



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 31 – September 6, 2009

Agricultural Summary: Most areas of the state observed 0.1 to 3.0 inches of moisture. In the Northern High Plains, producers were planting wheat and corn progressed well. Land preparation was underway for wheat planting, early planted sorghum was drying out, and peanuts and sunflowers continued to mature in the Southern High Plains. Wheat planting began and drought conditions caused stress on cotton in the Northern Low Plains. Wheat planting continued in the Cross Timbers. Cotton harvest on matured varieties had begun and corn harvest neared completion in the Blacklands. Cotton harvest continued in the southern areas of the state. Corn harvest continued in the Edwards Plateau. Pecan nuts were in the gel stage in the Trans-Pecos. Supplemental feeding of hay to livestock continued in localized areas of the state and producers were looking for hay to buy before winter. Range and pastures were in need of rainfall in the Northern part of the state while improving in South East Texas due to cooler temperatures and recent rainfall. Top soil moisture was mostly very short to short across the state.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Producers were planting wheat in the Northern High Plains. Land preparation was underway for wheat planting in the Southern High Plains. Wheat planting began in the Northern Low Plains while planting continued in the Cross Timbers. Producers were in need of moisture to begin wheat planting in the Edwards Plateau and South Central Texas.

Cotton: In the High Plains, cotton harvest was active. Dry-land cotton progressed well due to the recent rainfall in the Southern High Plains. Drought conditions caused stress on cotton in the Northern Low Plains. Harvest on matured varieties had begun in the Blacklands. Cotton harvest continued in southern areas of the state. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Corn: In the Northern High Plains, corn progressed well and insect activity was light. Corn harvest neared completion in the Blacklands while continuing in the Edwards Plateau. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Sorghum: Sorghum in parts of the Northern High Plains suffered due to the late rainfall and insect activity. Early planted sorghum was drying out in the Southern High Plains. Grain sorghum harvest neared completion in the Blacklands. Sorghum condition was mostly very poor to fair statewide.

Peanuts: Peanuts continued to mature in the Southern High Plains. Peanuts progressed well in the Southern Low Plains and South Texas while irrigation was active. Peanut condition was mostly fair to good 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

Sunflowers continued to mature in the Southern High Plains. Sesame and sunflowers slowly matured in the Coastal Bend as harvest neared. Producers prepared seed beds for cabbage, spinach, onions, and carrot planting in South Texas.

Pecan: Pecan trees suffered in North East Texas due to walnut caterpillars and web worms. Pecan nuts were in the gel stage in the Trans-Pecos. Producers continued to monitor the pecan weevil in the Edwards Plateau.

Livestock, Range and Pasture Report

Supplemental feeding of hay to livestock continued in localized areas of the state and producers were looking for hay to buy before winter. Stock tank levels across the state continued to fall. 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 were in need of rainfall in the Northern part of the state and improved in South East Texas due to cooler temperatures and recent rainfall. Rangeland and pastures suffered in the Edwards Plateau and South Texas due to drought conditions. Range and pasture condition was mostly very poor to fair statewide.

Top Soil Moisture by District – September 6, 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	2	18	26	37	29	33	0	42	32	53	87	95	60	66	20
Short	32	59	50	44	46	45	29	29	43	38	12	5	21	21	80
Adequate	65	22	24	17	25	22	69	25	25	9	1	0	14	13	0
Surplus	1	1	0	2	0	0	2	4	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.

Crop Progress Table – September 6, 2009

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2009	2008	Average 2004 – 2008
Corn	Dough	99	98	99
	Dent	91	90	95
	Mature	71	66	74
	Harvested	67	63	61
Cotton	Squaring	100	100	100
	Setting Bolls	90	94	97
	Bolls Opening	22	21	25
	Harvested	12	13	14
Rice	Headed	100	100	100
	Harvested	87	89	88
Sorghum	Headed	96	92	95
	Coloring	72	72	72
	Mature	65	65	64
	Harvested	63	64	61
Soybeans	Setting Pods	100	100	56
	Dropping Leaves	56	81	40
	Harvested	35	37	46
Sunflowers	Planted	89	100	100
	Harvested	8	2	20
Winter Wheat	Planted	4	0	8

Crop Condition Table – September 6, 2009

Crop	Percent					Index ^{1/}	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2009	2008
Corn	6	31	24	14	25	54	59
Cotton	10	29	30	17	14	60	63
Peanuts	18	61	21	0	0	87	81
Rice	10	30	39	9	12	64	72
Sorghum	3	20	38	16	23	49	67
Soybeans	6	30	37	19	8	61	54
Range & Pasture	3	19	26	20	32	--	--

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 ^{1/}

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions ^{2/}	Previous Week Accumulation (Aug 31 – Sep 6)	Month-to-Date Accumulation (Aug 1 – 31)	Year-to-Date Accumulation (Jan 1 – Sep 6)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months Percent of Normal (May – Jul)
High Plains	0.20	1.85	11.97	19.64	94
Low Rolling Plains	0.37	0.97	13.60	24.51	97
North Central Texas	0.42	1.16	18.08	35.23	76
East Texas	0.33	2.15	24.03	48.08	70
Trans-Pecos	0.07	0.93	6.64	13.19	103
Edwards Plateau	0.25	0.67	10.76	24.73	60
South Central Texas	0.42	0.71	7.87	36.21	23
Upper Coast	0.87	2.08	17.00	50.31	31
South Texas	0.70	0.43	4.88	24.08	32
Lower Valley	0.63	0.78	4.91	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/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

