

Texas Crop Weather Report

Agricultural Summary
The heat was in full force early in the week as temperatures surpassed the century mark in numerous locations of the state.
By late week, severe weather had replaced the heat across areas of the Blacklands, Edwards Plateau, Upper Coast, Central and East Texas.
High winds and hail caused significant property and crop damage in the hardest hit locations.

Welcomed rainfall amounts ranging from 1/2 to almost three inches occurred in these regions.
Other areas that experienced precipitation were the Low Rolling Plains and western portions of South Texas.
Generally these regions reported anywhere from 1/2 to one inch accumulations with isolated locations recording up to three inches.
Not much more than trace amounts

of moisture were realized on the Panhandle and Trans Pecos.
No rain occurred in the Rio Grande Valley or Coastal Bend. For those areas of the state that missed the rain, the extreme heat did further damage to already drought stressed fields.
Hail and winds damaged small grain crops and emerging summer crops on the Blacklands.
The increased precipitation was very helpful to pasture growth as supplemental feeding decreased in some locations.
Despite the moisture that was received, the entire state remained in a drought and a pattern of increased rainfall would have to be established for conditions to improve.

A few fields on the Blacklands were lost to hail and will have to be replanted.
Dryland fields on the Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Valley continued to suffer from drought and relief would be needed soon in order to make a decent crop. Irrigation was heavy in South Texas where available.
Corn: Growers continued planting on the Panhandle. There were many fields on the Blacklands that were heavily damaged by hail and wind.
Some of them may recover but others will have to be disastered. Plants were wilted in the 100 degree heat early in the week.

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Field Crops Report
Small Grains: Irrigation continued in wheat fields on the Panhandle with a good amount being harvested for silage.
Very little dryland wheat remained in the region. Fields began to head as far north as the South Plains and early grain harvest began in southern districts.
There were reports of hail damage and lodging in fields on the Blacklands.
Producers continued to cut wheat for hay in many areas. Statewide, wheat condition was mostly rated very poor to poor. Oats condition statewide was mostly rated very poor to poor.
Cotton: Planting dates were quickly approaching on the South Plains as producers were completing their preparations. Rain showers were very well received across the region.

More rain was needed in all areas. The condition was mostly rated very poor to fair statewide.
Rice: Rice fields continued to develop. The increased rainfall should help replenish water lost to evaporation. The condition of rice was mostly rated fair to good statewide.
Soybeans: Planting continued on the Blacklands and Upper Coast. Rain was helpful where received but many emerged fields were wilting in the afternoon sun.
More moisture will be needed. Statewide, the condition was mostly rated fair to good.
Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report
In the Rio Grande Valley, onion harvest was wrapping up. Sugarcane and Valencia orange harvest continued under hot and dry conditions.
In the San Antonio-Winter Garden, producers began digging potatoes. Insect problems were reported in cabbage fields.
Pecans were leafing out in many areas and growers were keeping an eye on possible pecan nut casebearer problems. Irrigation was ongoing.
Livestock, Pasture and Range Report
Pastures should respond well with the increased moisture in many locations.
The weed population was expected to increase in drier locations as native grasses will need more rain to sustain growth.
Supplemental feeding was slowing down for the most part but was still at a much higher rate than normal for this time of year.
Cattle were in decent shape in most regions except South Texas, where resources such as feed and water were woefully short at most ranches and grazing remained inadequate.
Hay continued to be trucked in from other parts of the country at a premium price.
Herd liquidation continued. Sheep and angora goat shearing was ongoing. Producers were shipping lambs.



Chamber Gets Facelift

The Eagle Chamber of Commerce scheduled two weekends for work on the soon-to-be new home of the chamber located on Main St. If you didn't get a chance to help out this week don't feel bad they have one slated for this weekend as well. So put on your working duds and get to it. Pictured in the photos are just a few of those who made themselves available to take on the task at hand. In the bottom photo are Tom Gold and Pat Gold; and pictured above are Tom Kelley is Robert Lujan.



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USDA Agricultural Yield Survey Listed

The Agricultural Yield Survey is a primary tool used by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) to measure crop production throughout the growing season.

- * Internet - A new, secure electronic data reporting (EDR) option is the timeliest, most cost-effective method.
- * Personal interviews - An interview with a NASS representative can be requested by the respondent.
- How Is This Information Used? Data from the Agricultural Yield Survey is a critical component of NASS's Crop Production report, which provides a monthly measure of the current state of U.S. agricultural production.
- The survey enables NASS to track and report on any changes that might occur due to weather, pests, disease and other factors.
- All sectors of the U.S. agricultural industry - producers, buyers, suppliers, policymakers and others - rely on crop production estimates to make sound business decisions. For example:
 - * The information can help producers develop marketing plans for their operations, determining what to produce and how and when to sell it.
 - * The information enables the industry to forecast transportation and storage requirements and evaluate export potential.
 - * USDA agencies and State Departments of Agriculture use the information to determine crop insurance and disaster aid payments along with other program benefits.

Data are collected each month from producers of:

- * Small grains (May-August) - winter wheat
- * Hay (August-October) - alfalfa, other hay
- * Row crops (August-November) - corn, cotton, dry edible beans, peanuts, rice soybeans, sorghum

How Are the Data Collected?

The Agricultural Yield Survey is conducted in all states except Alaska and Hawaii.

Data are gathered from a selected sample of producers who grow at least one of the crops of interest.

The first month, respondents provide information on acres planted, acreage for harvest and expected yield per acre.

In the following months, the same operators update their expected yield per acre, enabling NASS to track any production changes that might result from changing growing conditions.

Data collection methods include:

- * Telephone - Computer-assisted telephone interviewing (or CATI) is the primary method.
- * Mail - Participants fill out and mail back the questionnaire that was mailed to them.