



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](http://www.nass.usda.gov/tx)

*Issue: TX-CW3410, August 23, 2010*

*For the week of August 16 – 22, 2010*

**Agricultural Summary:** Most areas of the state observed 0.01 to 1.5 inches of rainfall while South Texas observed little to no rainfall. In the Northern High Plains, land preparation for fall wheat seeding was taking place until the rains fell, and will continue once fields dry. In the Northern High Plains, cotton is progressing well. The heat units continued to mature the crop and boll setting progressed. The extremely hot temperatures in South Central Texas have allowed the crop to open bolls and defoliation is continuing. In South Texas, the cotton crop is in the open boll stage and is a couple weeks from harvest. Grain sorghum is progressing well with many fields past bloom and earlier planted fields beginning to color in the Northern High Plains. Corn condition was excellent in the Northern High Plains with many fields in dent moving rapidly toward maturity. Dryland corn was struggling in a few areas of the district that have not received rains in a timely fashion. Soybeans were starting to drop leaves in the Blacklands, with harvest expected to begin shortly. However, extremely hot temperatures have negatively affected soybean condition. In South Central Texas, the lack of rainfall allowed many producers to harvest rice. In South Texas, heavy irrigation allowed peanuts to continually progress. The hot, dry weather conditions brought warm season vegetable progress to a halt in North East Texas. Hay was being cut and baled, as weather permitted. Recent heat has been hard on livestock but is normal for the season in Texas. Cattlemen are beginning supplemental feeding of livestock. Topsoil moisture was mostly short to adequate across the state.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** In the Northern High Plains, land preparation for fall wheat seeding was taking place until the rains fell, and will continue once fields dry. Fields were being prepared and cleared of weeds before the planting of winter wheat in the Northern Low Plains. The Cross Timbers received spotty rain, allowing some producers to prepare their land for wheat plantings while others had to wait.

**Cotton:** In the Northern High Plains, cotton is progressing well. The heat units continued to mature the crop and boll setting progressed. Cotton fields that had good drainage during the heavy rains last month in the Northern Low Plains were progressing well. The extremely hot temperatures in South Central Texas have allowed the crop to open bolls and defoliation is continuing. In South Texas, the cotton crop is in the open boll stage and is a couple weeks from harvest. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Corn:** Corn condition was excellent in the Northern High Plains with many fields in dent moving rapidly toward maturity. Dryland corn was struggling in a few areas of the district that have not received rains in a timely fashion. Spider mites were also present in corn and spraying was being applied. In the Blacklands, corn harvest continued. Producers were concerned with high aflatoxin levels. The past couple of weeks of extreme temperatures have taken a toll on corn there. Statewide, corn condition was mostly good to excellent.

**Sorghum:** Grain sorghum is progressing well with many fields past bloom and earlier planted fields beginning to color in the Northern High Plains. Sorghum was maturing well with harvest expected to be completed soon in the Coastal Bend and South Texas. Sorghum condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

**Rice:** In South Central Texas, the lack of rainfall allowed many producers to harvest rice. Statewide, rice condition was mostly fair to good.

**Soybeans:** Soybeans were starting to drop leaves in the Blacklands, with harvest expected to begin shortly. However, extremely hot temperatures have negatively affected soybean condition. Producers along the Upper Coast continued to harvest soybeans. Statewide, soybean condition was mostly fair to good.

**Peanuts:** Topsoil remains wet in the Southern High Plains; however, producers continued supplemental irrigation on peanuts. Warm temperatures were still needed for continued progress. Minimal pest problems were reported. In South Texas, heavy irrigation allowed peanuts to continually progress. Statewide, peanut condition was mostly good to excellent.

**Sunflowers:** Sunflowers seemed to be in good condition with minimal pest reports in the Southern High Plains. Producers were encouraged to continue pest monitoring and weed management. In the Coastal Bend, harvest continued. However, activities have been delayed in some cases due to scattered rainfall during the week.

### **Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report**

The hot, dry weather conditions brought warm season vegetable progress to a halt in North East Texas. Whiteflies were present in some summer vegetable fields in South Texas. Hay was being cut and baled, as weather permitted. Soil moisture was diminishing and hay needs a good rain but most hay harvesting is complete at this time across the state.

**Pecans:** Pecans were progressing well and nut loads were very good and exceptional in the Blacklands and Trans-Pecos. Some problems were occurring with scab and aphids on pecans in South Central Texas.

## Livestock, Range and Pasture Report

Recent heat has been hard on livestock but is normal for the season in Texas. Cattlemen are beginning supplemental feeding of livestock. Some producers are trimming herd size for the winter because of low supplies of hay. Ranchers were busy with fall sheep and goat shearing. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good.

Top Soil Moisture by District – August 22, 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	5	2	4	4	16	29	31	26	37	22	4	5	6	15	0
Short	36	57	50	43	66	54	52	53	42	48	43	34	37	40	0
Adequate	58	41	46	45	18	17	17	21	21	30	48	60	55	45	100
Surplus	1	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	2	0	0

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 22, 2010 \*

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2010	2009	Average 2005 – 2009
Corn	Silked	100	100	100
	Dough	87	96	95
	Dent	69	80	82
	Mature	56	68	65
	Harvested	36	63	53
Cotton	Squaring	99	98	98
	Setting Bolls	91	84	84
	Bolls Opening	14	15	17
	Harvested	5	7	8
Peanuts	Pegging	100	99	97
Rice	Headed	91	96	98
	Harvested	58	60	64
Sorghum	Headed	93	89	87
	Coloring	70	68	68
	Mature	54	63	59
	Harvested	41	60	84
Soybeans	Setting Pods	99	94	68
	Dropping Leaves	51	40	24
Sunflowers	Harvested	16	4	5

\* 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 22, 2010**

Crop	Percent					Index <sup>1/</sup>	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2010	2009
Corn	20	52	14	7	7	79	54
Cotton	19	48	26	5	2	81	62
Peanuts	26	67	7	0	0	93	85
Rice	12	48	36	3	1	79	64
Sorghum	10	56	25	6	3	78	49
Soybeans	9	37	35	16	3	68	53
Range & Pasture	7	32	37	18	6	-	-

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 22, 2010 <sup>1/</sup>**

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions <sup>2/</sup>	Inches of Accumulation				Percent
	Previous Week (Aug 16 – 22)	Month-to-Date (Aug 1 - 22)	Year-to-Date (Jan 1 – Aug 22)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months of Normal (May - July)
High Plains	0.44	1.61	16.97	19.64	105
Low Rolling Plains	0.65	1.02	20.00	24.51	119
North Central Texas	0.34	0.63	20.14	35.23	82
East Texas	0.39	0.63	19.74	48.08	74
Trans-Pecos	0.41	0.52	9.01	13.19	120
Edwards Plateau	0.32	0.43	16.39	24.73	94
South Central Texas	0.11	0.16	20.20	36.21	95
Upper Coast	0.44	0.88	29.09	50.31	128
South Texas	0.10	0.27	17.74	24.08	116
Lower Valley	0.00	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

