

Texas Crop Weather



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For the week of March 21 - 27, 2005

TX-CW1305

1-800-626-3142

www.nass.usda.gov/tx

Crop Progress Table - March 27, 2005

Crop	2005	2004	Average 2000-2004
	<i>Percent</i>		
Corn			
Planted	44	48	42
Emerged	17	28	26
Cotton			
Planted	5	8	7
Rice			
Planted	17	11	20
Sorghum			
Planted	24	31	30
Wheat			
Headed	5	3	4
Other Field Crops			
Planted			
Soybeans	8	11	7

Crop Condition Table - March 27, 2005

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Wheat	25	46	23	5	1
Range & Pasture ...	13	44	31	11	1

Agricultural Summary: Weather conditions were improved at times during the week, but were disagreeable at other times. In a few areas soils dried enough to allow for some farming activities to proceed, but in other areas additional rainfall kept soils wet and farming on hold. Some areas received heavy thunderstorms resulting in light to moderate property damage especially in late week. By weeks end snow was reported across portions of the Plains and North Texas, but no major accumulations were reported. In some of the dryer locations planting, weed control and fertilization were among the most active events. Pastures continued to improve as temperatures were generally warmer and moderate to high winds helped with the drying out. Supplemental feeding remained necessary in many areas, especially in areas where temperature swings were most severe. A few small areas have remained mostly dry during the winter months and moisture stress in pastures was noticeable during the week.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Wheat and oats continued to show signs of good development as improvements in temperature and day length continued. In many locations small grains were suffering from lack of nitrogen as continued rainfall has leached out most of the earlier applications. Aerial applications for weed control were active in some areas during the week. Aphids and green bugs were active in a few locations and plant diseases were also common in many areas. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 84 percent of normal, compared with percent 59 last year.

Corn: Land preparation was active in a few areas during the week. Planting in central and southern locations moved ahead as weather conditions permitted. Some replanting occurred as emergence in a few earlier stands of corn was not acceptable.

Cotton: Ginning activities continued in a few remaining areas. Land preparation including herbicide applications were active in many areas as weather permitted. Planting in many southern locations was winding down as conditions for planting have been mostly favorable.

Sorghum: Land preparation and planting remained active in southern and central locations, however was stalled at times in these areas due to rain.

Peanuts: Land preparation was active in many locations across the state in late week. Pre-emergence herbicide applications were active in some areas as weather conditions permitted.

Soybeans: Land preparation and planting was active in a few locations during the week as weather conditions permitted.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, cabbage harvest remained active in many locations during the week. Harvest of carrots and greens was also active in a few locations. Growth and development of the spring onion crop continued and preparations for harvest moved ahead. A few onions were harvested during late week, but only a marginal beginning.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, land preparation was active in most areas, however rain showers caused some delays from time to time. Spinach harvest was nearing completion, but harvest for cabbage remained active.

In **East Texas**, land preparation was active in some areas during the week. Planting moved ahead where soils were adequately dry, however rain showers in late week slowed progress.

In the **High Plains**, land preparation was active during the week as conditions allowed.

In the **Trans Pecos**, land preparation remained active in most locations during the week. Growth and development of spring onions continued.

Pecans: Bud break continued to occur in varied southern locations as temperatures warmed. Some producers in the Trans Pecos region were applying their first irrigation.

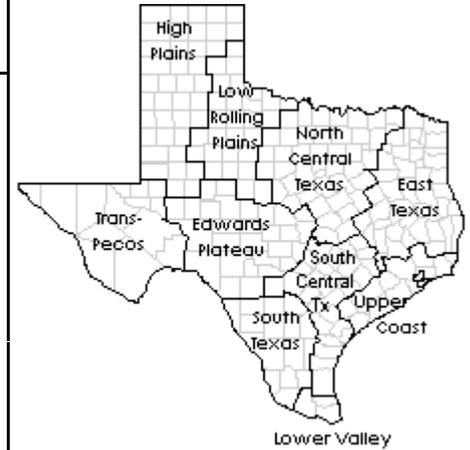
Peaches: Blooming remained active in central and southern locations. Some areas experienced another frost, however there were no reports as to extent of damage; if any.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Spring improvement in range and pastures continued. Additional moisture including snow was received in many locations during the week, with minimal runoff. Some producers continued to graze small grains, but many others have pulled livestock out of fields and into adjacent pastures. Sprigging and seeding of grasses remained active in many locations during the week. Growth and development in alfalfa fields remained satisfactory. Supplemental feeding remained necessary across the state, but was most active across areas of the Plains and Trans Pecos region. Sickness in livestock was on going and variable during the week.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Mar 21 - 27) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Mar 1 - 27) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Mar 27) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Dec - Feb) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.25	0.94	3.66	18.87	204
Low Rolling Plains	0.42	1.35	4.27	23.78	117
North Central Texas	1.14	1.78	6.46	34.00	90
East Texas	1.00	2.14	9.21	45.69	83
Trans Pecos	0.10	0.43	1.98	12.96	124
Edwards Plateau	0.54	1.76	4.44	24.01	91
South Central Texas	0.26	2.31	6.95	34.48	78
Upper Coast	0.31	3.74	9.97	47.63	83
South Texas	0.05	1.57	4.21	23.49	81
Lower Valley	0.01	0.17	1.59	25.34	62



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - March 27, 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	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short	5	25	6	5	18	5	6	2	31	20	0	0	0	18	60
Adequate	66	47	63	77	75	75	73	53	61	71	59	42	46	73	40
Surplus	28	26	30	18	6	20	21	45	0	9	41	58	54	9	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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