



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-CW3606 Revised

Texas Crop Weather

Released September 6, 2006

For the week of August 28 – September 3, 2006

Agricultural Summary: The southern region of the Panhandle received rainfall totaling from 0.1 to 1.0 inches. Some of the more fortunate areas of the Southern High Plains, Northern High Plains, Southern Low Plains, and Edwards Plateau received most of the precipitation in Texas. Isolated showers brought rainfall to large areas of the Southern High Plains along with the Low Plains and Edwards Plateau, which ranged mostly from 0.5 to 3.0 inches. Isolated showers brought as much as 6 inches to small sections of the Edwards Plateau. The Trans-Pecos, Central Texas, the Cross Timbers, and Blacklands all received rainfall totaling from 0.1 to 0.25 inches, with isolated showers that brought small sections 0.5 to 1 inches. The remainder of the state remained very dry. Many areas reported temperatures over 100 degrees, as areas such as the Lower Valley reported that the month of August was one of the hottest months on record according to local meteorologists. Insect pressure remained low.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Planting of wheat began in the Northern High Plains, Southern High Plains and Southern Low Plains. Conditions looked preferable as cooler temperatures came along.

Cotton: Despite the much cooler temperatures, consistent precipitation in the Northern High Plains helped the cotton in the area to progress, with boll retention fair. The recent drop in temperature had more of an effect on the Southern High Plains, which slowed maturation. Early-planted and drought stressed crop began to start defoliation. Farmers in the Blacklands and in the Lower Valley continued to harvest. Although much slower than in previous years, ginning was active in the Lower Valley as harvest neared completion. Statewide, cotton condition was mostly fair to poor.

Corn: Harvest continued in the Northern High Plains. In the Blacklands, harvest of the crop continued to wind down as many of the remaining farmers kept baling failed corn for hay. The corn condition statewide was mostly fair to very poor.

Sorghum: Some of the crop in the High Plains, mainly irrigated, was harvested. Further grain production seemed unpromising for many of the dryland acres there. Northern Plains growers were pleased as continued rainfall improved late planted sorghum. Larger heads were

a result of this moisture as the crop began to reach the grain making stage. Harvest of the late planted crop was in gear along the Coastal Blend, and many growers expected for this to continue until late September. Statewide, sorghum condition was mainly fair to very poor.

Peanuts: Peanut condition statewide was mostly rated good to fair.

Rice: Most of the crop had been harvested in the Upper Coast; the remaining acres made great progress under good weather conditions. The condition of rice was mainly good to fair.

Soybeans: Growers along the Upper Coast examined fields for Asian Soybean Rust. Stink bugs were a major issue in this same area. Statewide, the condition was mostly fair to very poor.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Pumpkins continued to progress well in the Northern High Plains, with promises of harvest in the next week. Sugarcane irrigation was active in the Lower Valley.

Pecans: Pecans were in the shell-hardening stage in the Trans-Pecos area and nut filling looked good despite black aphid pest problems resulting from increased moisture.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Grass and rangeland conditions continued to improve throughout the Plains. The Northern High Plains experienced rangeland growth at a very steady rate. Livestock water continued to be low along with the resulting liquidation of livestock. In South Texas, fire risks continued to increase.

Crop Progress Table – September 3, 2006

Crop	Stage	2006	2005	Average 2001-2005
- Percent -				
Corn	Dough	100	99	99
	Dented	98	92	93
	Mature	72	71	75
	Harvested	68	60	59
Cotton	Setting Bolls	98	98	97
	Bolls Opening	31	21	28
	Harvested	15	18	15
Peanuts	Harvested	0	0	1
Rice	Harvested	92	88	85
Sorghum	Headed	95	93	91
	Turning Color	72	60	70
	Mature	67	54	60
	Harvested	63	53	55
Soybeans	Harvested	70	43	52
Sunflowers	Harvested	28	32	36
Winter Wheat	Planted	6	9	8
Oats	Planted	2	3	3

Crop Condition Table – September 3, 2006

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index ^{1/}	
	Percent					2006	2005
Corn	3	17	28	18	34	42	62
Cotton	5	18	28	26	23	46	75
Peanuts	10	34	49	5	2	72	86
Rice	5	40	44	11	0	71	83
Sorghum	1	20	24	21	34	40	70
Soybeans	1	15	22	22	40	35	55
Range & Pasture	0	6	16	29	49	--	--

^{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 – September 3, 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	19	19	22	25	58	59	62	35	13	56	68	51	5	61	40
Short	22	33	27	48	27	36	29	48	29	28	30	43	22	22	33
Adequate	53	40	37	25	14	5	9	17	53	16	2	6	61	17	27
Surplus	6	8	14	2	1	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	12	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 (Aug 28 – Sep 3) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Aug 1 - 31) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 – Sep 3) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (May - July) Percent of Normal
High Plains	1.93	4.21	11.62	18.87	47
Low Rolling Plains	1.68	2.18	11.63	23.78	58
North Central Texas	1.17	1.81	16.34	34.00	46
East Texas	0.31	1.66	23.36	45.69	67
Trans Pecos	1.01	2.86	6.22	12.96	40
Edwards Plateau	0.79	1.29	10.01	24.01	55
South Central Texas	0.05	0.37	11.96	34.48	70
Upper Coast	0.06	3.00	32.35	47.63	159
South Texas	0.01	0.26	5.57	23.49	57
Lower Valley	0.00	0.83	6.41	25.34	63

^{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

