



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: February 16 - 22, 2009

Agricultural Summary: The eastern and southern part of the state received 0.01 to 0.5 inches of rainfall while the rest of the state received little to no rainfall. Wheat in the High Plains continued to struggle due to lack of moisture. Wheat in the Cross Timbers, Northern Low Plains and the Blacklands responded well to the recent rainfall. Cotton field preparation continued in the Northern Plains and the Trans-Pecos. Corn field preparation continued in the Northern High Plains. Pecan trees in the Trans-Pecos remained dormant after being pruned and hedged. Onions and potato planting was completed in North East Texas. Spinach and cabbage harvest continued in South Texas. Supplemental feeding of livestock was on going across most of the state. Range and pasture conditions across the state were very dry and in need of rain. Top soil moisture was mostly very short to short across the state.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Wheat in the High Plains continue to struggle due to lack of moisture. Some producers are irrigating their wheat due to lack of rainfall. Wheat in the Cross Timbers, Northern Low Plains and the Blacklands responded well to the recent rainfall. Wheat in the Edwards Plateau continued to experience drought conditions. Statewide, wheat condition was mostly very poor to fair and oat condition was mostly very poor to poor.

Cotton: Field preparation continued in the Northern Plains and the Trans-Pecos. Ginning is complete in the Southern Low Plains.

Corn: Field preparation continued in the Northern High Plains. Producers without an irrigation system in South Central Texas began dry planting.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Pecan trees in the Trans-Pecos remained dormant after being pruned and hedged. Onion and potato planting was completed in North East Texas. Spinach and cabbage harvest continued in South Texas.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Supplemental feeding of livestock was on going across most of the state. Herd liquidation occurred in the Cross Timbers, Edwards Plateau and South Central Texas. Lambing and kidding was active in the Edwards Plateau. Range and pasture conditions across the state were very dry and in need of rain. High winds and warming weather worsened the condition of rangeland in the Southern Low Plains. Range and Pasture condition was mostly very poor to poor statewide.

Crop Progress Table – February 22, 2009

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2009	2008	Average 2004 – 2008
Corn	Planted	1	1	1
Sorghum	Planted	1	1	1
Winter Wheat	Emerged	100	96	99
Oats	Emerged	91	100	100

Crop Condition Table – February 22, 2009

Crop	Percent					Index ^{1/}	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2009	2008
Wheat	1	13	28	26	32	38	35
Oats	0	4	16	24	56	22	--
Range & Pasture	0	4	26	29	41	--	--

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 – February 22, 2009

Condition	Percent of Acreage, by District *														
	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
Very Short	59	53	48	69	59	28	4	20	65	77	87	92	36	83	37
Short	28	42	51	29	35	42	36	42	25	23	12	8	22	17	37
Adequate	13	5	1	2	6	30	55	35	10	0	1	0	34	0	26
Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	3	0	0	0	0	8	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/}

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions ^{2/}	Previous Week Accumulation (February 16 - 22)	Month-to-Date Accumulation (February 1 - 22)	Year-to-Date Accumulation (Jan 1 - Feb 22)	Annual Normal (1971 - 2000)	Previous Three Months Percent of Normal (Nov, Dec, Jan)
High Plains	0.00	0.40	0.43	19.64	7
Low Rolling Plains	0.00	0.42	0.51	24.51	4
North Central Texas	0.00	0.72	1.29	35.23	26
East Texas	0.09	1.37	2.54	48.08	46
Trans-Pecos	0.00	0.09	0.09	13.19	6
Edwards Plateau	0.00	0.34	0.45	24.73	7
South Central Texas	0.04	0.33	0.55	36.21	18
Upper Coast	0.05	0.82	1.16	50.31	43
South Texas	0.11	0.15	0.17	24.08	10
Lower Valley	0.49	0.53	0.57	25.43	53

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 AgriLife Extension Service
- Texas Department of Agriculture
- National Weather Service

