



Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

Texas Field Office · Post Office Box 70 · Austin, Texas 78767
(512) 916-5581 · (800) 842-1331 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov

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For the week of: February 1 – 7, 2010

Agricultural Summary: Most of the state received 0.5 to 2.0 inches of rainfall while the Trans-Pecos observed 0.10 to 0.25 inches of rain. The wheat crop looked good with minimal insect pressure and some minor leaf rust in the Northern High Plains. Fertilizer application on wheat fields has been postponed until fields dry out due to the additional rain and snow cover in the Cross Timbers. In the Blacklands and South Central, corn farmers were waiting for drier conditions to continue tillage and fertilizing in anticipation of plantings at the end of the month. The recent rains have caused fields to be too wet to plow. In the Trans-Pecos, the final stages of pecan harvest were delayed due to excessive rains. Some pecans are experiencing losses due to embryo rot. Livestock are in fair condition with producers relying heavily on supplemental feeding due to snowpack in the northern areas of the state. Hay supplies were getting short with the wet weather; producers have not been able to allow for winter grazing. Wet conditions have benefited soil moisture and improved struggling crops. Topsoil moisture was mostly adequate to surplus across the state.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: The wheat crop looked good with minimal insect pressure and some minor leaf rust in the Northern High Plains. Fertilizer application on wheat fields has been postponed until fields dry out due to the additional rain and snow cover in the Cross Timbers. Spring planted wheat was being irrigated but there has been no germination yet in the Trans-Pecos. Wheat condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Corn: In the Blacklands and South Central, corn farmers were waiting for drier conditions to continue tillage and fertilizing in anticipation of plantings at the end of the month. The recent rains have caused fields to be too wet to plow.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Fall planted onions were out of dormancy and in the 3-leaf stage in the Trans-Pecos and are doing very well in the Lower Valley. Harvest of market and processing spinach was halted due to excessive moisture but is expected to resume shortly. Potato planting was also halted in South Texas due to weather.

Pecans: In the Trans-Pecos, the final stages of pecan harvest were delayed due to excessive rains. Some pecans are experiencing losses due to embryo rot.

Livestock, Range and Pasture Report

Livestock are in fair condition with producers relying heavily on supplemental feeding due to snowpack in the northern areas of the state. Hay supplies were getting short with the wet weather; producers have not been able to allow for winter grazing. Wet conditions have benefited soil moisture and improved struggling crops. Range has yet to improve from the multiple freezes that have occurred during the past two months. Range and pasture condition was mostly poor to fair.

Top Soil Moisture by District – February 7, 2010

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	11	2	0	3	0	0	0	1	17	5	0	0	2	0	0
Short	30	10	9	13	15	0	1	5	49	19	1	2	4	3	10
Adequate	52	72	64	63	50	16	46	47	34	58	36	43	22	90	90
Surplus	7	16	27	21	35	84	53	47	0	18	63	55	72	7	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.

Crop Progress Table February 7, 2010

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2010	2009	Average 2005 – 2009
Winter Wheat	Emerged	99	98	97
Pecans	Harvested	97	100	99

Crop Condition Table – February 7, 2010

Crop	Percent					Index ^{1/}	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2010	2009
Wheat	6	24	45	19	6	60	38
Range & Pasture	3	23	38	25	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.

Weather Information Table ^{1/}

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions ^{2/}	Previous Week Accumulation (Feb 1 – 7)	Month-to-Date Accumulation (Feb 1 – 7)	Year-to-Date Accumulation (Jan 1 – Feb 7)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months Percent of Normal (Nov - Jan)
High Plains	1.37	1.37	2.66	19.64	121
Low Rolling Plains	1.28	1.28	2.21	24.51	76
North Central Texas	0.93	0.93	3.83	35.23	77
East Texas	1.18	1.18	3.43	48.08	60
Trans-Pecos	0.56	0.56	1.62	13.19	103
Edwards Plateau	1.39	1.39	3.62	24.73	113
South Central Texas	1.42	1.42	4.42	36.21	129
Upper Coast	1.38	1.38	4.54	50.31	94
South Texas	1.37	1.37	3.32	24.08	156
Lower Valley	1.89	1.89	2.61	25.43	170

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

