

Texas Crop Weather



Released: February 14, 2005 (3:00 P.M. CST)
 For the week of February 7 - 13, 2005
 TX-CW0705

1-800-626-3142
 www.nass.usda.gov/tx

Crop Progress Table - February 13, 2005

Crop	2005	2004	Average 2000-2004
	<i>Percent</i>		
Cotton			
Harvested	98	100	100
Wheat			
Planted	100	100	100
Emerged	99	100	100
Other Field Crops			
Harvested			
Pecans	99	100	100

Crop Condition Table - February 13, 2005

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Wheat	16	41	34	8	1
Range & Pasture . . .	9	39	34	15	3

Agricultural Summary: Weather conditions remained generally undesirable for farming activities during the week. Intermittent light to moderate rainfall occurred at various times across most regions of the state. In a few locations where rainfall was relatively heavy, minor localized flooding occurred. Some southern locations continued to be mostly dry and producers were becoming concerned as to availability of adequate moisture at planting time. Temperatures were generally cool across the state during the week and dipped below freezing in northern locations for brief periods. Farming activities were slow to stalled, depending on local rain events during the week. In many areas, pasture decline from too much rain had become severe. Supplemental feeding continued to increase during the week as livestock condition and winter pasture in many areas remained on the decline due to wet conditions. Hay supplies continued to dwindle and were becoming short for some producers. Sickness in livestock herds varied from region to region, however hoof rot was common in same locations.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Small grains continued to be affected from too much rainfall in several areas, however warming temperatures during the week improved many fields. Greenbug and aphid populations continued to increase, but treatment will wait until dryer conditions are present. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 77 percent of normal, compared with 35 percent last year.

Corn: Land preparation was mostly on hold during the week, due to the wet and cool conditions. Concern continued that the planting window would get narrow unless dry weather conditions occurred soon.

Cotton: Cotton harvest was completed in most areas, however cotton remained in a few fields that have been excessively wet. Ginning

activities remained steady, however some gins are beginning to close as the season comes to an end. Module trucks continued to have trouble getting around in a few locations.

Sorghum: Land preparation remained generally on hold across the state due to widespread rainfall.

Peanuts: Weather conditions improved for some peanut producers during late week allowing land preparation to move ahead.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, harvest of spinach and cabbage continued. Onion harvest was active in a few locations. Later planted spinach, cabbage, onions, carrots and potatoes continued to make good progress. Citrus harvest remained active.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, land preparation was active in a few locations. Harvest of spinach and cabbage moved ahead in most locations. Later planted onions and carrots made good progress.

In **East Texas**, land preparations remained mostly on hold during the week as rain showers and muddy soils prevented field work.

In the **High Plains**, land preparations remained on hold in many areas, however some locations became adequately dry and land preparations moved forward.

In the **Trans Pecos**, fall onions continued to make fair to good progress. Land preparations remained active.

Pecans: Remaining harvest moved ahead in most areas, however some orchards were still too wet to carry equipment. Trimming remained active in locations where the orchard floor was dry enough to support equipment.

Peaches: Some producers remained concerned as to the number of chill hours needed to produce an adequate crop this season. Applications of dormant oils continued in a few locations. Bud break occurred in a few isolated locations.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Moisture levels for range and pasture remained generally excellent across the state. Generally, water available for livestock was considered excellent across the state. In areas where additional moisture was received, pasture damage from trampling remained excessive. Permanent damage continued in some grain fields that were used for grazing as above average plant death was common from too much moisture. Supplemental feeding remained necessary in most areas as weather conditions were generally unimproved across the state. A few producers were concerned over continued availability of hay supplies later in the season. Many producers continued to have a difficult time getting feed to their herds as muddy conditions in pastures made hauling difficult to impossible. Producers with a number of livestock grazing small grain fields were having problems from bogging and trampling. Varied degrees of livestock sickness continued, and hoof and foot rot were becoming common in some herds.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Feb 7 - 13) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Feb 1 - 13) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Feb 13) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Nov-Jan) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.05	0.62	2.35	18.87	384
Low Rolling Plains	0.00	0.68	2.06	23.78	248
North Central Texas	0.12	0.67	3.19	34.00	145
East Texas	1.16	2.43	5.44	45.69	110
Trans Pecos	0.04	0.66	0.99	12.96	210
Edwards Plateau	0.10	0.51	1.50	24.01	173
South Central Texas	0.34	0.95	3.14	34.48	134
Upper Coast	1.60	2.07	4.40	47.63	156
South Texas	0.01	0.11	1.22	23.49	97
Lower Valley	0.00	0.02	0.61	25.34	72



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - February 13, 2005 *

Condition	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
	Percent of Acreage														
Very Short	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	5	0	0	0	1	5
Short	8	14	6	3	2	0	0	3	26	20	1	7	0	17	65
Adequate	74	52	67	76	56	35	28	35	67	66	46	87	20	78	30
Surplus	18	31	27	21	41	65	72	62	4	9	53	6	80	4	0

* High Plains: 1-N, 1-S; Low Rolling Plains: 2-N, 2-S; North Central Plains: 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.

Cooperating Agencies:

Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas Department of Agriculture, National Weather Service.

PERIODICALS
POSTAGE PAID AT
AUSTIN, TEXAS

Texas Crop Weather (USPS 396-770) is published weekly by the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service, 300 E. 8th St., Austin, TX 78701, (512) 916-5581. PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID at Austin, TX. POSTMASTER: Send change of address to Texas Crop Weather, P.O. Box 70, Austin, TX 78767.

Penalty for Private Use, \$300

AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE
NASS - USDA
P.O. BOX 70
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767

T
E
X
A
S