
Cotton	Planted	27	27	29
	Squaring	1	2	3
Peanuts	Planted	37	43	33
Rice	Planted	96	99	95
	Emerged	93	92	89
Sorghum	Planted	64	68	61
	Headed	4	5	10
Soybeans	Planted	76	88	77
	Emerged	40	66	41
Sunflowers	Planted	12	14	29
Winter Wheat	Headed	74	69	78
	Harvested	2	0	1
Oats	Headed	90	89	87
	Harvested	3	4	2

Crop Condition Table – May 10, 2009

Crop	Percent					Index ^{1/}	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2009	2008
Corn	4	45	36	9	6	69	74
Rice	7	70	14	8	1	81	75
Sorghum	1	18	34	18	29	44	66
Soybeans	0	1	79	19	1	66	77
Wheat	0	10	13	24	53	25	47
Oats	0	9	28	21	42	32	69
Range & Pasture	9	23	27	20	21		

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 – May 10, 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	16	47	15	39	23	1	0	2	74	30	28	90	5	70	72
Short	38	39	34	39	15	13	1	14	18	30	47	10	18	30	18
Adequate	46	14	44	22	58	52	65	58	8	40	24	0	65	0	10
Surplus	0	0	7	0	4	34	34	26	0	0	1	0	12	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 (May 4 – 10)	Month-to-Date Accumulation (May 1 – 10)	Year-to-Date Accumulation (Jan 1 – May 10)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months Percent of Normal (Feb – Apr)
High Plains	0.18	0.23	2.66	19.64	79
Low Rolling Plains	0.16	0.24	3.94	24.51	80
North Central Texas	0.36	0.86	9.30	35.23	97
East Texas	0.50	2.04	14.81	48.08	102
Trans-Pecos	0.03	0.03	0.89	13.19	68
Edwards Plateau	0.08	0.11	5.10	24.73	105
South Central Texas	0.00	0.01	4.27	36.21	57
Upper Coast	0.00	0.07	9.70	50.31	99
South Texas	0.00	0.00	1.24	24.08	28
Lower Valley	0.00	0.00	0.86	25.43	20

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 and www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html

Cooperating Agencies:

Texas AgriLife Extension Service
Texas Department of Agriculture
National Weather Service

