

Texas Crop Weather



Released: January 10, 2005 (3:00 P.M. CST)
 For the week of January 3 - 9, 2005
 TX-CW0205

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

Crop Progress Table - January 9, 2005

Crop	2005	2004	Average 2000-2004
	<i>Percent</i>		
Cotton			
Harvested	83	94	96
Peanuts			
Harvested	99	100	100
Sorghum			
Harvested	95	100	100
Wheat			
Planted	96	100	99
Emerged	94	95	94
Other Field Crops Harvested			
Pecans	91	91	86

Crop Condition Table - January 9, 2005

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Wheat	23	42	28	6	1
Range & Pasture . . .	9	38	36	14	3

Agricultural Summary: Conditions were generally undesirable across the state during the first week of the New Year. Many areas were covered with a sheet of ice and snow by mid week; thus causing additional difficulties for most producers. Areas that escaped the ice and snow were generally hampered by additional rainfall and in many locations, heavy rainfall left water standing in the fields. Remaining harvest across the plains and parts of north Texas was again on hold, waiting for dryer conditions. Late planting of small grains was active in a few areas during early week, however became stalled mid week due to the down-turn in weather conditions. Land preparation for spring planting began in a few locations. Grazing conditions remained variable across the state as most fields and pastures remained extremely muddy. Bogging and trampling remained a problem for some producers in these locations. Supplemental feeding had leveled out in most areas during the holidays; however increases were necessary due to this latest cold spell that crossed the state. Sickness in livestock remained average; however some producers reported slight increases in numbers of sick livestock due to the extremes in weather conditions and some death losses were also reported.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Growth and development was slow in most areas as temperatures remained cold. Many small grain fields were yellow and waterlogged which was preventing normal growth and development. Some producers reported above normal losses in small grains due to weather conditions. In other areas, many producers have decided not to attempt late planting as conditions were still undesirable. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 81 percent of normal, compared with 37 percent last year.

Corn: Harvest was completed in recent weeks and when conditions

were favorable. Land preparation began in a few areas before the ice and snow event and will continue as conditions allow.

Cotton: Cotton harvest remained active when possible in the driest locations during the week. Ginning activities were running as much as two weeks behind in many areas due to this extended wet period. In some locations module trucks were still unable to get into the fields. Harvest in a few areas remained on hold until further drying occurred.

Sorghum: Harvest progressed slowly across the state, however many producers were grazing their fields as harvest conditions have remained undesirable for an extended period of time. Land preparation began in a few isolated locations.

Peanuts: Harvest neared completion, however some yields and grades suffered as the result of the extended wet and cold conditions. Land preparation was active in some areas.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, spinach and cabbage harvest was active in most locations. Onions, carrots and potatoes made good progress and citrus harvest remained active. Land preparation and fertilization was active in many other areas. Spring planting will begin soon.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, land preparation remained active in areas where conditions were adequately dry. Harvest of cabbage and spinach moved ahead at a faster pace. Onions and carrots continued to make good progress. Some producers reported premature blooming in their peach trees.

In **East Texas**, harvest of cabbage and greens was active in a few locations. Land preparation was slow or stalled depending on the conditions at the respective location.

In the **High Plains**, land preparation was possible in a few locations across the plains. Seed bed preparation and laying plastic was also active in a few areas.

In the **Trans Pecos**, fall onions continued to make good progress. Land preparation moved ahead in some areas.

Pecans: Harvest remained active in many locations. Many orchards were still too wet for harvest activities and drying out was slow at best. Sprouting in the hull continued to be a problem for some producers, especially in the warmer regions.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Moisture levels for range and pastures were excellent across the majority of the state, resulting from above average rainfall received over several months. Only a few locations were reporting pasture decline from dry conditions. Pasture damage resulting from too much water remained an issue for many other producers. Some livestock herds were mostly dependent on standing grasses as additional supplement was difficult to deliver due to severe muddy conditions. Wheat pasture was available to many producers; however muddy conditions prevented field grazing in other locations. Livestock sickness including some death losses remained a problem in many areas resulting from severe swings in weather conditions.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Jan 3 - 9) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Jan 1 - 9) Accumulation	Total 2004 Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Oct - Dec) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.93	1.26	27.63	18.87	267
Low Rolling Plains	0.79	0.80	27.17	23.78	195
North Central Texas	0.45	1.42	39.88	34.00	150
East Texas	0.66	0.92	47.75	45.69	114
Trans Pecos	0.04	0.04	19.61	12.96	189
Edwards Plateau	0.00	0.06	30.37	24.01	178
South Central Texas	0.08	0.36	37.47	34.48	154
Upper Coast	0.10	0.20	59.25	47.63	166
South Texas	0.00	0.08	22.48	23.49	89
Lower Valley	0.12	0.38	27.36	25.34	79



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - January 9, 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	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	1	2	2	0
Short	1	8	7	2	0	1	0	3	25	32	14	21	4	44	70
Adequate	65	49	64	79	76	18	35	50	72	60	56	75	16	50	30
Surplus	34	42	29	19	24	81	65	47	0	7	30	3	78	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.

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