

Texas Crop Weather Report

Following is the Crop Outlook for the week of: February 26 - March 4, 2007.

Agricultural Summary

Conditions remained mostly mild and dry across the state throughout the week, as limited areas only received traces of rainfall.

Sunny conditions were good for crop development, yet some

producers were waiting for rain before continuing field activities.

Over the last two weeks, there have been numerous reports of high winds across the state.

Topsoil moisture continued to decline due to high winds, and some producers continued to re-prepare fields due to the effects of these high winds.

Some producers reported

small improvements in range and pastures due to warmer temperatures, but supplemental feeding still continued.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Wheat conditions improved in the Northern High Plains, and some producers are even considering pulling cattle off fields early in order to increase yield potential.

Also in the Northern High Plains, producers applied top dressing fertilizers and insecticides to winter wheat.

Wheat progressed in the Southern High Plains due to warmer temperatures.

Producers in the Low Plains were less fortunate as high winds were detrimental to wheat crops.

Rainfall is still needed for

wheat pastures in the Blacklands.

Statewide, wheat condition was mostly fair to good while oat condition was mostly fair to poor.

Cotton: Producers in the Northern Low Plains continued land preparations for planting.

Corn: Some producers in the Blacklands have begun planting with others anticipating to begin next week.

Some producers in South Central Texas continued to plant corn, but many are still waiting due to minimal rainfall.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Harvest of cabbage and spinach continued in the Edwards

Plateau.

In South Texas, warmer temperatures have provided good growing conditions for cabbage and spinach fields that continued to be harvested.

Preparations for onion harvest began in the Lower Valley.

Pecans: Pecan trees remained dormant in the Trans-Pecos area.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Supplemental feeding continued across most areas of the state with hay in short supply.

Some producers in the Northern High Plains moved cattle off wheat fields with the anticipation of saving some wheat for grain, silage, or haying purposes.

Stock tanks for livestock water were low in the Northern Low Plains.

Lice infestation was a problem in the Cross Timbers.

Some pastures in the Blacklands began to "green-up," but increased moisture is still needed.

Hard rains are still needed in both the Cross Timbers and Blacklands in order to fill stock tanks.

Producers in North East Texas continued to experience pasture growth due to warmer temperatures.

Pasture growth was slowed in South Central Texas due to the combination of dry weather and a short freeze.

Statewide, range and pasture condition was mostly fair to poor.



Texas Egg Production Down On Year

January 2007 egg production in Texas totaled 423 million eggs, down slightly from January 2006 and down 2 percent from December 2006, according to the monthly report released by the Texas Field Office.

The number of layers during January averaged 19 million, up 2 percent from last year and up 1 percent from December 2006.

Egg production per 100 layers averaged 2,216 eggs, down 2 percent from last year and down 3 percent from last month.

Texas hatchery production of broiler-type chicks totaled 52.9 million, down 7 percent from last year.

United States egg production totaled 7.64 billion eggs during January 2007, down 1 percent from a year ago.

Production included 6.54 billion table eggs, 1.03 billion broiler-type hatching eggs and 67 million egg-type hatching eggs.

Nationally, the total number of layers averaged 347 million during January 2007, down 1 percent from a year ago.

Production per 100 layers was 2,200 eggs, down slightly from January 2006.

The U.S. monthly hatch of egg-type chicks totaled 36.9 million, up 4 percent from January 2006.

The hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 797 million, was down 1 percent from January of last year.

The leading U.S. breeders placed 7.02 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during January 2007, up 3 percent from January 2006.



Eagle Lake Elementary School Fourth Graders Jose Guzman, Lucero Marquez, Mariah Sosa, and Dustin Knesek are testing to see if a layer of fat can help keep your hand warm in ice cold water. Students are learning about Heat this week in their Science Class.

Texas Oil And Gas Statistics

The Texas average rig count as of Feb. 16 was 801, representing about 46 percent of all active land rigs in the United States, according to the Texas Railroad Commission.

In the last 12 months, total Texas reported production was 342 million barrels of oil and 6.1 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.

Texas natural gas production represents approximately 29 percent of total U.S. natural gas demand.

The Texas Railroad Commission's estimated final production for December 2006 is 28,387,467 barrels of crude oil and 477,813,342 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) of gas well gas.

The Commission derives final production numbers by multiplying the preliminary December 2006 production totals of 26,790,739 barrels of crude oil and 413,404,864 Mcf of gas well gas by a production adjustment factor of 1.0596 for crude oil and 1.1558 for gas well gas.

(These production totals do not include casinghead gas or condensate.)

Texas natural gas storage reported by the Commission for January 2007 is 311,741,855 Mcf compared to 280,470,199 Mcf in January 2006.

The February 2007 gas storage

estimate is 279,086,243 Mcf.

The Texas Railroad Commission's Oil and Gas Division set initial March 2007 natural gas production allowables for prorate fields in the state to meet market demand of 22,537,413 Mcf (thousand cubic feet).

In setting the initial March

2007 allowables, the Commission used historical production figures from previous months, producers' demand forecasts for the coming month, and adjusted the figures based on well capability.

These initial allowables will be adjusted after actual production for March 2007 is reported.

Honey Production Down Slightly For Year

Texas beekeepers produced 5.7 million pounds of honey during 2006, down 4 percent from 2005.

According to the annual report released by the Texas Field Office, the total value of Texas honey production was \$5.0 million, down 4 percent from the previous year.

Producers received an average of 87 cents per pound for honey, unchanged from 2005.

The total number of bee colonies producing honey in Texas, at 82,000, was down 2 percent from a year ago; production per colony averaged 70 pounds, compared with 71 pounds a year ago.

Nationally, honey production totaled 155 million pounds, down 11 percent from 2005. During 2006 there were 2.39 million colonies producing honey, down 1 percent

from 2005. Production per colony averaged 64.7 pounds, compared with 72.4 pounds a year ago.

Total value of United States honey production was \$161.3 million, a 1 percent increase from 2005.

The average value was 104.2 cents per pound.

North Dakota was the leading honey producing state in 2006 with 25.9 million pounds. California came in second with 19.8 million pounds followed by Florida with 13.8 million pounds and South Dakota with 10.6 million pounds. Texas ranked eighth in honey production.

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News From The Courthouse

One Suit Filed In District Court

One suit was filed in Colorado County District Court in the past week.

On March 2, EMC Mortgage filed a suit seeking foreclosure on a home equity loan in a dispute with Peggy Lynn Hauser and Kelly Denise Hauser.

Divorces Filed

Chrystal Caldwell Langston, and Cavin Rian Langston, March 2.

Amanda Price and Jeremy Nathaniel Price, March 2.

Dorothy Hurd and Ralph Hurd, March 5.

Danette Rene Huvar and Phillip Jon Huvar, March 5.

Carolyn Delores Armstrong and Alton Armstrong, March 6.

Marriage Licenses

Dustin Lance Winter and Jamie Lynn Wysocki, Feb. 2.

Francisco Robert Cabrera-Moreno and Nancy Martha Holguin, Feb. 6.

Cody Wayne Thompson and Shelley Jo Boenisch, Feb. 12.

Jonathon Frank Wick and Kelly Marie McCord, Feb. 15.