



# Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

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**For the week of:** May 18 – 24, 2009

**Agricultural Summary:** Showers swept through most of the state bringing up to 3 inches of rain. Wheat continued to mature rapidly in the Low Plains. Freeze damaged wheat and oats across the state were being baled for hay. In the High Plains, cotton planting was in full swing. Cotton was progressing well in the Blacklands. Corn in the Blacklands and South Texas progressed well. Sorghum planting continued in the Northern High Plains. Cabbage, onion, green beans and potato harvest continued this past week in South Texas. Nut case bearer spraying was active in the Cross Timbers and Edwards Plateau. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued in parts of the state. Range and pasture conditions improved across the state due to the recent rainfall. Top soil moisture was mostly very short to adequate across the state.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Producers continued to irrigate wheat in the Southern High Plains. Wheat continued to mature rapidly in the Low Plains. Freeze damaged wheat and oats across the state were being baled for hay. In South Central Texas, irrigated wheat was progressing well. 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. Planting continued on irrigated fields in the Low Plains while producers were in need of additional rainfall to begin planting on non-irrigated land. Cotton was progressing well in the Blacklands. Producers continued cotton planting in the Edwards Plateau.

**Corn:** Corn was being irrigated in the Northern High Plains. Corn in the Blacklands and South Texas progressed well. Corn was in need of moisture in the Upper Coast. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Sorghum:** Sorghum planting continued in the Northern High Plains, however, dry conditions have slowed progress. Sorghum progressed well in the Blacklands. Irrigated sorghum in South Texas progressed well. Sorghum condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Peanuts:** Peanut condition was mostly good to excellent statewide.

**Rice:** Rice condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Soybeans:** Soybean condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

## Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Producers were preparing to plant pumpkins in the Northern High Plains. Peach harvest has begun in North East Texas. Cabbage, onion, green beans and potato harvest continued this past week in South Texas. Watermelon harvest continued in the Lower Valley.

**Pecan:** Nut case bearer spraying was active in the Cross Timbers and Edwards Plateau. Pecans progressed well in the Blacklands.

## Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Supplemental feeding of livestock continued in parts of the state. Mosquitoes on cattle were increasing in the Cross Timbers. Spring Calving was active in South East Texas. In some areas of the Edwards Plateau, ranchers completed shearing and marking of lambs and goats. Range and pasture conditions improved across the state due to the recent rainfall, however, further moisture was needed for very dry parts of the state. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Crop Progress Table – May 24, 2009**

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2009	2008	Average 2004 – 2008
Corn	Planted	97	97	97
	Emerged	86	89	88
	Silked	26	20	18
Cotton	Planted	54	53	56
	Squaring	5	9	9
Peanuts	Planted	81	79	74
Rice	Planted	98	100	99
	Emerged	95	97	96
Sorghum	Planted	74	72	68
	Headed	6	21	23
Soybeans	Planted	84	95	86
	Emerged	80	83	50
Sunflowers	Planted	17	31	42
Winter Wheat	Headed	94	92	95
	Harvested	4	5	5
Oats	Headed	98	99	97
	Harvested	24	26	16

**Crop Condition Table – May 24, 2009**

Crop	Percent					Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2009	2008
Corn	3	44	39	9	5	69	71
Peanuts	22	56	22	0	0	88	-
Rice	6	45	40	8	1	73	80
Sorghum	3	26	33	12	26	51	68
Soybeans	1	26	57	14	2	62	80
Wheat	1	11	16	21	51	28	47
Oats	1	11	25	20	43	33	68
Range & Pasture	9	25	28	19	19	-	-

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 <sup>1/</sup>**

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions <sup>2/</sup>	Previous Week Accumulation (May 18 – 24)	Month-to-Date Accumulation (May 1 – 24)	Year-to-Date Accumulation (Jan 1 – May 24)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months Percent of Normal (Feb – Apr)
High Plains	0.46	0.86	3.29	19.64	79
Low Rolling Plains	0.51	1.52	5.22	24.51	80
North Central Texas	0.39	2.32	10.76	35.23	97
East Texas	0.34	3.08	15.85	48.08	102
Trans-Pecos	0.41	0.56	1.42	13.19	68
Edwards Plateau	0.44	0.92	5.91	24.73	105
South Central Texas	0.34	1.08	5.34	36.21	57
Upper Coast	0.65	1.12	10.75	50.31	99
South Texas	0.15	0.96	2.20	24.08	28
Lower Valley	0.34	0.73	1.59	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/tfcshare/precip\\_analysis\\_new.php](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/tfcshare/precip_analysis_new.php) and [www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html](http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html)

Top Soil Moisture by District – May 24, 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	20	52	10	59	21	2	0	3	62	39	43	80	26	47	63
Short	38	37	31	25	17	18	5	33	27	35	39	20	31	40	20
Adequate	41	11	49	16	54	72	64	61	11	26	18	0	38	13	17
Surplus	1	0	10	0	8	8	31	3	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.

**Cooperating Agencies:**

Texas AgriLife Extension Service  
 Texas Department of Agriculture  
 National Weather Service

