



Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

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For the week of: May 11 – 17, 2009

Agricultural Summary: Showers swept through most of the state bringing up to 6 inches of rain. Freeze damaged wheat and oats across the state were being baled for hay. Wheat harvest has begun in the Edwards Plateau. In the High Plains, cotton planting was in full swing. Cotton producers have begun planting in the Edwards Plateau. Corn planting in the Northern High Plains was near completion. Sorghum was being planted in the Northern High Plains. In the Southern High Plains, peanut planting was in full-swing. Peaches received cover sprays in North East Texas. Fall planted onions were bulbing in the Trans-Pecos. Pecans progressed well in the Blacklands. Range and pasture conditions improved across the state due to the recent rainfall and warmer temperatures. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued in parts of the state. Top soil moisture was mostly very short to adequate across the state.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Producers continued to irrigate wheat in the High Plains. Wheat continued to mature rapidly in the Low Plains due to hot, dry, and windy weather. Freeze damaged wheat and oats across the state were being baled for hay. Harvest has begun in the Edwards Plateau. Harvest of wheat and oats continued in South Texas. Statewide, wheat condition was mostly very poor to poor and oat condition was mostly very poor to fair.

Cotton: In the High Plains, planting was in full swing. Planting continued on irrigated fields in the Northern Low Plains while producers were in need of additional rainfall to begin planting on non-irrigated land. Some cotton was being re-planted in the Blacklands. Producers have begun planting in the Edwards Plateau. Irrigated cotton progressed well in South Texas.

Corn: Corn planting in the Northern High Plains was near completion. Recent rainfall has improved growing conditions in the Blacklands. Irrigated corn in South Central Texas progressed well. Corn tasseling was near completion in South Texas. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Sorghum: Sorghum was being planted in the Northern High Plains. Irrigated sorghum in South Central Texas progressed well. In South Texas, sorghum was browning and in need of rain. Sorghum condition was mostly very poor to fair statewide.

Peanuts: In the Southern High Plains, planting was in full-swing. Planting was ready to begin in South Texas.

Rice: Rice condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Soybeans: Soybean condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Potatoes progressed well in the Southern High Plains. The peach crop suffered from freeze damage in the Cross Timbers. Peaches received cover sprays in North East Texas. Fall planted onions were bulbing in the Trans-Pecos. Cabbage harvest continued this past week in South Texas while producers harvested green beans, potatoes and onions. Watermelon harvest continued in the Lower Valley.

Pecan: Pecans progressed well in the Blacklands.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Supplemental feeding of livestock continued in parts of the state. Fly populations on cattle were increasing in the Cross Timbers and North East Texas. In some areas of the Edwards Plateau, ranchers completed shearing sheep and were preparing to work goats. Range and pasture conditions improved across the state due to the recent rainfall and warmer temperatures. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Crop Progress Table – May 17, 2009

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2009	2008	Average 2004 – 2008
Corn	Planted	94	93	95
	Emerged	75	78	79
	Silked (Tasseled)	6	6	8
Cotton	Planted	37	35	39
	Squaring	2	5	6
Peanuts	Planted	65	67	56
Rice	Planted	97	99	98
	Emerged	94	95	93
Sorghum	Planted	73	69	64
	Headed	5	12	17
Soybeans	Planted	82	92	81
	Emerged	66	76	46
Sunflowers	Planted	13	28	37
Winter Wheat	Headed	90	83	90
	Harvested	3	1	2
Oats	Headed	97	97	99
	Harvested	11	13	7

Crop Condition Table – May 17, 2009

Crop	Percent					Index ^{1/}	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2009	2008
Corn	2	39	41	12	6	65	70
Rice	16	25	53	5	1	73	79
Sorghum	0	19	35	15	31	43	67
Soybeans	5	27	60	8	0	68	78
Wheat	0	11	16	23	50	28	49
Oats	0	10	25	21	44	31	65
Range & Pasture	9	26	25	19	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 – May 17, 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	16	42	12	50	21	1	0	0	72	34	44	85	2	79	50
Short	43	45	44	34	24	13	2	16	19	28	39	15	33	20	30
Adequate	41	13	35	16	48	65	60	76	9	38	17	0	52	1	20
Surplus	0	0	9	0	7	21	38	8	0	0	0	0	13	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 (May 11 – 17)	Month-to-Date Accumulation (May 1 – 17)	Year-to-Date Accumulation (Jan 1 – May 17)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months Percent of Normal (Feb – Apr)
High Plains	0.17	0.40	2.83	19.64	79
Low Rolling Plains	0.77	1.01	4.71	24.51	80
North Central Texas	1.07	1.93	10.37	35.23	97
East Texas	0.70	2.74	15.51	48.08	102
Trans-Pecos	0.12	0.15	1.01	13.19	68
Edwards Plateau	0.37	0.48	5.47	24.73	105
South Central Texas	0.73	0.74	5.00	36.21	57
Upper Coast	0.40	0.47	10.10	50.31	99
South Texas	0.81	0.81	2.05	24.08	28
Lower Valley	0.39	0.39	1.25	25.43	20

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/ftcshare/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

