



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: February 8 – 14, 2010

Agricultural Summary: The Trans-Pecos and South Texas only received 0.01 inches of rainfall while the majority of the State observed 1.0 to 3.0 inches of rain. Winter wheat has improved with the surplus moisture. Spring wheat emerged in the Trans-Pecos and progressed well, however, some fields have standing water in them. Wheat producers were ready to begin top-dressing with fertilizer and herbicide but conditions were still too wet in the Northern Low Plains. In the Blacklands and South Central Texas, the cold and wet temperatures have continued with corn growers concerned that planting could be delayed several weeks due to excess soil moisture. In the Cross Timbers, pecans on the ground were waiting to be picked up once the weather permits. Pecan harvest neared completion in the Trans-Pecos. Adequate moisture in South Texas presented the ideal growing conditions for high quality spinach. The onion crop was progressing well with no problems being reported. Most vegetables were not damaged by the freeze last month and are being harvested. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued across the State. In the Cross Timbers, livestock were having a hard time maintaining body condition in the cold, wet fields. There was a shortage of dry areas for cattle to lie down in the muddy fields. Soil remains saturated and fieldwork has been postponed due to the recent mix of rain and snowfall in many areas across the State. Topsoil moisture was mostly adequate to surplus across the state.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Winter wheat has improved with the surplus moisture. Spring wheat emerged in the Trans-Pecos and progressed well, however, some fields have standing water in them. Wheat producers were ready to begin top-dressing with fertilizer and herbicide but conditions were still too wet in the Northern Low Plains. Wheat condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Corn: In the Blacklands and South Central Texas, the cold and wet temperatures have continued with corn growers concerned that planting could be delayed several weeks due to excess soil moisture. Fields will benefit from the moisture across the State.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Adequate moisture in South Texas presented the ideal growing conditions for high quality spinach. Cabbage harvest was active this week. Sugarcane harvest was delayed due to wet field conditions. The onion crop was progressing well with no problems being reported. Most vegetables were not damaged by the freeze last month and are being harvested.

Pecans: In the Cross Timbers, pecans on the ground were waiting to be picked up once the weather permits. Pecan harvest neared completion in the Trans-Pecos.

Livestock, Range and Pasture Report

Supplemental feeding of livestock continued across the state. In the Cross Timbers, livestock were having a hard time maintaining body condition in the cold, wet fields. The weather conditions made it very difficult for cow/calf producers in the middle of calving season in the Blacklands. There was a shortage of dry areas for cattle to lie down in the muddy fields. Soil remains saturated and fieldwork has been postponed due to the recent mix of rain and snowfall in many areas across the State. Range and pasture condition was mostly poor to fair.

Crop Progress Table February 14, 2010

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2010	2009	Average 2005 – 2009
Winter Wheat	Emerged	100	99	98
Pecans	Harvested	98	100	100

Crop Condition Table – February 14, 2010

Crop	Percent					Index ^{1/}	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2010	2009
Wheat	6	27	42	20	5	61	34
Range & Pasture	3	20	39	25	13	-	-

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 14, 2010

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	3	0	4	0	0	0	1	18	4	0	0	1	0	0
Short	17	11	9	15	0	0	0	3	43	6	0	3	3	2	10
Adequate	61	79	57	49	38	11	26	43	39	60	28	30	20	83	90
Surplus	20	7	34	32	62	89	74	53	0	30	72	67	76	15	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 (Feb 8 – 14)	Month-to-Date Accumulation (Feb 1 – 14)	Year-to-Date Accumulation (Jan 1 – Feb 14)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months Percent of Normal (Nov, Dec, Jan)
High Plains	0.13	1.50	2.79	19.64	121
Low Rolling Plains	0.35	1.63	2.56	24.51	76
North Central Texas	0.91	1.84	4.74	35.23	77
East Texas	1.85	3.03	5.28	48.08	60
Trans-Pecos	0.10	0.66	1.72	13.19	103
Edwards Plateau	0.30	1.69	3.92	24.73	113
South Central Texas	1.35	2.77	5.77	36.21	129
Upper Coast	2.08	3.46	6.62	50.31	94
South Texas	0.52	1.89	3.84	24.08	156
Lower Valley	0.46	2.35	3.07	25.43	170

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

