



## USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Texas Field Office

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### TX-CW2506

#### Texas Crop Weather

Released June 19, 2006 (3:00 PM CDT)  
For the week of June 12 - 18, 2006

**Agricultural Summary:** Parts of the Lone Star State were hit with heavy downpours while other areas remained bone dry. Rain blew through the Edwards Plateau, Upper Coast, Central and East Texas. Accumulations for the week ranged from ½ to almost 4 inches of rain. A few isolated pockets of rain moved through South Texas. Widely scattered thunderstorms occurred over the Panhandle and South Plains. Rain gauge readings were generally light with some hail reported. High winds in northern regions, combined with above average temperatures, accelerated soil moisture loss. In areas that missed the rain, drought conditions worsened. Small grain harvest was running ahead of schedule due to the decreased amount of grain. Summer crops progressed well under irrigation but dryland was suffering nearly statewide. In southern areas, some failed corn and sorghum fields were baled for hay. Thrips and grasshopper infestations were becoming a major problem in many areas. More cattle were sold off due to lack of pasture growth and the high price of hay.

#### Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Harvest of remaining wheat fields on the Panhandle progressed. Combining was expected to wrap up early this year. Growers were retaining a lot more of their grain production for seed to plant next season. In other areas of the state, grain harvest was virtually complete. Statewide, wheat condition was mostly rated very poor to poor. Oats condition statewide was mostly rated very poor to poor.

**Cotton:** Late planting activities were ongoing on the South Plains and Panhandle. Fields had to be under heavy irrigation to make decent stands. Thrips infestations were a problem and producers were spraying accordingly. Dryland fields in the region were suffering with high winds and temperatures. Many fields had not emerged. Fields on the Blacklands were drought stressed but should improve where rain was received. Irrigated cotton on the Coastal Bend and Upper Coast was blooming. Statewide, cotton condition was mostly rated fair to poor.

**Corn:** Irrigation continued on the Panhandle. Some growers were planting early maturing corn for silage in wheat stubble. Drought stricken fields across the Blacklands and southern regions were being cut for silage and hay as the grain yield potential dropped below acceptable levels. Irrigation was heavy in South Texas. The corn condition statewide was mostly rated fair to good.

**Sorghum:** Irrigated fields on the Panhandle and the South Plains were emerging with decent stands. Dryland fields were in poor shape nearly statewide. Producers were cutting sorghum for hay and silage in many areas. Remaining fields on the Coastal Bend were expected to be combined in the next few weeks. Harvest has begun in the Rio Grande Valley. Planting of the second crop was ongoing where adequate moisture was available. Statewide, sorghum condition was mostly rated fair to very poor.

**Peanuts:** Fields progressed under irrigation on the South Plains. Planting continued in South Texas. Peanut condition statewide was rated mostly fair to good.

**Rice:** The condition of rice was mostly rated fair to good statewide.

**Soybeans:** Fields on the Blacklands showed drought stress. Some fields were being baled for hay. Rain on the Upper Coast should help some late planted beans. Statewide, the condition was mostly rated fair to poor.

### **Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report**

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, potato harvest was virtually complete. Onion harvest continued but was expected to wind down shortly. Watermelons and cantaloupes progressed under heavy irrigation.

In **East Texas**, watermelon harvest was in full swing with good yields reported. Blackberry and blueberry harvest was fair.

**Pecans:** In the driest areas, pecan drop was limiting production. Irrigation was extensive where available.

### **Livestock, Pasture and Range Report**

The rain that fell across some areas of the state should help pasture growth. In northern regions that missed out, strong winds drew out much needed moisture. Hay baling was ongoing and yields were well below normal. Expensive hay and lack of grazing continued to spur the cattle sell-off throughout many areas. Disaster summer crops were being baled to help replenish the hay supply.

**Crop Progress Table – June 18, 2006**

Crop	Stage	2006	2005	Average 2001-2005
- Percent -				
Corn	Silked (Tasseled)	62	57	59
	Dough	26	21	32
	Dent	10	3	10
Cotton	Squaring	25	18	24
	Setting Bolls	9	7	10
Peanuts	Pegging	7	2	4
Rice	Emerged	100	100	100
	Headed	22	2	12
Sorghum	Planted	92	80	83
	Headed	52	40	42
	Coloring	30	18	22
	Mature	13	13	10
Soybeans	Emerged	98	--	--
	Blooming	44	--	--
Sunflowers	Planted	77	81	82
Winter Wheat	Harvested (Grain)	66	49	56
Oats	Harvested (Grain)	70	77	80

**Crop Condition Table – June 18, 2006**

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Percent					2006	2005
Corn	2	25	36	21	16	52	84
Cotton	3	18	34	28	17	48	71
Peanuts	9	24	57	9	1	68	87
Rice	5	29	59	7	0	69	85
Sorghum	1	21	28	22	28	44	77
Soybeans	3	15	49	22	11	52	70
Wheat	0	7	16	26	51	25	68
Oats	0	8	29	23	40	32	61
Range & Pasture	1	6	27	29	37	--	--

<sup>1/</sup> 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 – June 18, 2006 \***

Condition	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
- Percent of Acreage -															
Very Short	73	71	46	49	35	57	36	36	60	54	71	41	3	57	53
Short	23	25	45	41	52	36	49	44	29	34	24	26	24	32	37
Adequate	4	4	9	10	13	7	14	20	11	12	5	28	50	11	10
Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	5	23	0	0

\* High Plains: 1-N, 1-S; Low Rolling Plains: 2-N, 2-S; North Central Plains: 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 <sup>1/</sup>**

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous Week (Jun 12 - 18) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Jun 1 - 18) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Jun 18) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (Mar - May) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.11	0.13	3.62	18.87	73
Low Rolling Plains	0.41	0.41	6.61	23.78	89
North Central Texas	1.07	1.11	12.70	34.00	77
East Texas	1.83	2.26	18.04	45.69	66
Trans Pecos	0.03	0.20	1.43	12.96	54
Edwards Plateau	0.80	0.98	7.01	24.01	79
South Central Texas	0.83	1.26	8.39	34.48	66
Upper Coast	3.13	3.57	15.75	47.63	91
South Texas	0.02	0.29	3.09	23.49	47
Lower Valley	0.00	0.74	3.02	25.34	40

<sup>1/</sup> Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

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 Agricultural Extension Service
- Texas Department of Agriculture
- National Weather Service

