



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 23 - 29, 2007

**Agricultural Summary:** Many areas of the state experienced strong thunderstorms for the second consecutive week. There were some reports of hail in areas of the Plains and Coastal Bend. Widespread rain and cooler temperatures were prevalent across many regions for most of the week. Although recent rains have increased soil moisture in most areas, some areas are still in need of more rainfall as windy conditions have reduced levels. Field activities were delayed for some producers across the state due to wet conditions. Central Texas received mostly 0.25 to 2.0 inches, as isolated showers brought as much as 5.0 to 6.0 inches to small sections. Conditions in the Panhandle and South Texas were a bit drier as most producers experienced little to no rainfall. Current indications continue to show that wheat damage from the previous cold front was much less than anticipated. As temperatures continue to increase, producers will be able to conduct further assessment of freeze damage. Insect activity continued to increase in some areas while supplemental feeding continued to decline.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Most producers in the Northern High Plains reported good wheat condition, but some fields received hail damage from recent storms. Also, increased moisture has contributed to an increase in mildew and rust in some of these fields. In the Southern High Plains, wheat and oats began heading rapidly. There were some reports of Hessian fly damage to fields in the Blacklands. Statewide, wheat and oat condition was mostly fair to good.

**Cotton:** Land preparations continued in the Southern Low Plains as conditions allowed. Many producers in the Southern Low Plains anticipate planting to begin in the next week or two. Preparations were also ongoing in the Northern Low Plains. A large number of acres along the Coastal Bend were destroyed from hail storms this past week.

**Corn:** Planting was possible in some areas of the Northern High Plains, while many other areas remained too wet for farming activities. Some replanting was necessary in the Blacklands due to excessive moisture in fields. Statewide, corn condition was mostly fair to good.

**Sorghum:** Some fields in the Lower Valley were beginning to head. Sorghum condition was mostly good to excellent statewide.

**Peanuts:** Some producers in the Southern High Plains began planting, while many others anticipate planting to begin in the next week.

### **Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report**

Recent rains have contributed to good vegetable growth in North East Texas. Sugarcane, citrus, and various other vegetables were being harvested in the Lower Valley.

**Pecans:** Some trees in the Trans-Pecos area began to show extreme damage from the cold front a few weeks ago.

### **Livestock, Pasture and Range Report**

Livestock remained in good condition in the Northern Low Plains as pastures continued to “green up.” Most producers in the Blacklands and North East Texas were cutting and baling hay. Pastures continued to progress in the Trans-Pecos, but there was some damage received from recent storms. 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 29, 2007**

Crop	Stage	2007	2006	Average 2002 – 2006
- Percent -				
Corn	Planted	70	79	77
	Emerged	66	62	64
Cotton	Planted	20	24	21
Peanuts	Planted	3	--	4
Rice	Planted	79	91	90
	Emerged	60	86	80
Sorghum	Planted	62	66	52
Soybeans	Planted	75	84	62
	Emerged	46	49	10
Sunflowers	Planted	38	35	21
Winter Wheat	Headed	59	52	50
Oats	Headed	86	76	--

**Crop Condition Table – April 29, 2007**

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Percent					2007	2006
Corn	10	47	21	12	10	69	62
Rice	8	47	45	0	0	78	68
Sorghum	21	58	18	3	0	87	38
Soybeans	7	53	33	7	0	77	72
Wheat	23	43	25	7	2	81	22
Oats	11	38	31	9	11	68	28
Range & Pasture	12	43	30	11	4	--	--

<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 – April 29, 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	2	0	0	0	1	1	6	25	4	0	0	0	2	17
Short	18	16	10	12	9	7	15	9	50	24	1	27	2	11	50
Adequate	73	68	64	81	83	70	79	69	25	64	85	70	41	85	33
Surplus	9	14	26	7	8	22	5	16	0	8	14	3	57	2	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 <sup>1/ 2/</sup>

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous Week (April 23 - 29) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Apr 1 - 29) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Apr 29) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (Jan - Mar) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.26	1.09	5.80	18.87	219
Low Rolling Plains	0.69	1.69	5.95	23.78	132
North Central Texas	0.86	1.73	10.63	34.00	133
East Texas	1.04	2.19	14.01	45.69	111
Trans Pecos	0.92	1.09	3.18	12.96	179
Edwards Plateau	0.97	1.42	7.96	24.01	184
South Central Texas	0.90	2.33	12.16	34.48	160
Upper Coast	1.71	3.62	17.96	47.63	160
South Texas	0.24	0.87	5.98	23.49	162
Lower Valley	0.00	0.61	4.75	25.34	116

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

<sup>2/</sup> 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/ftcshare/precip\\_analysis\\_new.php](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ftcshare/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

