



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# Texas Crop Weather

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Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture  
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**Issue:** TX-CW2007

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**For the week of:** May 7 - 13, 2007

**Agricultural Summary:** Moderate levels of rainfall and a few strong thunderstorms made their way through the state during the week. Field activities were delayed for many producers due to wet conditions. Minor flooding was reported in some areas of the state. Many areas have a surplus of sub-soil moisture, as recent rains continued to increase levels. The Trans-Pecos and the Eastern section of the state received mostly 0.01 to 1.0 inch of rainfall. The remaining areas of the state received mostly 1.0 to 2.0 inches, as isolated showers brought as much as 3.0 inches to several sections. Haying and baling continued in some areas where conditions allowed. Insect populations, especially horn and Hessian flies, continued to expand and cause damage to some fields. Treatment was ongoing for some producers. Although some feeding was necessary, most cattle were in good condition and removed from supplemental feeding.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Wheat conditions remained good in the Northern High Plains, but spraying was ongoing in some fields due to reports of leaf rust and other diseases. The wheat crop was maturing in the Southern High Plains. Grazing of wheat pastures continued in the Southern Low Plains, and producers continued baling wheat for hay as weather conditions allowed. Severe weather caused minor damage to some fields in the Blacklands, and many fields remained too wet for harvest. Some winter wheat was being harvested along the Coastal Bend. Statewide, wheat condition was mostly good to excellent while oat condition remained mostly fair to good.

**Cotton:** Recent rainfall and low soil temperatures delayed planting and land preparations for many producers across the state. Warm weather contributed to increased growth along the Coastal Bend, but additional moisture is still needed.

**Corn:** Planting continued in some areas of the Northern High Plains, while many other areas of the state remained too wet for farming activities. Increased rainfall is needed along the Coastal Bend in order to sustain growth. Statewide, corn condition was mostly good to excellent.

**Sorghum:** Heading increased along the Coastal Bend, but additional moisture is needed in order to improve production potential. Statewide, sorghum condition was mostly good to excellent statewide.

## Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Peaches were being harvested, and vegetable crops were being planted in North East Texas. Green beans were being harvested in South Texas. The watermelon crop in the Lower Valley began to show signs of damage due to the previous week's severe weather.

**Pecans:** Producers in the Trans-Pecos and Edwards Plateau continued to monitor for pecan case bearer activity, as there were signs in some orchards.

## Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

In the Northern Low Plains, livestock remained in good condition as pastures continued to "green up." Ranges and pastures were also "greening up" in the Southern Low Plains, and stock tanks for livestock water were full or close to full. Also, hay yields were good in the Southern Low Plains with increased grazing conditions in wheat pastures. Some producers in the Cross Timbers were able to get their first cuttings of hay harvested as conditions allowed. Producers in North East Texas continued to harvest ryegrass for hay. Some shearing continued in the Trans-Pecos, and livestock body condition continued to improve due to the increased forage. Also, range and pasture land showed good signs of growth in the Trans-Pecos. Producers in South Central Texas were busy spraying fields in order to control weeds. Recent rainfall continued to increase forage for grazing on native ranges and pastures in South Texas. Statewide, range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good.

Crop Progress Table – May 13, 2007

Crop	Stage	2007	2006	Average 2002 – 2006
- Percent -				
Corn	Planted	92	95	94
	Emerged	72	75	77
	Silked (Tasseled)	8	9	7
Cotton	Planted	27	36	36
	Squaring	7	5	5
Peanuts	Planted	40	43	40
Rice	Planted	91	97	98
	Emerged	82	92	94
Sorghum	Planted	67	70	56
	Headed	21	14	11
Soybeans	Planted	84	89	74
	Emerged	66	83	17
Sunflowers	Planted	40	43	37
Winter Wheat	Headed	85	89	86
	Harvested	1	2	2
Oats	Headed	99	86	81
	Harvested	2	5	2

**Crop Condition Table – May 13, 2007**

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Percent					2007	2006
Corn	23	49	13	9	6	80	66
Rice	2	39	49	5	5	68	72
Sorghum	22	56	20	2	0	87	50
Soybeans	8	50	37	5	0	77	73
Wheat	30	41	20	7	2	84	27
Oats	17	37	27	9	10	71	33
Range & Pasture	18	47	25	8	2	--	--

<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 – May 13, 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	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	9	0	0	0	0	1	20
Short	9	1	1	2	0	3	7	7	28	9	3	37	6	11	40
Adequate	65	50	39	37	48	53	51	62	63	63	77	50	57	76	40
Surplus	24	49	60	60	52	44	42	30	0	28	20	13	37	12	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 (May 7 - 13) Accumulation	Month-to-date (May 1 - 13) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - May 13) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (Feb - Apr) Percent of Normal
High Plains	1.28	1.97	7.87	18.87	194
Low Rolling Plains	1.70	2.14	8.37	23.78	125
North Central Texas	1.25	2.75	14.00	34.00	104
East Texas	0.70	3.03	17.27	45.69	70
Trans Pecos	0.62	1.05	4.23	12.96	181
Edwards Plateau	2.46	3.46	11.95	24.01	144
South Central Texas	0.31	0.83	13.44	34.48	124
Upper Coast	0.97	1.70	19.78	47.63	145
South Texas	1.32	1.56	7.74	23.49	78
Lower Valley	0.20	0.61	5.36	25.34	88

<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/ftc/share/precip\\_analysis\\_new.php](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ftc/share/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

