



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

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### TX-CW3106

#### Texas Crop Weather

Released July 31, 2006 (3:00 PM CDT)  
For the week of July 24-30, 2006

**Agricultural Summary:** Heavy rain fell along the Upper Coast and the Louisiana border, where 4 to 6 inches fell in some places. One county in the Upper Coast reported 10 to 12 inches of precipitation. More inland, from the Lower Valley through East Texas, at least 0.25 inches of moisture were recorded in most areas, with many locations receiving 1 to 2 inches. Many places in South Texas, the Panhandle, and the Trans-Pecos reported over 0.25 inches of precipitation, with 0.5 to 2 inches in some counties. The rest of the state was generally dry. Farmers in the High Plains actively prepared ground to plant wheat. Harvest of corn and sorghum came to a standstill in the Upper Coast because of the heavy rainfall. Pasture and rangeland continued to dry out, except in areas that recently received moisture. Ranchers cut herd sizes due to the long-term effects of hot, dry conditions.

#### Field Crops Report

**Cotton:** The crop was blooming to the top and at or near cutout (the end of fruit set) in many fields in the High Plains. Reports from the Plains indicated that much of the dryland acreage had been zeroed out. Growers continued to defoliate and harvest in the Coastal Bend and Lower Valley, except where precipitation delayed activities. Heavy rain in the Upper Coast caused some lint losses. Statewide, cotton condition was mostly rated fair to poor.

**Corn:** Growers irrigated heavily in the High Plains, where maturity reached the dent stage in some fields. Producers in the High Plains who were without water due to well trouble began to harvest for silage. Harvesting for hay continued in the Blacklands. Harvest began in the Coastal Bend with a wide range of yields depending on rainfall and irrigation received. The corn condition statewide was mostly rated fair to very poor.

**Sorghum:** Producers in the Northern High Plains with water problems began to cut sorghum for silage. Harvest was complete in some areas of the Blacklands. Growers harvested in the Coastal Bend, except where rains delayed harvest. Statewide, sorghum condition was mostly rated fair to very poor.

**Peanuts:** The crop continued to peg in Southern High Plains fields, where there were some reports of pod rot due to heavy irrigation. Growers harvested in South Texas. Peanut condition statewide was rated mostly good to fair.

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

**Soybeans:** Farmers continued to bale soybeans for hay in the Blacklands. Statewide, the condition was mostly rated fair to very poor.

### Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Watermelon harvest was in full swing in the **Southern High Plains**, where early reports indicated good yields and quality. North East producers harvested watermelons, peas, and tomatoes. Peach production was way down in South East areas. Pumpkins continued to do well in the Northern High Plains with continuing irrigation.

**Pecans:** Nut development was good, but with a low set, in the Trans-Pecos.

### Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Hay was still expensive and in short supply in much of the state. Pastures and rangeland continued to dry out across much of the state, except in areas where it rained recently, including East Texas, the Coastal Bend, Upper Coast, and South Texas. Cattle sales remained high as cattlemen continued to cut herd sizes.

**Crop Progress Table – July 30, 2006**

Crop	Stage	2006	2005	Average 2001-2005
- Percent -				
Corn	Silked (Tasseled)	98	93	95
	Dough	85	73	74
	Dent	65	62	60
	Mature	59	53	50
	Harvested	34	18	17
Cotton	Squaring	90	89	89
	Setting Bolls	54	53	59
	Bolls Opening	12	13	12
	Harvested	1	2	2
Peanuts	Pegging	75	90	86
Rice	Headed	94	86	89
	Harvested	11	3	7
Sorghum	Headed	75	65	66
	Coloring	60	49	49
	Mature	54	43	42
	Harvested	44	38	34

**Crop Condition Table – July 30, 2006**

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Percent					2006	2005
Corn	3	20	29	18	30	45	61
Cotton	4	16	28	29	23	44	68
Peanuts	9	27	48	12	4	66	81
Rice	7	39	45	9	0	72	83
Sorghum	1	20	26	25	28	42	68
Soybeans	0	16	28	22	34	38	55
Range & Pasture	2	5	19	31	43	--	--

<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 30, 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	65	68	72	84	69	83	53	23	68	69	47	21	0	33	43
Short	32	29	24	14	30	16	35	43	26	29	33	29	3	39	20
Adequate	3	3	4	2	1	1	12	28	6	2	20	48	30	27	37
Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	2	67	1	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 24 - 30) Accumulation	Month-to-date (July 1 - 30) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Jul 30) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (Apr - Jun) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.50	1.30	5.71	18.87	44
Low Rolling Plains	0.07	0.67	7.85	23.78	63
North Central Texas	0.02	0.68	13.99	34.00	55
East Texas	1.56	3.21	21.70	45.69	55
Trans Pecos	0.41	0.78	2.55	12.96	30
Edwards Plateau	0.28	1.03	8.56	24.01	63
South Central Texas	0.61	2.81	11.59	34.48	54
Upper Coast	4.81	10.98	29.23	47.63	106
South Texas	0.40	1.80	5.31	23.49	39
Lower Valley	0.53	1.89	5.58	25.34	42

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

For more weather information, please visit the following web sites:  
[www.srh.noaa.gov/ufcshare/precip\\_analysis\\_new.php](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ufcshare/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

