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TX-CW2606

Texas Crop Weather

Released June 26, 2006 (3:00 PM CDT)
For the week of June 19 - 25, 2006

Agricultural Summary: Most of Texas received at least a trace of rain. Wide areas of the Upper Coast recorded 3 to 8 inches, and over 10 inches fell in some areas. Rainfall was more modest, mostly 0.5 to 2 inches, and up to 3 inches in isolated locales, in the High Plains, Cross Timbers, South East, and South Central Texas. High winds and hail accompanied the precipitation in parts of the Panhandle, damaging some newly emerged crops and blowing dust. Rain gauges in other parts of Texas generally measured 0.01 to 0.5 inches, with some in the Edwards Plateau and South Texas recording up to 3 inches of moisture. A few spots in the Lower Valley got over 0.25 inches of precipitation, but for the most part that region was dry or had barely measurable rainfall. Grasshopper infestations were reported in the Blacklands and East and South Central Texas. Growers applied herbicides in cotton fields. Pasture continued to deteriorate across most of the state despite the welcomed rainfall. Ranchers provided supplemental feeding and culled herds.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Harvest neared completion in the High Plains, where yields were poor even in some irrigated fields. Statewide, wheat condition was mostly rated very poor to poor. Oats condition statewide was mostly rated very poor to poor.

Cotton: Hot, dry conditions delayed, or in some cases prevented, emergence in the Plains, where heavy irrigation was reported. High winds, drifting sand, and hail damaged some emerged fields in the Plains area, and some growers were considering replacing dryland cotton with an alternative crop. The crop was squaring in some areas of the Plains, with 5 to 6 true leaves reported in the oldest fields. Rains helped the crop in the Blacklands, Upper Coast and Coastal Bend, with a "promising" fruit load reported in some fields on the Coast. Statewide, cotton condition was mostly rated fair to poor.

Corn: The crop looked good in parts of the Northern High Plains, but high winds shredded some leaves in that area. Growers continued to cut corn for silage in the Blacklands. Silage yields were down, and early drying decreased prospects for grain yields. Growers in South Central Texas were considering turning the crop under because of high nitrate levels. The crop was too advanced in most of the major growing areas of the Blacklands, South Central

Texas, and the Coast to benefit from the week's rains. The corn condition statewide was mostly rated fair to very poor.

Sorghum: Rains prompted dryland growers to pick up the pace of planting sorghum in the High Plains. Yield prospects improved in the Blacklands as a result of rain. The rains were too late in some parts of South Central Texas, where high nitrate levels further hurt the crop's prospects. Growers began harvesting in the Coastal Bend; it was expected to be in full swing this coming week as fields dry out. Army worms destroyed much of some late emerging fields in that region. Fields were dying in South Texas where irrigation was not available. Statewide, sorghum condition was mostly rated fair to very poor.

Peanuts: Peanuts began to peg in the Southern High Plains, though in some cases pegging was not as abundant as producers would like to see. Some pod rot was reported due to excessive moisture applied with pivots. Some planting continued in South Texas. Peanut condition statewide was rated mostly fair to good.

Rice: The heavy rains in the Upper Coast were expected to help the rice crop. The condition of rice was mostly rated fair to good statewide.

Soybeans: Growers continued to bale some fields for hay in the Blacklands; more rain was needed to fill pods for fields that will be harvested for beans. There were mixed effects of the heavy showers in the Upper Coast: some fields looked good and were expected to benefit, but others were flooded and set back. Statewide, the condition was mostly rated fair to poor.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, onion harvest continued and was complete in some counties. Producers began harvesting watermelons. Growers in the Trans-Pecos began sending cantaloupes to market; quality was expected to be good.

In parts of **East Texas**, the watermelon harvest was "going well," the peach crop was very light, and the blackberry and blueberry harvest was rated fair.

Pecans: The crop was expected to be small in the Cross Timbers, where some second generation casebearer spraying had begun. Nut development began in the Trans-Pecos, where some orchards were damaged by hail. Prospects looked very poor in parts of the Edwards Plateau and South Central Texas.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Pastures were very dry and getting worse in widespread areas of the state, in spite of the week's rains. There were some reports of rangeland fires in the High Plains. Hay continued to be in short supply, with yields from $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of normal reported in many locations. Producers continued supplemental feeding and culling of herds across much of the state. Some improvement in pastures was reported in areas of South Central and South Texas and Coastal regions that received substantial rains.

Crop Progress Table – June 25, 2006

Crop	Stage	2006	2005	Average 2001-2005
- Percent -				
Corn	Silked (Tasseled)	63	61	63
	Dough	43	42	44
	Dent	23	13	20
	Mature	2	1	3
Cotton	Squaring	34	23	33
	Setting Bolls	14	10	13
Peanuts	Pegging	23	10	11
Rice	Headed	43	9	23
Sorghum	Planted	94	88	88
	Headed	59	44	46
	Coloring	35	28	29
	Mature	18	14	15
	Harvested	4	3	5
Soybeans	Blooming	70	--	--
Winter Wheat	Harvested (Grain)	89	68	73
Oats	Harvested (Grain)	82	88	89

Crop Condition Table – June 25, 2006

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index ^{1/}	
	Percent					2006	2005
Corn	2	22	30	21	25	47	81
Cotton	2	15	35	30	18	45	70
Peanuts	9	24	57	8	2	68	85
Rice	9	37	40	14	0	71	76
Sorghum	1	20	28	25	26	43	73
Soybeans	1	22	38	25	14	51	63
Wheat	0	7	16	26	51	25	59
Oats	0	5	23	29	43	28	63
Range & Pasture	1	7	23	31	38	--	--

^{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 – June 25, 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	66	68	35	39	38	55	32	13	59	54	49	46	0	62	40
Short	25	26	54	48	41	34	51	38	30	30	34	35	17	27	53
Adequate	8	6	11	13	21	11	17	46	11	14	17	15	52	11	7
Surplus	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	4	31	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 ^{1/}

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous Week (Jun 19 - 25) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Jun 1 - 25) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Jun 25) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (Mar - May) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.78	0.91	4.40	18.87	73
Low Rolling Plains	0.57	0.98	7.18	23.78	89
North Central Texas	0.61	1.72	13.31	34.00	77
East Texas	0.45	2.71	18.49	45.69	66
Trans Pecos	0.17	0.37	1.60	12.96	54
Edwards Plateau	0.46	1.44	7.47	24.01	79
South Central Texas	0.25	1.51	8.64	34.48	66
Upper Coast	2.46	6.03	18.21	47.63	91
South Texas	0.20	0.49	3.29	23.49	47
Lower Valley	0.01	0.75	3.03	25.34	40

^{1/} 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 and www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html

Cooperating Agencies:

Texas Agricultural Extension Service
 Texas Department of Agriculture
 National Weather Service

