



Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

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For the week of: April 28 – May 4, 2008

Agricultural Summary: Dry weather with high winds continued across much of the state. Rainfall up to an inch in some areas was observed in East Texas, South Texas, and some of South Central Texas. The rest of the state received little to no rainfall. Some wheat and oats were grazed out due to the dry conditions. Cotton planting was underway in most areas of the Plains. Corn planting continued in the Northern High Plains, while corn was emerging in the Northern Low Plains. Sorghum planting continued in parts of the Plains, while Sorghum planting neared completion in South Texas. Peaches, blueberries, strawberries, and blackberries all made progress in North East Texas. Monitoring of pecan nut case bearer continued in the Edwards Plateau, the Blacklands, and South Central Texas. Top soil moisture was mostly short to adequate across the state. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued in the Plains regions due to the dry pastures and ranges.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Some wheat and oats were grazed out due to the dry conditions. Wheat was mostly headed out in Cross Timbers and the Blacklands. Wheat condition was mostly poor to fair statewide. Oat condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Cotton: Cotton land continued to be prepared and pre-watered in anticipation of the upcoming plantings in the Plains.

Corn: Corn planting continued in the Northern High Plains, while corn was emerging in the Northern Low Plains. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Sorghum: Sorghum planting continued in the some of the Plains, and Sorghum planting continued to come to a close in South Texas. Sorghum condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Soybeans: Soybean condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Rice: Rice condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Peaches, blueberries, strawberries, and blackberries all made progress in North East Texas. Green bean harvest began in South Texas, and onion harvest continued in the Lower Valley.

Pecans: Monitoring of pecan nut case bearer continued in the Edwards Plateau, the Blacklands, and South Central Texas.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Supplemental feeding of livestock continued in the Plains regions due to the dry pastures and ranges. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Crop Progress Table – May 4, 2008

| Crop | Stage | 2008 | 2007 | Average 2003 – 2007 |
|--------------|-------------------|------|------|------------------------|
| - Percent - | | | | |
| Corn | Planted | 72 | 79 | 83 |
| | Emerged | 60 | 67 | 67 |
| | Silked (Tasseled) | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Cotton | Planted | 24 | 24 | 25 |
| Peanuts | Planted | 15 | 7 | 10 |
| Rice | Planted | 98 | 83 | 91 |
| | Emerged | 90 | 71 | 82 |
| Sorghum | Planted | 66 | 63 | 56 |
| | Headed | 1 | 6 | 3 |
| Soybeans | Planted | 81 | 76 | 70 |
| | Emerged | 48 | 48 | 23 |
| Sunflowers | Planted | 13 | 39 | 28 |
| Winter Wheat | Headed | 56 | 64 | 68 |
| Oats | Headed | 86 | 95 | 82 |
| | Harvested | 1 | 1 | 0 |

Crop Condition Table – May 4, 2008

| Crop | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | Very Poor | Index ^{1/} | |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|---------------------|------|
| | Percent | | | | | 2008 | 2007 |
| Corn | 8 | 48 | 34 | 7 | 3 | 74 | 77 |
| Rice | 2 | 28 | 66 | 4 | 0 | 68 | 77 |
| Sorghum | 3 | 35 | 40 | 17 | 5 | 63 | 89 |
| Soybeans | 3 | 61 | 35 | 1 | 0 | 79 | 78 |
| Wheat | 4 | 16 | 31 | 24 | 25 | 45 | 81 |
| Oats | 7 | 44 | 28 | 10 | 11 | 67 | 67 |
| Range & Pasture | 5 | 29 | 36 | 19 | 11 | -- | -- |

^{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 – May 4, 2008 *

| 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 | 70 | 59 | 42 | 17 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 60 | 30 | 3 | 42 | 6 | 62 | 40 |
| Short | 29 | 36 | 42 | 32 | 23 | 6 | 3 | 34 | 27 | 41 | 54 | 40 | 27 | 33 | 33 |
| Adequate | 1 | 5 | 16 | 51 | 73 | 91 | 81 | 56 | 13 | 29 | 43 | 18 | 47 | 5 | 27 |
| Surplus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 16 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 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 28 – May 4) Accumulation | Month-to-date (April 1 – 30) Accumulation | Year-to-date (Jan 1 – May 4) Accumulation | 1961-90 Annual Normal | Previous Three Months (Jan - Mar) Percent of Normal |
|---|---|---|---|-----------------------|---|
| High Plains | 0.00 | 0.56 | 0.90 | 18.87 | 16 |
| Low Rolling Plains | 0.00 | 1.93 | 3.33 | 23.78 | 43 |
| North Central Texas | 0.00 | 3.19 | 9.23 | 34.00 | 91 |
| East Texas | 0.18 | 2.83 | 12.92 | 45.69 | 93 |
| Trans-Pecos | 0.00 | 0.03 | 0.35 | 12.96 | 27 |
| Edwards Plateau | 0.02 | 1.22 | 3.54 | 24.01 | 65 |
| South Central Texas | 0.16 | 1.81 | 5.85 | 34.48 | 63 |
| Upper Coast | 0.04 | 2.05 | 11.11 | 47.63 | 101 |
| South Texas | 0.32 | 0.97 | 2.35 | 23.49 | 34 |
| Lower Valley | 0.32 | 1.22 | 3.47 | 25.34 | 54 |

^{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/rfcsshare/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

