



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: August 11 – 17, 2008

Agricultural Summary: Scattered showers were observed across much of the state. The Plains and East Texas receive the most rain with up to 4 or 5 inches in isolated areas. The rest of the state received anywhere from no rain to several inches. Land preparation continued in wheat fields in the Plains and Cross Timbers. Harvest was delayed in some cotton fields due to recent rains in the Coastal Bend. Corn harvest neared completion in the Blacklands. Sorghum harvest continued in South Texas, and irrigated peanuts looked good in the Low Plains and South Texas. Soybean harvest resumed in North East Texas following the rain, while irrigation continued in the Northern High Plains. Pumpkins have progressed well in the Northern High Plains, watermelon harvest continued in the Southern High Plains, and peach harvest neared completion in the Cross Timbers. Pecan producers kept an eye on orchards for pecan weevils. Supplemental feeding of livestock started to decrease as pastures greened up where rain was received. Top soil moisture was mostly short to adequate statewide.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Wheat fields' preparation continued for the upcoming plantings in the Plains and the Cross Timbers.

Cotton: Cotton harvest was delayed for some producers due to recent rains in the Coastal Bend. Irrigated cotton continued to improve in the Plains. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Corn: Corn harvest began to wrap up in the Blacklands, while some fall corn was planted in the Lower Valley. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Sorghum: Sorghum harvest continued in South Texas, and irrigation occurred in the Northern High Plains. Sorghum condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Peanuts: Irrigated peanuts looked good in the Low Plains and South Texas. Peanut condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Soybeans: Irrigation continued in the Northern High Plains as soybean harvest resumed in North East Texas following the rain. Soybean condition was fair to good statewide.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Pumpkins have progressed well in the Northern High Plains, watermelon harvest continued in the Southern High Plains, and peach harvest neared completion in the Cross Timbers.

Pecans: Some pecan producers prepared to treat for pecan weevils in the Cross Timbers and Edwards Plateau.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Herd size reduction continued in parts of the state where available grazing was short, and available water was low. Supplemental feeding of livestock decreased as pastures greened up where rain was received. Range and pasture condition was mostly poor to fair statewide.

Crop Progress Table – August 17, 2008

Crop	Stage	2008	2007	Average 2003 – 2007
– Percent –				
Corn	Silked (Tasseled)	98	100	100
	Dough	88	84	92
	Dent	68	75	79
	Mature	63	58	63
	Harvested	60	18	41
Cotton	Squaring	97	94	97
	Setting Bolls	71	72	80
	Bolls Opening	18	11	16
Peanuts	Pegging	100	87	95
Rice	Headed	98	99	99
	Harvested	55	45	49
Sorghum	Headed	76	93	82
	Coloring	65	79	62
	Mature	59	57	54
	Harvested	56	38	48
Soybeans	Blooming	99	99	40
	Setting Pods	94	94	23
	Dropping Leaves	54	7	1
Sunflowers	Planted	100	100	82

Crop Condition Table – August 17, 2008

Crop	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Index ^{1/}	
	Percent					2008	2007
Corn	4	36	26	14	20	57	84
Cotton	8	29	33	20	10	60	70
Peanuts	12	48	33	6	1	78	90
Rice	16	61	21	1	1	85	66
Sorghum	5	35	38	16	6	64	75
Soybeans	0	31	31	24	14	53	93
Range & Pasture	1	15	34	29	21	--	--

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 – August 17, 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	14	19	28	28	53	36	9	25	40	33	31	10	11	20	23
Short	35	25	38	49	28	26	26	41	33	51	43	22	33	39	2
Adequate	37	49	30	20	17	34	63	27	26	16	26	50	40	39	51
Surplus	14	7	4	3	2	4	2	7	1	0	0	18	16	2	24

* 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 (August 11 – 17) Accumulation	Month-to-date (August 1 – 17) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 – Aug 17) Accumulation	1961 – 1990 Annual Normal	Previous Three Months (May – July) Percent of Normal
High Plains	2.68	3.04	10.84	18.87	88
Low Rolling Plains	1.72	2.63	12.13	23.78	74
North Central Texas	1.15	1.78	16.12	34.00	49
East Texas	2.08	3.29	23.09	45.69	58
Trans-Pecos	0.61	0.69	5.09	12.96	92
Edwards Plateau	1.32	1.66	10.47	24.01	68
South Central Texas	1.29	1.49	11.83	34.48	44
Upper Coast	1.32	2.39	21.23	47.63	54
South Texas	1.08	1.24	9.04	23.49	76
Lower Valley	0.50	0.50	14.35	25.34	140

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/rfcs/share/precip_analysis_new.php and www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html

Cooperating Agencies:
Texas AgriLife Extension Service
Texas Department of Agriculture
National Weather Service

