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Texas Crop Weather

Released November 20, 2006

For the week of November 13 - 19, 2006

Agricultural Summary: The Coastal Bend and South East Texas received the majority of the rainfall in the state last week, as isolated showers brought 0.25 to 0.50 inches to small sections. The North-Eastern half of the state received mainly traces of rainfall although small sections experienced as much as 0.10 inches. The Northern High Plains only received a trace of rainfall. The remaining areas of the state remained dry.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Early-planted wheat remained in good condition in the High Plains; however, some of the newly emerged wheat was damaged by recent high winds. Planting continued to progress in the Northern Low Plains. Oats and wheat condition was mostly good to fair statewide.

Cotton: As harvest conditions continued to improve in the High Plains, harvest progressed despite the few days of high winds that temporarily slowed activities. Statewide, cotton condition was mostly fair to poor.

Sorghum: In the High Plains, dry weather conditions allowed the sorghum harvest to continue although recent winds were a factor in limiting harvesting acres.

Peanuts: In the Southern High Plains, harvest was virtually complete. Harvest continued in South Texas.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Fall-seeded onions in the Trans-Pecos were in poor condition due to rain and hail damage during germination. Spinach production under irrigation made good progress in South Texas. Green beans and cabbage continued to be harvested.

Pecans: Some of the producers with larger orchards in the Trans-Pecos that were previously waiting for a freeze expect harvest to commence in around a week.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Producers continued feeding cattle on pastures in the Northern High Plains. Some pastures in the Southern High Plains turned brown due to freezes. In the Northern Low Plains, range conditions began to go dormant. Rainfall is needed for the progression of cool season grasses.

Livestock water remained a major concern in the Blacklands and many winter pastures are now being utilized for grazing purposes. In North East Texas, producers continued to plant winter pastures and look for hay. Cattle prices dropped considerably and producers continued supplemental feeding for all species of livestock in South Central Texas. Range and pasture conditions continued to decrease in South Texas due to a lack of rainfall; the development of cool season forages was slowed due to this same factor. Statewide, range and pasture land was mostly fair to poor.

Crop Progress Table – November 19, 2006

Crop	Stage	2006	2005	Average 2001-2005
- Percent -				
Cotton	Harvested	60	59	58
Peanuts	Harvested	94	93	80
Sorghum	Harvested	85	85	85
Soybeans	Harvested	99	98	98
Sunflowers	Harvested	88	89	93
Winter Wheat	Emerged	85	75	81
Oats	Planted	95	87	--
	Emerged	88	66	--
Pecans	Harvested	36	50	45

Crop Condition Table – November 19, 2006

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index ^{1/}	
	Percent					2006	2005
Cotton	7	22	28	22	21	51	80
Wheat	10	38	42	8	2	73	53
Oats	4	33	50	10	3	67	27
Range & Pasture	2	14	27	33	24	--	--

^{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 – November 19, 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	25	13	6	19	8	17	10	4	14	36	14	3	1	27	15
Short	48	45	44	63	58	41	44	15	55	47	56	35	9	49	20
Adequate	27	35	46	18	34	38	43	63	31	17	30	55	70	24	65
Surplus	0	7	4	0	0	4	3	18	0	0	0	7	20	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 (Nov 13 - 19) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Nov 1 - 19) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Nov 19) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (Aug - Oct) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.00	0.00	14.33	18.87	132
Low Rolling Plains	0.00	0.13	17.07	23.78	110
North Central Texas	0.00	0.79	22.60	34.00	104
East Texas	0.01	1.50	35.04	45.69	112
Trans Pecos	0.00	0.00	8.28	12.96	94
Edwards Plateau	0.00	0.00	14.28	24.01	69
South Central Texas	0.00	0.13	17.31	34.48	52
Upper Coast	0.04	0.56	48.23	47.63	130
South Texas	0.04	0.05	11.10	23.49	84
Lower Valley	0.04	0.41	16.32	25.34	102

^{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

