



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture
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For the week of: April 2 - 8, 2007

Agricultural Summary: Weather conditions across Texas were unsettled during the week. At the beginning of the week, conditions were mostly open with plenty of sunshine. By week's end, many producers were concerned as they experienced an unseasonable cold front. There were even a few reports of hail in some areas. The extent of any damage from the cold front was still being assessed. Most areas of the state received light to moderate rainfall. The Upper Coast received the majority of rainfall with mostly 1.5 to 2.0 inches. The Plains, Cross Timbers, and the Trans-Pecos area received mostly 0.01 to 0.10 inches of rainfall. The Edwards Plateau, Blacklands, and North East Texas received mostly 0.01 to 0.25 inches, as isolated showers brought as much as an inch to several sections. The remaining areas of the state received mostly 0.25 to 1.0 inches of rainfall. In most areas of the state, pastures were greening up and improvement was noticeable. Supplemental feeding continued to decline considerably across most areas of the state as forage growth increased.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Wheat continued to make good growth and development across most areas of the state, but concerns of freeze damage were prevalent across the state as temperatures dropped severely later in the week. Insect pressure increased in both the Northern Low Plains and Blacklands as some producers experienced problems of powdery mildew and rust in fields. Statewide, wheat and oat condition was mostly fair to good.

Cotton: Land preparations resumed in the Southern High Plains.

Corn: With excessive rainfall following planting, most of the corn crop in the Blacklands emerged and continues to show good signs of growth. Statewide, corn condition was mostly fair to good.

Sorghum: Producers in the Southern High Plains anticipate acres intended for planting to increase. In the Blacklands, sorghum began to emerge, with some acres still to be planted.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Watering was ongoing for grape producers in the Trans-Pecos area. In the Edwards Plateau, peaches remained in good condition.

Pecans: Warm weather has allowed pecan trees to continue bud break in the Trans-Pecos area, and many producers have begun irrigating orchards.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Ranges and pastures continued to green up with the warmer temperatures and adequate moisture nearly statewide. Weed problems began to increase, and producers were spraying accordingly. The progression of ryegrass in the Blacklands has taken some pressure off livestock producers in regards to supplemental feeding. Some producers in North East Texas still remained concerned about the high costs of fertilizer. The effects of last year's drought have prolonged the calving season for some livestock producers in some areas. In South Texas, native range and pasture conditions continued to improve, providing forage for livestock. There were some reports of producers not supplemental feeding livestock at all in South Texas as plenty of forage was available. Livestock body conditions continue to improve as the availability of high quality forage increases. Statewide, range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good.

Crop Progress Table – April 8, 2007

Crop	Stage	2007	2006	Average 2002 – 2006
- Percent -				
Corn	Planted	59	63	60
	Emerged	55	52	46
Cotton	Planted	11	16	14
Rice	Planted	42	71	57
	Emerged	20	52	33
Sorghum	Planted	52	53	42
Soybeans	Planted	29	39	29
Sunflowers	Planted	8	15	8
Winter Wheat	Headed	16	15	11
Oats	Headed	58	30	--

Crop Condition Table – April 8, 2007

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index ^{1/}	
	Percent					2007	2006
Corn	6	52	24	12	6	71	67
Wheat	25	44	25	5	1	83	28
Oats	9	31	37	11	12	63	29
Range & Pasture	10	34	35	15	6	--	--

^{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 – April 8, 2007 *

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	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	2	23	8	0	0	0	2	10
Short	7	8	11	5	4	6	20	13	42	7	0	3	1	16	30
Adequate	73	66	52	76	69	60	73	70	35	75	63	85	80	76	60
Surplus	20	26	37	18	27	32	6	15	0	10	37	12	19	6	0

* High Plains: 1-N, 1-S; Low Rolling Plains: 2-N, 2-S; North Central Texas: 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/ 2/}

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous Week (April 2 - 8) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Apr 1 - 8) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Apr 8) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (Jan - Mar) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.12	0.12	4.83	18.87	219
Low Rolling Plains	0.07	0.07	4.33	23.78	132
North Central Texas	0.19	0.19	9.09	34.00	133
East Texas	0.41	0.41	12.23	45.69	111
Trans Pecos	0.17	0.17	2.26	12.96	179
Edwards Plateau	0.37	0.37	6.91	24.01	184
South Central Texas	0.97	0.97	10.80	34.48	160
Upper Coast	1.21	1.23	15.57	47.63	160
South Texas	0.63	0.63	5.74	23.49	162
Lower Valley	0.61	0.61	4.75	25.34	116

^{1/} Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

^{2/} High Plains: 1-N, 1-S; Low Rolling Plains: 2-N, 2-S; North Central Texas: 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.

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

