



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

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**TX-CW4106**

### **Texas Crop Weather**

Released October 10, 2006

For the week of October 2-8, 2006

**Agricultural Summary:** All of the High Plains and Northern Low Plains received rain, with 1 to 2 inches reported in wide areas of the Panhandle. The Trans-Pecos had spotty showers that measured from a trace to 1 inch. The Lower Valley recorded 0.1 to 1 inches of rainfall, and scattered rain measuring up to 0.1 inches fell in southeastern areas near the coast. The rest of Texas was dry. Haying and baling continued in many areas, including the Plains, Cross Timbers, South East, and Lower Valley. Pasture conditions improved dramatically in areas of South Texas in response to September rains.

### **Field Crops Report**

**Small Grains:** Producers in the Northern High Plains followed up corn harvest with wheat planting. The wheat crop appeared to be off to a good start in the High Plains. Some producers in the Cross Timbers, North East, and South Central areas were waiting for some rainfall before planting small grains. Small grains that were already planted in those areas and in the Blacklands suffered under the continuing drought. Planting of small grains continued in the Edwards Plateau and South.

**Cotton:** Producers continued to apply harvest aids in the High Plains, where harvest of irrigated fields was getting underway and gins began to open. Some dryland producers in the High Plains were waiting for a freeze before harvesting, to save defoliation costs. Harvest began in the Northern Low Plains. Producers plowed under or shredded disaster cotton in the Low Plains. Harvest was winding down in the South East and Coastal Bend. Moist conditions delayed harvest in the Upper Coast. Statewide, cotton condition was mostly fair to poor.

**Corn:** Harvest for grain and silage continued at full steam in the Northern High Plains.

**Sorghum:** Harvest was well underway in the Northern High Plains. Producers continued to harvest for silage in the Southern High Plains and harvested late-planted fields in the Coastal Bend.

**Peanuts:** Growers began to pick up the pace of harvest in the Southern High Plains, and they were drying harvested peanuts in the Northern Low Plains. Harvest began in South Texas. Peanut condition statewide was mostly good to fair.

**Soybeans:** Producers harvested in the Coastal Bend and sprayed for soybean rust in the Upper Coast.

## Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Pumpkin harvest continued at full speed in the Northern High Plains, where yield was average but prices received by producers were good. Producers continued to harvest watermelons in the Southern High Plains. Fall onions were being planted and irrigated in the Trans-Pecos. Producers in the San Antonio-Winter Garden continued to prepare land for onions, cabbage, and spinach.

**Pecans:** Producers harvested pecans in the Cross Timbers. Harvest began in South Central areas. Nut filling was complete in the Trans-Pecos, but aphids were increasingly a problem there.

## Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Range was maturing and drying down for the winter in the Northern High Plains. Ranchers in the Plains bought cattle to put on wheat pasture. Pasture conditions declined and stock tank levels fell in the Cross Timbers, Blacklands, and North East because of the dry weather. Markets ran large numbers of cattle in the Blacklands, where producers fed supplements to maintain herd performance. Ranchers in the North East purchased hay from outside of Texas or reduced herds. Pastures improved in the Coastal Bend and South because of good soil moisture.

Crop Progress Table – October 8, 2006

| Crop         | Stage         | 2006 | 2005        | Average<br>2001-2005 |
|--------------|---------------|------|-------------|----------------------|
|              |               |      | - Percent - |                      |
| Corn         | Mature        | 100  | 96          | 98                   |
|              | Harvested     | 88   | 85          | 85                   |
| Cotton       | Bolls Opening | 77   | 71          | 73                   |
|              | Harvested     | 24   | 25          | 26                   |
| Peanuts      | Harvested     | 16   | 14          | 15                   |
| Rice         | Harvested     | 99   | 100         | 100                  |
| Sorghum      | Turning Color | 94   | 95          | 93                   |
|              | Mature        | 79   | 78          | 80                   |
|              | Harvested     | 71   | 64          | 67                   |
| Soybeans     | Harvested     | 89   | 66          | 78                   |
| Sunflowers   | Harvested     | 68   | 52          | 68                   |
| Winter Wheat | Planted       | 67   | 58          | 66                   |
|              | Emerged       | 40   | 28          | 38                   |
| Oats         | Planted       | 53   | 45          | 56                   |
|              | Emerged       | 15   | 8           | 2                    |

**Crop Condition Table – October 8, 2006**

| Crop            | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | Very Poor | Index <sup>1/</sup> |      |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|---------------------|------|
|                 | Percent   |      |      |      |           | 2006                | 2005 |
| Cotton          | 5         | 21   | 30   | 25   | 19        | 50                  | 73   |
| Peanuts         | 11        | 28   | 49   | 9    | 3         | 69                  | 84   |
| Range & Pasture | 1         | 9    | 22   | 31   | 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 – October 8, 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             | 18  | 12  | 29  | 31  | 38 | 60 | 71  | 47  | 23 | 34 | 45  | 0   | 3  | 2    | 28   |
| Short                  | 52  | 43  | 38  | 52  | 45 | 34 | 27  | 43  | 34 | 50 | 35  | 20  | 29 | 37   | 17   |
| Adequate               | 30  | 35  | 33  | 17  | 17 | 6  | 2   | 10  | 41 | 16 | 20  | 61  | 61 | 57   | 55   |
| Surplus                | 0   | 10  | 0   | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0   | 0   | 2  | 0  | 0   | 19  | 7  | 4    | 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 (Oct 2-8) Accumulation | Month-to-date (Oct 1 - 8) Accumulation | Year-to-date (Jan 1 – Oct 8) Accumulation | 1961-90 Annual Normal | Previous Three Months (Jul - Sep) Percent of Normal |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------|---|
| High Plains                                 | 0.48                                 | 0.48                                   | 12.89                                     | 18.87                 | 108   |
| Low Rolling Plains                          | 0.22                                 | 0.22                                   | 12.78                                     | 23.78                 | 68  |
| North Central Texas                         | 0.00                                 | 0.00                                   | 18.26                                     | 34.00                 | 86  |
| East Texas                                  | 0.00                                 | 0.00                                   | 25.38                                     | 45.69                 | 72  |
| Trans Pecos                                 | 0.13                                 | 0.13                                   | 7.14                                      | 12.96                 | 83  |
| Edwards Plateau                             | 0.00                                 | 0.00                                   | 12.35                                     | 24.01                 | 64  |
| South Central Texas                         | 0.00                                 | 0.00                                   | 14.58                                     | 34.48                 | 60  |
| Upper Coast                                 | 0.05                                 | 0.05                                   | 36.45                                     | 47.63                 | 126   |
| South Texas                                 | 0.17                                 | 0.17                                   | 10.24                                     | 23.49                 | 84  |
| Lower Valley                                | 0.64                                 | 0.64                                   | 14.02                                     | 25.34                 | 102   |

<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

