



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

---

Post Office Box 70, Austin, Texas 78767  
Voice: (800) 626-3142 \* Fax: (800) 842-1331  
nass-tx@nass.usda.gov \* www.nass.usda.gov/tx

### TX-CW2806

#### Texas Crop Weather

Released July 10, 2006 (3:00 PM CDT)  
For the week of July 3-9, 2006

**Agricultural Summary:** Coastal areas from the Coastal Bend to the Louisiana border received over 3 inches of rain, and amounts over 6 inches were recorded near the Gulf. Further inland, from the Lower Valley through South Central and South East Texas, many areas had 1 to 4 inches of precipitation. One-half to 2 inches of rain fell in much of the Northern High Plains and scattered parts of the western Trans-Pecos, Edwards Plateau, Blacklands, and North East. Most of the rest of Texas recorded a trace to 0.25 inches of moisture. Growers in the High Plains applied heavy irrigation despite the week's rains, which were not enough to make up for previous hot and dry weather. Harvest of hay and grain sorghum was delayed by the wet weather. Pasture improved in many areas, especially along the coast, but the improvement was expected to be temporary in most drought-stressed areas. Ranchers continued to provide supplemental feed and reduce herd sizes.

#### Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Wet conditions hampered the harvest of the few remaining acres of wheat in the High Plains. Farmers began to plow harvested fields in the Low Plains in preparation for next year's crop.

**Cotton:** Growers replanted dryland acreage in areas of the High Plains, but some counties expected to zero out virtually all of the dryland crop. The irrigated crop looked "pretty decent" in the High Plains, with very light insect problems, and blooms appeared in some fields. The rain gave some relief to fields in the Blacklands and South Central Texas. Some plants shed squares and bolls under cloudy, wet weather in the Coastal Bend. Insects were a problem in the Upper Coast, where heavy rain delayed pesticide application. Statewide, cotton condition was mostly rated fair to poor.

**Corn:** The irrigated crop was progressing well in the High Plains, where some of the fields were beginning to tassel. Growers in areas of the Blacklands harvested virtually all of their crop for silage. The week's precipitation was "too little too late" for fields in South Central Texas. The corn condition statewide was mostly rated fair to very poor.

**Sorghum:** Irrigated acreage looked “OK” in the High Plains, but the week’s rains were not enough to help the condition of the dryland crop. A few producers began harvesting for grain in the Blacklands, where scattered showers helped the crop somewhat. Rain received during the week was too late to help many fields in South Central Texas. Harvest was delayed by the rain in those fields that did well enough to produce grain in South Central Texas, the Coastal Bend, and the Upper Coast. Statewide, sorghum condition was mostly rated fair to poor.

**Peanuts:** Planting was complete in the major growing area of South Texas, where the crop was progressing well. Peanut condition statewide was rated mostly fair to good.

**Rice:** Heading continued in the early planted rice fields of the Upper Coast. The condition of rice was mostly rated fair to good.

**Soybeans:** Growers in areas of the Blacklands continued to bale soybeans for hay. Harvest began in the Upper Coast. Statewide, the condition was mostly rated fair to poor.

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

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, producers had finished harvesting watermelons and cantaloups in some localities.

Farmers continued to harvest watermelons in the **Southern High Plains**, where some spider mite damage was reported. East Texas producers also harvested watermelons, as well as blueberries and tomatoes. South East growers began picking Freestone peaches. Watermelon and cantaloup harvest was in full swing in the Trans-Pecos. Irrigated pumpkins progressed well in the Northern High Plains, but some producers had a hard time controlling weeds.

**Pecans:** Nut development looked good in the Trans-Pecos. Some growers in the Edwards Plateau were concerned that trees were not producing fruit, in order to survive the drought. Other growers in that area reported nut drop in trees that did produce fruit.

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

Producers continued to provide supplemental feed and cull herds, as the extra moisture in many areas of Texas gave only temporary relief to very dry range and pasture land. Hay was still in short supply across the state, and many stock ponds were still low. Cattle condition was generally fair to good, according to most reporters. Some producers weaned calves and lambs early to cut stocking rates, in response to dry conditions.

**Crop Progress Table – July 9, 2006**

Crop	Stage	2006	2005	Average 2001-2005
- Percent -				
Corn	Silked (Tasseled)	72	71	74
	Dough	55	60	58
	Dent	47	40	41
	Mature	26	13	14
Cotton	Squaring	57	46	57
	Setting Bolls	19	15	20
	Bolls Opening	2	3	4
Peanuts	Pegging	46	38	43
Rice	Headed	75	49	56
Sorghum	Headed	69	49	52
	Coloring	51	42	40
	Mature	37	27	26
	Harvested	19	17	15
Winter Wheat	Harvested (Grain)	98	95	95
Oats	Harvested (Grain)	93	96	97

**Crop Condition Table – July 9, 2006**

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Percent					2006	2005
Corn	2	14	33	24	27	42	65
Cotton	4	16	31	27	22	45	69
Peanuts	9	28	53	7	3	69	82
Rice	5	27	59	9	0	67	84
Sorghum	2	22	28	25	23	46	79
Soybeans	1	14	40	25	20	45	61
Range & Pasture	2	10	27	28	33	--	--

<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 – July 9, 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	52	67	65	60	42	36	35	9	47	41	23	0	1	37	50
Short	41	24	32	33	49	41	55	31	37	39	28	5	7	16	35
Adequate	7	9	3	7	8	18	10	56	16	19	47	65	53	44	15
Surplus	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	4	0	1	2	30	39	3	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 (July 3 - 9) Accumulation	Month-to-date (July 1 - 9) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Jul 9) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (Apr - Jun) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.01	0.66	5.07	18.87	38
Low Rolling Plains	0.00	0.16	7.34	23.78	53
North Central Texas	0.08	0.54	13.85	34.00	45
East Texas	0.31	1.21	19.70	45.69	43
Trans Pecos	0.17	0.18	1.95	12.96	18
Edwards Plateau	0.40	0.59	8.12	24.01	51
South Central Texas	0.52	1.90	10.68	34.48	56
Upper Coast	1.22	4.75	23.00	47.63	94
South Texas	0.70	1.30	4.81	23.49	46
Lower Valley	0.85	1.17	4.86	25.34	39

<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

