

Texas Crop Weather Report

Agricultural Summary
Virtually all of the state received at least a quarter-inch of rainfall.
Much of the Plains recorded one to two inches, and a band of showers in the Southern Plains left over four inches.
Temperatures fell to the upper 30s in the Northern High Plains.
Areas of the Upper Coast recorded over four inches of rainfall.
One to two inches fell in parts of the Trans-Pecos, Edwards Plateau, and South Texas, a large area of Central and East Texas, and the Lower Valley.
Small grains and pastures improved in areas that received rain.
However, the rain delayed harvest and other field work in the High Plains and Upper Coast.
Hail in the western Trans-Pecos heavily damaged several thousand acres of pecans and cotton.
Cattle producers in South East and South Central areas planted winter pastures.
Field Crops Report
Small Grains: Winter wheat improved under ideal, rainy, conditions in the Plains.
Producers in the Cross Timbers prepared fields and planted small grains.

Rain saved oat and wheat fields that had germinated in the Blacklands, but army worms did substantial damage to some oat fields in that area.
Producers planted small grains in the South East, Edwards Plateau, and South Central Texas.
Cotton: Producers applied harvest aids in the Plains so they could harvest as soon as their fields dried out.
Some producers in the Southern High Plains were able to get into their fields and strip cotton.
The first boll set was already open and ready for harvest in El Paso County, but a second flush of growth from recent rains was expected to reduce yields.
Hail in that area damaged some acreage. Producers harvested in the northern Edwards Plateau. Statewide, cotton condition was mostly fair to poor.
Corn: Harvest for grain and silage came to a standstill in the Northern High Plains due to the rain.
Sorghum: As with other row crops in the Northern High Plains, harvest was delayed by the week's rain.
The cool, wet weather also delayed maturity.
Growers in the Coastal Bend harvested fields that had been

too wet to harvest in previous weeks.
Peanuts: Despite the rainy conditions in the Southern High Plains, some producers dug and threshed peanuts.
Growers also dug peanuts in South Texas. Peanut condition statewide was mostly good to fair.
Soybeans: Producers continued to harvest in the Coastal Bend.
Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report
Pumpkin harvest was winding down in the Northern High Plains.
Watermelon harvest slowed and was nearly complete in the Southern High Plains.
Growers continued to plant and irrigate fall onions in the Trans-Pecos.
Producers in the San Antonio-Winter Garden planted onions, cabbage, and spinach.
Pecans: Producers harvested pecans in the Cross Timbers, Edwards Plateau, South Central, and South.
Nuts approached maturity in the Trans-Pecos, where a hail storm heavily damaged over 2,000 acres.
Livestock, Pasture and Range Report
Winter grasses benefited from the moist conditions in the Low Plains, where producers cut Sudan hay that came back after August's rains.
Pasture conditions improved in some areas of the Cross Timbers, but more rain was needed to fill stock tanks.
Growers in the Cross Timbers cut hay and gave supplemental feed to cattle, but winter supplies of hay were below normal.
Despite the recent rains, areas of the North East were in need of more moisture for growers to consider planting winter pastures, and hay supplies remained low.
Ranchers in the North East were completing the weaning of the calf crop, and sale barns in that area were seeing their fall runs of cattle.
Pastures improved in the South East, South Central, South, and Lower Valley because of recent precipitation.
Some stocker cattle were coming into the Trans-Pecos, where weaning weights were reported to be very good.



The home of Lois and Martin Herman was recognized on Saturday, Oct. 24 by the Eagle Lake Preservation Alliance with a historical plaque. The home belonged to G.E. Thomas and is located on FM 2764. Pictured from left to right are Mary Ann Kaluza, Sylvia Contreras, Lois Herman, Martin Herman and in front, Dorothy Kohleffel and Pat Matula.

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News about the LCRA-SAWS Water Project

Dear Elected Officials, Stakeholders, Residents and Members of the Public:

Starting next week, a series of reports about the proposed LCRA-SAWS Water Project will appear in your local newspaper. The purpose of the series is to keep you informed about the project, as directed by the LCRA Board of Directors.

The reports will provide facts about water planning, our basin's future water shortages, the need for a project to address these shortages, and the status of a six-year study period to understand the project's technical, financial and environmental aspects.

Our goal in publishing these reports is to provide correct, factual information for public discussion and consideration by city councils, county commissioners courts and other public bodies.

In a nutshell, the facts are these:

- Future water shortages are a reality for the lower Colorado River basin and for the San Antonio area.
- In 2000, the San Antonio region identified ways to use groundwater and Colorado River water from our basin to meet the region's future shortages.
- The regional planning group for our basin had three choices: do nothing to respond to the San Antonio region; fight a long, costly battle over the water; or work with San Antonio to develop a solution that would meet our needs and protect our basin's interests.
- The proposal is for San Antonio to pay the cost of conserving and developing water in our basin. In return, San Antonio would get to use some of the water. This water would revert back to our basin within 80 years at the most after the project begins.
- The Texas Legislature approved the proposal but set specific protections for the basin that must be met before the project can go forward.

You can learn more about the project in the upcoming reports. I hope you will find them to be informative, and I encourage you to send us your questions and comments. Whether the project moves forward depends on the results of an extensive study and permitting period, during which there will continue to be many opportunities for public input.

Thank you for your continuing interest and involvement as we study this important proposal. The future of our basin's water supply may very well depend on it.

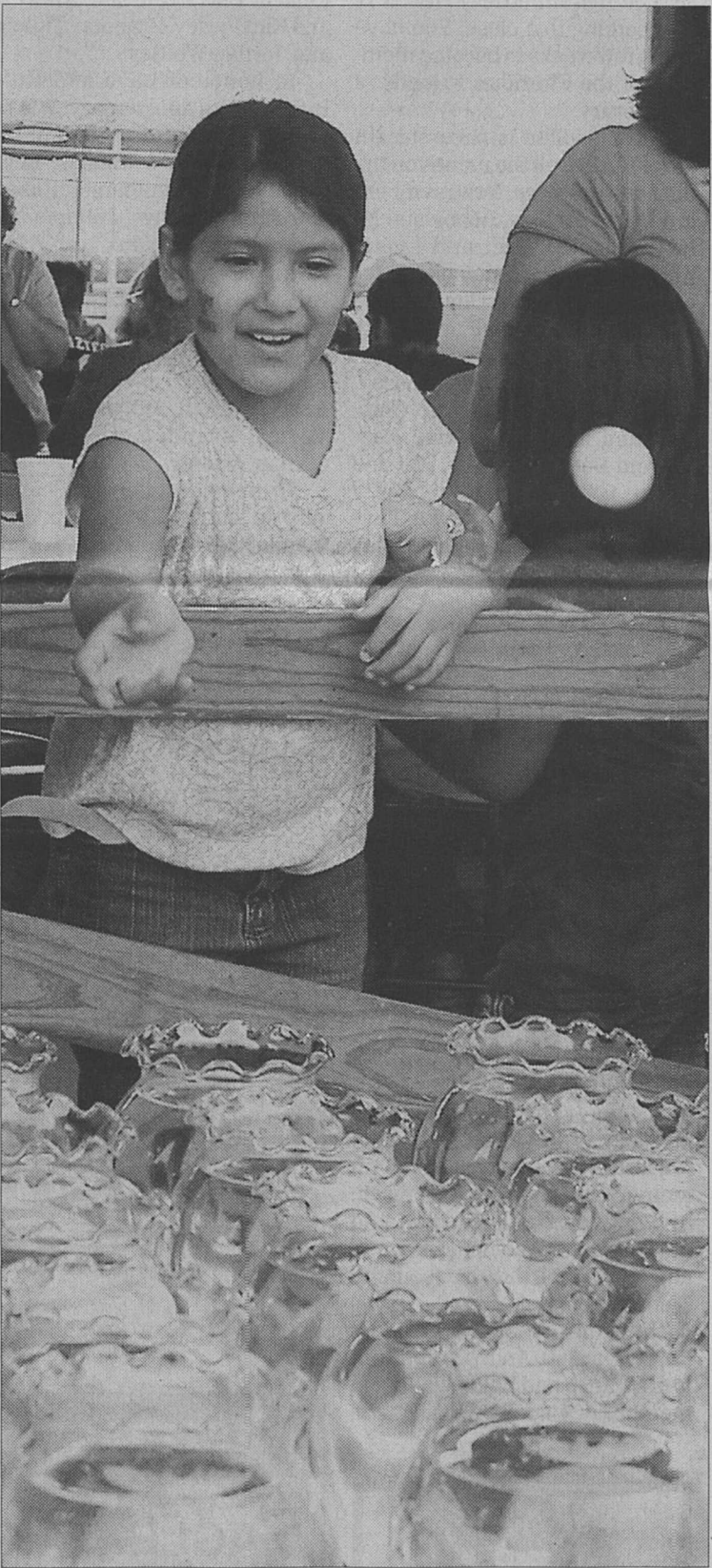
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General Manager

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Equip Program Sign-Ups Going On Now

The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Texas has set a Dec. 15, 2006, sign-up deadline for the 2007 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).
"The funds allocated for EQIP will help farmers and ranchers improve natural resources on private working lands in Texas," said Dr. Larry Butler, NRCS state conservationist for Texas.
"The program provides cost-share and incentives payments to producers applying approved conservation measures that help solve natural resource problems."
The 2007 statewide resource concerns are animal waste, invasive species, plant condition, water quality, water quantity, and wildlife emphasis areas.
Immediately following the end of the sign-up period, all applications will be ranked.
Producers with an approved application will work with an NRCS conservation planner to develop a contract and a plan and will begin implementing conservation practices next spring.
Local NRCS field offices have complete details for their county and the applicable state concerns. Additional information, including ranking criteria, eligible practices, and cost-share rates for all programs, can also be found on the Texas NRCS Web Site at www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/programs.



Marisol Mendoza enjoys the ball toss game at the Parish of the Nativity Fall Festival last weekend.

Union Pacific Urges Hunters To Stay Off Tracks

Union Pacific Railroad urges hunters to avoid the railroad's right of way this hunting season.
"So far this year, 102 people have died while trespassing on railroad property," said Dennis Jensen, chief of police for Union Pacific. "As hunters head outdoors this year, we want to remind them that walking along the railroad's right of way is extremely dangerous because you never know when a train will come along. It is also against the law."
Trespassers on the railroad's right of way are subject to arrest for violating trespassing laws and can face jail time and a fine. "Safety is a priority. We issue citations and/or arrest trespassers because we are trying to protect people from getting hurt or killed," Jensen said.
To date, 25,752 people have been caught trespassing on railroad property and 9,686 have

either been arrested or issued a citation.
About Union Pacific
Union Pacific Corporation owns one of America's leading transportation companies. Its principal operating company, Union Pacific Railroad, links 23 states in the western two-thirds of the country and serves the fastest-growing U.S. population centers. Union Pacific's diversified business mix includes Agricultural Products, Automotive, Chemicals, Energy, Industrial Products and Intermodal. The railroad offers competitive long-haul routes from all major West Coast and Gulf Coast ports to eastern gateways.
Union Pacific connects with Canada's rail systems and is the only railroad serving all six major gateways to Mexico, making it North America's premier rail franchise.

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STEERS			
200-300 lbs	#1 160-185	#2 133-156	
300-400 lbs	146-175	127-145	
400-500 lbs	126-146	110-123	
500-600 lbs	111-126	98-110	
600-700 lbs	101-110	88-98	
700-800 lbs	94-104	86-92	
HEIFERS			
200-300 lbs	#1 143-163	#2 127-139	
300-400 lbs	123-143	110-120	
400-500 lbs	114-124	103-111	
500-600 lbs	98-108	90-97	
600-700 lbs	92-102	82-91	
700-800 lbs	85-95	78-84	
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