

Texas Wheat PRODUCERS NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2019



TEXAS WHEAT HARVEST SURPASSES 2018 CROP BY 38 PERCENT

Texas wheat harvest was considered 100% complete during the week of July 14. The crop was 18% excellent, 41% good, 38% fair, 2% poor and 1% very poor in the final NASS crop progress report. The July 2019 Crop Production report left planted acres unchanged at 4.5 million acres.

Crop conditions were varied across the state. Wheat in the Coastal Bend and South Texas had good protein at 13-15% and test weights over 58 pounds. In the Blacklands, protein and yields were widespread, averaging about 11% and 50 bushels per acre, respectively. Yields averaged about 30 bushels per acre in the Rolling Plains and test weights were average. The South Plains had a variety of yields, ranging from the teens to well over 80 bushels per acre. There were pockets of protein, but for the most part, it stayed close to 11%. Test weights were good. In the Panhandle, yields were extremely high, with some producers reporting well over 100 bushels per acre and averaging 40 bushels per acre. Because of moisture throughout planting and growing stages, protein stayed below 12%. Test weights were varied but good, with many samples of 61 pounds and over.

Average statewide protein was estimated at 11.2% and test weight was 60.6 pounds per bushel. According to NASS, statewide yield was 35 bushels per acre, the highest yield in 12 years. The highest yield on record for Texas wheat was 37 bushels per acre in 2007.

The August 2019 Crop Production report showed Texas wheat production at 77 million bushels, up 38% from 2018. Acres harvested for grain increased 26% over last year at 2.2 million acres.

At the end of August 2019, 22% of the state was in a drought, with much of the driest conditions located in the southern Panhandle, South Plains, Rolling Plains and Edwards Plateau.

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 20

Amarillo Tri-State Fair
Bread Contest

September 23

Southwest Council of
Agribusiness Annual
Meeting

October 8-9

Randall County
Ag Day

November 2-6

Wheat Industry Fall
Conference

USDA ANNOUNCES ASSISTANCE PACKAGE

In response to trade damage from retaliation and trade disruption, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced the development of a support package for farmers in 2018. The package included three programs with the bulk of the funds paid out in direct payments to farmers under the Market Facilitation Program.

The first iteration of the MFP was paid out in two installments and offered wheat producers \$0.14 per bushel based on USDA's estimate of trade impact for the commodity. In contrast to the 2018 program, the second iteration of MFP, first announced in May, provides payments on eligible planted acres at established county rates ranging from \$15 to \$150 per acre. Payment-eligible planted acres cannot exceed total 2018 plantings, except in the case of exceptions like adding new ground or normal fallow rotations.

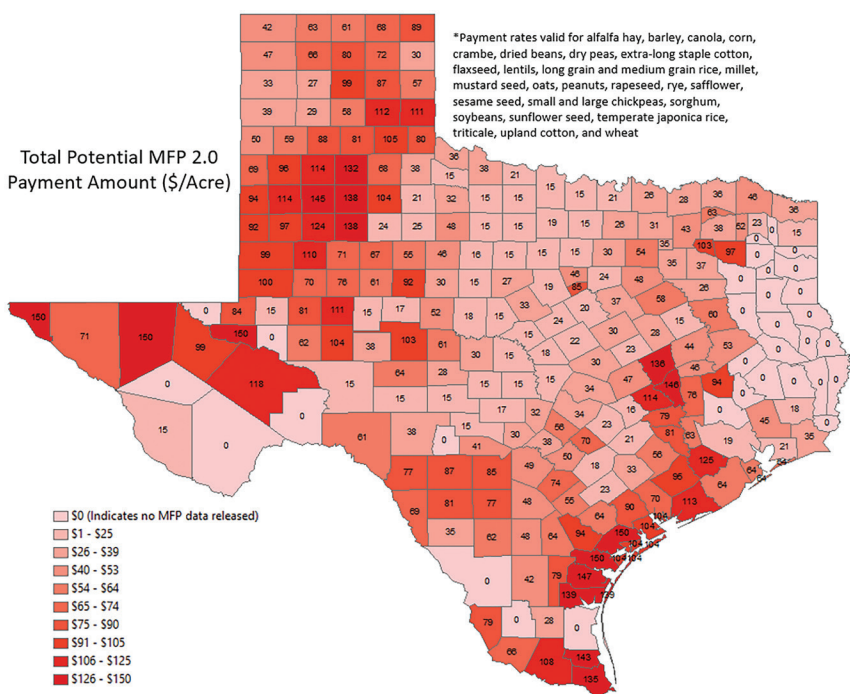
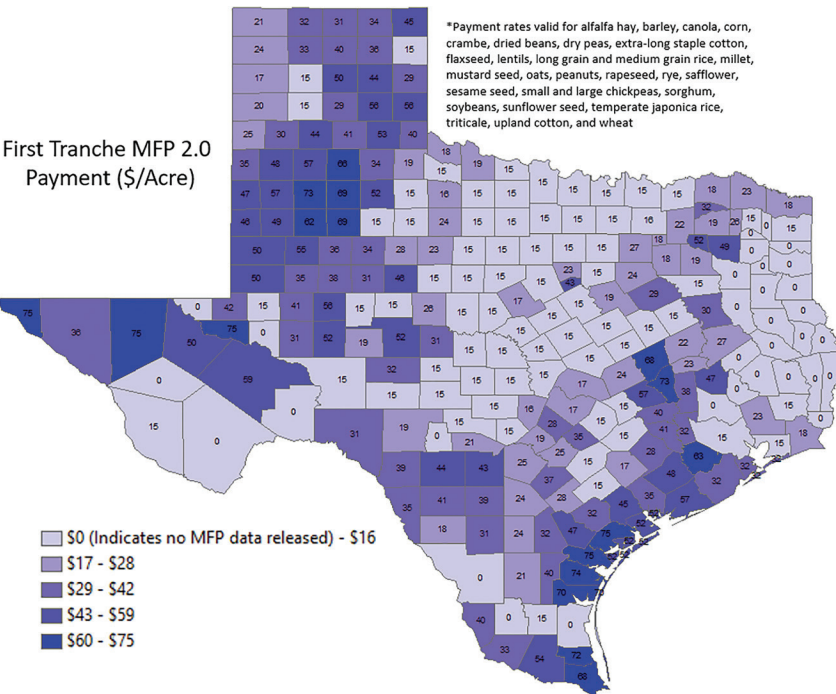
Throughout the development of MFP, members of the Texas Wheat Producers Association and National Association of Wheat Growers advocated for improvements that would benefit wheat farmers across the country. Several suggestions made by the groups were included in the program's final version, including an increase in the payment limit, moving away from a per-bushel payment that did not provide adequate assistance for production disaster areas and the allowance of exceptions to the 2018 planted acre cap.

“We appreciate the administration’s continued efforts to assist farmers who have been impacted by market losses. We urge farmers to work closely with FSA offices to identify any problem areas as sign-up continues,” said Jody Bellah, President of the Texas Wheat Producers Association. “This short-term aid was sorely needed but we are still facing the long-term consequences of lost markets and will continue to push for favorable resolution of negotiations.”

The sign-up period for the program opened on July 29 and the first round of payments began in August. The first payment will be calculated at the higher of either 50 percent of the established county rate or the minimum \$15 per acre. USDA announced second and third payments were possible and would be evaluated based on market conditions and trade opportunities. If conditions warrant, the second and third payments would be made in November and early January, respectively.

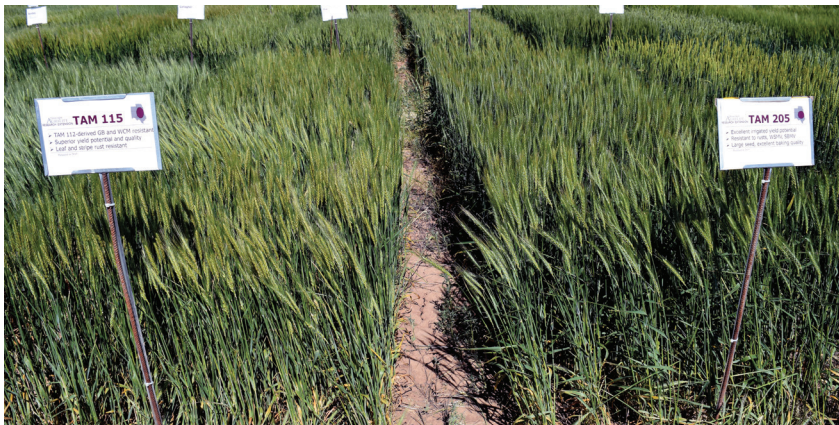
Another benefit of the assistance package comes in the way of the Agricultural Trade Promotion (ATP) program, which provides funds for organizations to develop new markets and build on existing trade relationships. To date, U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) has been awarded more than \$10.8 million in ATP funds to invest in programs designed to increase wheat exports. As a member of USW, the Texas Wheat Producers Board has already been able to see the benefits of ATP-funded programs. In June, Texas wheat staff attended a conference in Mexico that brought together wheat farmers, members of the grain trade and Mexican flour millers to focus on expanding wheat trade between the two countries.

“The Mexico Wheat Trade Conference was a vital meeting between U.S. wheat growers and one of our largest customers,” said Ken Davis, a USW board member and Texas farmer. “Because of ongoing negotiations over tariffs and USMCA, this opportunity came at an important time as we are safeguarding our trade relationship with Mexico.”



Source: Justin Benavidez, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Amarillo AgEcon: <https://agrilife.org/amarilloagecon/>

TEXAS A&M RELEASES NEW WHEAT VARIETIES



Two new wheat varieties, TAM 115 and TAM 205, have been announced by Texas A&M AgriLife Research and the TAM Wheat Improvement Program. TAM 115 is a hard red winter wheat developed from a cross with TAM 112 and TAM 205 was developed from the cross of RonL and a TAM experimental breeding line.

Some Certified seed is available, while most of the Foundation seed will be used for Registered and Certified seed for 2020.

According to wheat breeders, TAM 115 has good yield under dryland and irrigated conditions and has an excellent protection package for the High Plains, with resistance to leaf rust, stripe rust, stem rust, greenbug and wheat curl mite.

This new variety has performed well across the High Plains, Rolling Plains and Blacklands in Texas, as well as other southern Great Plains areas like western Kansas and eastern Colorado.

TAM 205 is resistant to leaf rust, stripe rust, stem rust, wheat streak mosaic virus, soil-borne wheat mosaic virus, spindle streak mosaic virus and fusarium head blight or scab.

“With large seeds, high test weight and strong dough properties, it also received very good milling and baking scores in this year’s Wheat Quality Council evaluation,” said Jackie Rudd, a Texas A&M AgriLife Research wheat breeder in Amarillo, in an article by AgriLife Today. “The bread-making characteristics of TAM 205 make it an excellent choice for whole-wheat products as well as traditional pan bread.”

TAM 205 has performed well across the nation’s southern winter wheat-growing regions and the Texas High Plains, Rolling Plains and the Blacklands.

Rudd said that both of these new varieties cover the ground quickly in the fall for good forage production and both have performed well in traditional and organic production systems for grain only and for heavy grazing plus grain.

2019-2020 TEXAS WHEAT PICKS LIST

High Plains “Picks List”		
Full Irrigation	Limited Irrigation	Dryland
TAM 112	TAM 112	
TAM 113	TAM 113	TAM 113
TAM 114	TAM 114	TAM 114
*CP7869	*CP7869	*CP7869
T158	*SY Monument	*SY Monument
WB 4721	Winterhawk	Winterhawk
LCS Mint		

N. Rolling Plains Grain Only "Picks List"	
Dryland	
*WB 4269	
TAM 114	
LCS Chrome	
WB 4721	
TAM 304	
Gallagher	
SY Grit	

Blacklands “Picks List”	
HRWW	SRWW
Gallagher	AGS 2055
TAM 304	AGS 2024
Wb Cedar	AGS 2038
	USG 3895

South Texas “Picks List”		
HRWW	HRSW	SRWW
TAM 401	Expresso	USG 3120
	WB 9518	
	TAMSpr 801	
	LCS Trigger	

*New selection for 2019-2020

OUTSTANDING WHEAT COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT OF THE YEAR AWARDED

The Texas Wheat Producers Board presented the Outstanding Wheat County Extension Agent award to Marty Morgan, the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension agent for Cooke County. Morgan was recognized at the annual Texas County Agriculture Agents Association meeting on July 29 in Galveston.

Wheat is the largest crop in Cooke County, with 26,200 planted acres and 710,000 bushels produced in 2018. Morgan serves this area by conducting regional wheat field days and providing educational opportunities for growers. He has impacted over 100 producers during his time as County Extension Agent.

“County extension agents play an important role in educating wheat producers and providing them with the resources to increase their yields and efficiency,” Rodney Mosier, Texas Wheat Producers executive vice president, said. “Morgan is known for his focus on education. His dedication to the wheat industry has been invaluable, not only to producers in Cooke County, but throughout the area and state.”

Morgan has been active in assisting producers with marketing strategies and scholarship acquisition. According to survey results, producers in Cooke County reported a 94 percent increase in

knowledge and 98 percent satisfaction after participating in programs provided by Morgan.

Morgan was nominated by Texas A&M AgriLife Regional Program Leader Larry Pierce who praised his dedication to producers and leadership.

“Marty provides excellent programs for the producers in Cooke County. He works extremely well with his neighboring agents to conduct multi-county programs and serves as a great mentor and resource for new agents in the East Region,” said Pierce.

PREVIOUS WINNERS:

- 2018 - RICK AUCKERMAN, DEAF SMITH COUNTY
- 2017 - SCOTT STRAWN, OCHILTREE COUNTY
- 2016 - LYLE ZOELLER, BELL COUNTY
- 2015 - JR SPRAGUE, LIPSCOMB COUNTY

Texas Wheat Representatives

Jody Bellah, Throckmorton
Scott Born, Ferris
Collin Bowers, Spearman
David Cleavinger, Wildorado
Chet Creel, Newcastle
Bryan Clift, Stratford
Ken Davis, Grandview
Glen Gibson, Lometa
Scott McGarraugh, Perryton
Gary Murphy, Dawson
Tyler Norman, Howe
Ben Scholz, Lavon
Corby Shadid, Panhandle
Freddie Streit, Vernon
Tommy Womack, Tulia

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Rodney Mosier
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Darby Campsey
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Producer Relations

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GOLD MEMBERS



3B FARMS
www.3bfarms.com



ADVANTAGE EDGE, INC.
www.advantageedge-inc.com



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www.expressscale.com



INTELLIFARMS
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ATTEBURY GRAIN, LLC
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SILVER MEMBERS

SOUTHWEST AGRIBUSINESS
CONSULTING, INC

AG TEXAS

PLAINS LAND BANK

TEXAS FARM BUREAU

HEIFRIN CROP
INSURANCE

CEN-TEX SEED