



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:** August 17 – 23, 2009

**Agricultural Summary:** The Northern High Plains, North East Texas, and the Upper Coast observed up to 6 inches of rainfall. The rest of the state observed a trace to 2 inches of rainfall. Producers prepared for the winter wheat season in the northern part of the state. Corn, cotton, and sorghum progressed well in the Northern High Plains. Cotton was setting bolls in the Plains. Sorghum harvest was active in the Southern Low Plains. Corn harvest was in full-swing and grain sorghum was turning color in the Blacklands. Pecans neared completion of the water stage in the Trans-Pecos. Cotton harvest continued in the Coastal Bend. Bolls were opening in South Texas and progressed well under heavy irrigation. Wheat planting began in parts of the Cross Timbers. Supplemental feeding of hay to livestock continued in localized areas of the state as pasture conditions continued to decline due to lack of moisture. Range and pastures have improved in Central and Northern Texas where rainfall was received. Top soil moisture was mostly very short to short across the state.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Producers prepared for the winter wheat season in the northern part of the state. Wheat planting began in parts of the Cross Timbers. Producers were in need of moisture to begin wheat and oat planting in South Texas.

**Cotton:** In the Northern High Plains, cotton continued to progress well; however, the crop was in need of heat units. Boll worms and stink bugs caused stress on cotton in parts of the Southern High Plains. Cotton progressed well in the Northern Low Plains and spraying was active. Cotton was setting bolls in the Plains. Cotton harvest continued in the Coastal Bend. Bolls were opening in South Texas and progressed well under heavy irrigation. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Corn:** Corn progressed well in the Northern High Plains. Corn harvest was in full-swing in the Blacklands and benefitted from the warm, dry conditions. Corn condition was mostly very poor to good statewide.

**Sorghum:** Grain sorghum progressed well due to the recent rainfall in parts of the Northern High Plains. Grain Sorghum was heading out in the Southern High Plains. Grain sorghum continued turning color in the Blacklands. Sorghum condition was mostly very poor to fair statewide.

**Peanuts:** Peanuts progressed well due to the recent rainfall in the Northern Low Plains. In South Texas, peanuts continued to develop with irrigation. Peanut condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

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

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

### Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Sunflowers were drying in the Northern High Plains. Chilies were in full-bloom in the Trans-Pecos. Vegetable harvest neared completion in North East Texas.

**Pecan:** Pecan neared completion of the water stage in the Trans-Pecos. The pecan crop progressed well in the Edwards Plateau with many nut-clusters forming on trees.

### Livestock, Range and Pasture Report

Supplemental feeding of hay to livestock continued in localized areas of the state as pasture conditions continued to decline due to lack of moisture. Stock tank levels across the state remained low. Weaning of lambs and goats continued in the Edwards Plateau. Livestock herd liquidation continued in localized parts of the state due to hay being in short supply. Hay fields were being cut and baled across the state. Range and pastures suffered in the western and southern parts of Texas due to hot, dry conditions. Range and pastures have improved in Central and Northern Texas where rainfall was received. Range and pasture condition was mostly very poor to fair statewide.

Top Soil Moisture by District – August 23, 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	3	10	19	14	20	30	0	44	16	43	81	97	42	87	60
Short	28	50	52	44	44	33	20	32	43	45	17	3	37	11	40
Adequate	66	38	25	39	36	37	76	22	41	12	2	0	18	2	0
Surplus	3	2	4	3	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	3	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.

**Crop Progress Table – August 23, 2009**

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2009	2008	Average 2004 – 2008
Corn	Silked	100	99	100
	Dough	97	95	95
	Dent	81	80	80
	Mature	69	64	66
	Harvested	65	61	51
Cotton	Squaring	98	98	99
	Setting Bolls	85	78	86
	Bolls Opening	15	19	18
	Harvested	8	9	8
Peanuts	Pegging	99	100	98
Rice	Headed	96	99	99
	Harvested	61	64	66
Sorghum	Headed	90	85	87
	Coloring	68	66	65
	Mature	63	60	57
	Harvested	60	57	52
Soybeans	Blooming	100	100	60
	Setting Pods	94	95	50
	Dropping Leaves	44	59	17
	Harvested	20	9	16
Sunflowers	Planted	87	100	100
	Harvested	4	0	8

**Crop Condition Table – August 23, 2009**

Crop	Percent					Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2009	2008
Corn	6	31	24	14	25	54	83
Cotton	11	31	29	15	14	62	72
Peanuts	14	60	25	1	0	85	87
Rice	10	30	39	9	12	64	66
Sorghum	3	20	38	16	23	49	72
Soybeans	2	21	43	22	12	53	93
Range & Pasture	4	22	28	19	27	-	-

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 (Aug 17 – 23)	Month-to-Date Accumulation (Aug 1 – 23)	Year-to-Date Accumulation (Jan 1 – Aug 23)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months Percent of Normal (May – July)
High Plains	0.67	1.63	11.55	19.64	94
Low Rolling Plains	0.17	0.65	12.91	24.51	97
North Central Texas	0.36	0.96	17.46	35.23	76
East Texas	0.62	1.40	22.95	48.08	70
Trans-Pecos	0.07	0.63	6.27	13.19	103
Edwards Plateau	0.01	0.54	10.38	24.73	60
South Central Texas	0.11	0.41	7.15	36.21	23
Upper Coast	0.80	1.47	15.54	50.31	31
South Texas	0.01	0.05	3.85	24.08	32
Lower Valley	0.16	0.16	3.94	25.43	41

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](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/rfcshare/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

