

Texas Crop Weather



Released: March 14, 2005 (3:00 P.M. CST)

For the week of March 7 - 13, 2005

TX-CW1105

1-800-626-3142

www.nass.usda.gov/tx

Crop Progress Table - March 13, 2005

Crop	2005	2004	Average 2000-2004
	<i>Percent</i>		
Corn			
Planted	12	16	22
Emerged	5	3	8
Cotton			
Planted	1	3	3
Rice			
Planted	0	1	2
Sorghum			
Planted	10	16	17
Wheat			
Headed	3	0	1
Other Field Crops			
Planted			
Soybeans	0	0	1

Crop Condition Table - March 13, 2005

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Wheat	21	46	27	5	1
Range & Pasture . . .	13	44	30	11	2

Agricultural Summary: Weather conditions across Texas were unsettled during early week. Some scattered light to moderate rainfall along with some reports of hail were reported during early week. By mid week, conditions became mostly open with plenty of sunshine, light winds and warmer temperatures. Land preparation was active in areas where sufficient drying had occurred, especially by mid week. Fertilization and weed control measures were common in fields and pastures during the majority of the week. Some planting was possible in central and southern areas, however further drying out was needed in many other locations before planting could begin in earnest. Pasture conditions were mostly excellent across the entire state as soil moisture has been above normal for an extended period of time. A few problems with pasture damage continued as the result of livestock trampling, however as soils dry these problems will subside. Water available for livestock was considered adequate in most regions of the state. Supplemental feeding remained necessary in all areas of the state, however some producers were able to reduce the amount of hay fed as pasture green up was escalating. Sickness in livestock herds seemed to be improved during the week.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Growth and development showed signs of improvement during the week as warmer temperatures and plenty of sunshine was present in all areas. Top dressing was very active by mid to late week. Rust and increased insect pressure was reported in some locations, and control measures were being applied in the driest locations. Emergence of late

planted wheat was satisfactory in respective areas. Oats were responding well to the warmer conditions in all reporting locations. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 82 percent of normal, compared with percent 55 last year.

Corn: Land preparation was active in many areas during mid to late week. Planting moved ahead, but was slow in respective locations as some drying remained necessary. Emergence of earlier planted corn progressed as temperatures warmed across these areas.

Cotton: Harvest progress continued in the few remaining fields. Ginning activities remained active in remaining areas, and most ginners expected to be finished for the season around the first of April. Planting continued to be active in some southern locations.

Sorghum: Land preparation moved ahead in the drier locations by mid week. Planting was active in some southern locations and earlier planted sorghum was progressing well.

Peanuts: Land preparation was active in many locations across the state beginning in mid week. Some pre-emergence herbicide applications were made in a few areas.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, harvest of fresh market spinach was completed. Cabbage harvest remained active in many locations. Growth and development of the spring onion crop continued and preparations for harvest moved ahead. Excellent progress in carrots and potatoes continued.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, land preparation was active in most areas, however a few fields needed further drying. Cabbage harvest resumed in mid week as adequate drying occurred.

In **East Texas**, land preparation was slow as drying out continued. Preparations for sweet potato planting were active in a few locations.

In the **High Plains**, land preparation was active at varied times throughout the week.

In the **Trans Pecos**, land preparation was active in most locations during the week. Growth and development of spring onions improved as the result of warmer conditions.

Pecans: Orchard cleanup was active in many locations as bud break is not long off.

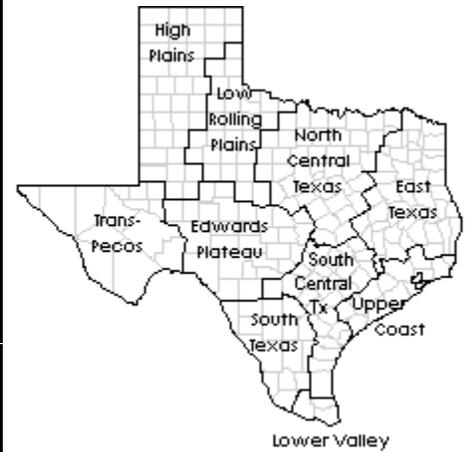
Peaches: Blooming remained active in southern locations and began in many central areas during the week.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Green up was rapidly moving ahead as the result of open and warmer conditions. Some locations received additional rainfall in early week, but sunshine and warmer conditions in late week improved the muddy conditions. Many producers were able to plant Bermuda grasses and some weed control applications were also possible in late week. Growth and development in alfalfa fields was progressing well in most locations. Supplemental feeding remained necessary across the state, however some decline was noticed in amounts of hay fed as green-up became more substantial. Sickness in livestock improved somewhat as the result of warmer conditions.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Mar 7 - 13) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Mar 1 - 13) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Mar 13) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Dec - Feb) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.03	0.29	3.01	18.87	204
Low Rolling Plains	0.07	0.66	3.58	23.78	117
North Central Texas	0.04	0.54	5.22	34.00	90
East Texas	0.20	0.64	7.71	45.69	83
Trans Pecos	0.00	0.19	1.74	12.96	124
Edwards Plateau	0.01	0.97	3.65	24.01	91
South Central Texas	0.17	1.17	5.81	34.48	78
Upper Coast	0.47	2.06	8.29	47.63	83
South Texas	0.02	0.94	3.58	23.49	81
Lower Valley	0.08	0.12	1.54	25.34	62



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - March 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	10	3	0	0	0	0	0
Short	6	21	1	0	3	2	0	0	30	15	0	0	0	9	20
Adequate	76	38	56	55	73	43	55	47	53	72	59	37	21	72	80
Surplus	18	38	43	45	23	55	45	53	7	10	41	63	79	19	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 and at additional mailing offices.
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