



# Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture

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*Issue: TX-CW3310, August 16, 2010*

*For the week of August 9 – 15, 2010*

**Agricultural Summary:** Most areas of the state observed 0.01 to 0.5 of an inch of rainfall while some areas in the Edwards Plateau and South Texas observed little to no rainfall. In the Northern High Plains, winter wheat was being seeded with ranchers trying to anticipate grazing needs for the season. Cotton was progressing well with many fields reaching maturity, and dryland fields were starting to suffer from the lack of moisture in the High Plains. In South Central Texas, bolls were starting to open, with the earlier planted cotton being defoliated and harvest beginning. Dryland sorghum acres in the western part of the Northern High Plains were progressing well with the recent rains. In South Central Texas, the additional moisture from the Gulf caused grain sorghum to start sprouting but has been harvested with minimal loss. Hot dry weather in the Northern High Plains has hurt the corn crop, where some of the corn will be harvested for silage. In the Blacklands, there were many corn fields with high levels of aflatoxin. Harvest of early maturing soybeans has started in the Blacklands. Rice harvest continued in South Central Texas. Peanuts are in the pegging stage and development is good in South Texas. Commercial vegetable production has slowed greatly with the warmer weather in North East Texas. Additional moisture is needed for hay production to provide growth for another cutting across the state. The extreme heat has been very hard on Texas livestock but most are in fair to good condition. Topsoil moisture was mostly short to adequate across the state.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** In the Northern High Plains, winter wheat was being seeded with ranchers trying to anticipate grazing needs for the season. Wheat producers were beginning to get the fields ready for fall plantings in the Southern Low Plains.

**Cotton:** Cotton was progressing well with many fields reaching maturity, and dryland fields were starting to suffer from the lack of moisture in the High Plains. Cotton was producing squares due to moisture and heat stress in the Low plains. In South Central Texas, bolls were starting to open, with the earlier planted cotton being defoliated and harvest beginning. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Corn:** Hot dry weather in the Northern High Plains has hurt the corn crop, where some of the corn will be harvested for silage. In the Blacklands, there were many corn fields showing high levels of aflatoxin. Harvest was underway and has continued at a steady pace in South Texas. Statewide, corn condition was mostly good to excellent.

**Sorghum:** Dryland sorghum acres in the western part of the Northern High Plains were progressing well with the recent rains. In South Central Texas, the additional moisture from the Gulf caused grain sorghum to start sprouting but has been harvested with minimal loss. Extremely hot and dry conditions in South Texas have been favorable for sorghum drying. Sorghum condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Rice:** Rice harvest continued in South Central Texas. Statewide, rice condition was mostly fair to good.

**Soybeans:** Harvest of early maturing soybeans has started in the Blacklands. Statewide, soybean condition was mostly fair to good.

**Peanuts:** High temperatures were negatively affecting peanuts in the Northern Low Plains, where irrigation was being heavily applied. Peanuts are in the pegging stage and development is good in South Texas. Statewide, peanut condition was mostly good to excellent.

**Sunflowers:** Sunflower harvest has continued at a steady pace in South Texas.

### Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Commercial vegetable production has slowed greatly with the warmer weather in North East Texas. Additional moisture is needed for hay production to provide growth for another cutting across the state.

**Pecans:** Many pecans trees were dropping nuts because of the hot weather in the Cross Timbers. In the Trans-Pecos, pecan nut growing at water stage and the drop was presently low.

### Livestock, Range and Pasture Report

The extreme heat has been very hard on Texas livestock but most are in fair to good condition. Grasshoppers and armyworms continue to eat away pastures with reports of a few cattle losses from prussic acid poisoning. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good.

Top Soil Moisture by District – August 15, 2010

Condition	Percent of Acreage, by District <sup>1/</sup>														
	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	4	2	12	3	12	28	28	27	31	16	1	3	8	13	0
Short	48	51	49	41	69	45	54	57	33	48	36	25	21	34	0
Adequate	45	46	36	50	19	27	18	15	32	36	55	69	66	53	75
Surplus	3	1	3	6	0	0	0	1	4	0	8	3	5	0	25

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 15, 2010 \***

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2010	2009	Average 2005 – 2009
Corn	Silked	99	98	99
	Dough	86	87	88
	Dent	68	72	73
	Mature	55	59	61
	Harvested	31	52	43
Cotton	Squaring	98	98	96
	Setting Bolls	87	76	75
	Bolls Opening	13	14	15
Peanuts	Pegging	99	97	93
Rice	Headed	90	95	97
	Harvested	34	48	45
Sorghum	Headed	89	84	83
	Coloring	60	67	66
	Mature	52	62	58
	Harvested	36	57	51
Soybeans	Blooming	100	95	98
	Setting Pods	98	91	57
	Dropping Leaves	32	14	11
Sunflowers	Harvested	10	1	1

\* 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/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Texas/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/maps/).

**Crop Condition Table – August 15, 2010**

Crop	Percent					Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2010	2009
Corn	19	52	19	6	4	81	54
Cotton	19	49	25	5	2	81	63
Peanuts	33	59	8	0	0	94	86
Rice	15	54	29	1	1	83	64
Sorghum	11	55	25	5	4	78	49
Soybeans	9	45	30	12	4	72	-
Range & Pasture	10	34	36	15	5	-	-

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 15, 2010 <sup>1/</sup>

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions <sup>2/</sup>	Inches of Accumulation				Percent
	Previous Week (Aug 9 – 15)	Month-to-Date (Aug 1 - 15)	Year-to-Date (Jan 1 – Aug 15)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months of Normal (May - July)
High Plains	0.36	1.17	16.53	19.64	105
Low Rolling Plains	0.04	0.37	19.35	24.51	119
North Central Texas	0.10	0.29	19.80	35.23	82
East Texas	0.04	0.24	19.35	48.08	74
Trans-Pecos	0.07	0.11	8.60	13.19	120
Edwards Plateau	0.00	0.11	16.07	24.73	94
South Central Texas	0.05	0.05	20.09	36.21	95
Upper Coast	0.31	0.44	28.65	50.31	128
South Texas	0.17	0.17	17.64	24.08	116
Lower Valley	0.08	0.08	21.34	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](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/rfcshare/precip_analysis_new.php) and [www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html](http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html)

**Cooperating Agencies:**

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

