



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

Texas Field Office · Post Office Box 70, Austin, Texas 78767 · 800-842-1331 · www.nass.usda.gov/tx

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For the week of August 2 – 8, 2010

Agricultural Summary: The Northern Plains received up to 3 inches of rain; Central Texas, the Trans-Pecos, and Lower Valley received up to 1.5 inches of rainfall while the rest of the state observed little to no rainfall. Wheat fields were being plowed and fertilization was occurring in preparation for fall planting in the Northern High Plains, the Cross Timbers, and the Edwards Plateau. Weather in West Texas and the Panhandle has been ideal for cotton growth and development; where squaring and setting bolls was prevalent. In the Northern Low Plains, irrigation of cotton continued where available. Sorghum continued its growth and development in the Northern High Plains. In the Upper Coast, the recent rains have caused some concern about sorghum harvesting. Irrigated corn continued to make good progress in the Northern High Plains; insect problems have remained light with some producers making pesticide applications for mites and southwestern corn borer. Soybeans were benefitting from the additional moisture in the Upper Coast. Rice harvesting activity was high due to the dry, high pressure system in the Upper Coast. Dryland peanuts were showing signs of severe moisture stress in the Southern High Plains while irrigated peanuts looked good in the Northern Low Plains and the Edwards Plateau. Blueberry and blackberry harvest was nearing completion in North East Texas. In the Lower Valley, flood waters along the river were slowly receding. High temperatures this past week added stress to livestock in many areas of the state. Some supplementation was taking place. Topsoil moisture was mostly short to adequate across the state.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Wheat fields were being plowed and fertilization was occurring in preparation for fall planting in the Northern High Plains, the Cross Timbers, and the Edwards Plateau.

Cotton: Weather in West Texas and the Panhandle has been ideal for cotton growth and development; where squaring and setting bolls was prevalent. In the Northern Low Plains, irrigation of cotton continued where available. Aphids have increased in some locations but no treatments have been reported. Cotton harvest was still a few weeks away but maturing fast in South Central Texas. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Corn: Irrigated corn continued to make good progress in the Northern High Plains; insect problems have remained light with some producers making pesticide applications for mites and southwestern corn borer. In the Blacklands, excessive rains then extremely hot conditions during the maturing stage of corn have aflatoxin levels high. Statewide, corn condition was mostly fair to good.

Sorghum: Sorghum continued its growth and development in the Northern High Plains. Weather conditions and occasional rainfall was very beneficial. In the Upper Coast, the recent rains have caused some concern about sorghum harvesting. Sorghum condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Rice: Rice harvesting activity was high due to the dry, high pressure system in the Upper Coast. Producers expect a higher percentage harvested in the coming week. Statewide, rice condition was mostly fair to good.

Soybeans: Soybeans were benefitting from the additional moisture in the Upper Coast. Statewide, soybean condition was mostly fair to good.

Peanuts: Dryland peanuts were showing signs of severe moisture stress in the Southern High Plains while irrigated peanuts looked good in the Northern Low Plains and the Edwards Plateau. Peanuts were progressing very well and were pegging in South Texas. Statewide, peanut condition was mostly good to excellent.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Blueberry and blackberry harvest was nearing completion in North East Texas. In the Lower Valley, flood waters along the river were slowly receding. The hay harvest was good with many producers looking forward to a third cutting if rainfall occurs soon in the Cross Timbers.

Pecans: Pecans trees were looking good as there were numerous nut clusters present on trees in the Edwards Plateau. In South Texas, pecan producers were active in applying additional water to the trees.

Livestock, Range and Pasture Report

High temperatures this past week added stress to livestock in many areas of the state. Some supplementation was taking place. However, livestock was in good to excellent shape and calves were doing well as some producers were weaning calves with some worrying about nutritional problems. Ranchers were beginning their fall sheep and goat shearing. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good.

Top Soil Moisture by District – August 8, 2010

Condition	Percent of Acreage, by District ^{1/}														
	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	3	3	4	4	8	19	12	15	9	7	1	0	2	3	0
Short	46	38	36	43	57	44	49	48	53	38	20	8	9	35	0
Adequate	46	58	56	47	35	36	38	35	33	49	75	86	83	56	55
Surplus	5	1	4	6	0	1	1	2	5	6	4	6	6	6	45

^{1/} 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 – August 8, 2010 *

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2010	2009	Average 2005 – 2009
Corn	Silked	98	97	98
	Dough	66	84	82
	Dent	54	70	67
	Mature	47	58	57
	Harvested	13	44	33
Cotton	Squaring	97	95	93
	Setting Bolls	78	66	64
	Bolls Opening	12	13	14
Peanuts	Pegging	92	93	89
Rice	Headed	87	94	95
	Harvested	12	25	21
Sorghum	Headed	86	77	79
	Coloring	59	66	65
	Mature	51	61	56
	Harvested	32	53	48
Soybeans	Blooming	99	94	96
	Setting Pods	91	88	53
Oats	Harvested	100	100	100

* Visit our web site to view the crop progress regional **maps**, available the following working day of this release at www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Texas/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/maps/.

Crop Condition Table – August 8, 2010

Crop	Percent					Index ^{1/}	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2010	2009
Corn	18	53	19	6	4	81	46
Cotton	22	48	23	5	2	83	61
Peanuts	16	70	14	0	0	89	85
Rice	13	61	23	3	0	84	56
Sorghum	10	58	23	6	3	79	49
Soybeans	11	45	30	11	3	74	59
Range & Pasture	14	41	30	12	3	-	-

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.

Precipitation Table – August 8, 2010 ^{1/}

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions ^{2/}	Inches of Accumulation				Percent
	Previous Week (Aug 2 – 8)	Month-to-Date (Aug 1 - 8)	Year-to-Date (Jan 1 – Aug 8)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months of Normal (May - July)
High Plains	0.81	0.81	16.17	19.64	105
Low Rolling Plains	0.33	0.33	19.31	24.51	119
North Central Texas	0.19	0.19	19.70	35.23	82
East Texas	0.20	0.20	19.31	48.08	74
Trans-Pecos	0.04	0.04	8.53	13.19	120
Edwards Plateau	0.11	0.11	16.07	24.73	94
South Central Texas	0.00	0.00	20.04	36.21	95
Upper Coast	0.13	0.13	28.34	50.31	128
South Texas	0.00	0.00	17.47	24.08	116
Lower Valley	0.00	0.00	21.26	25.43	197

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

