

Texas Crop Weather



Released: June 23, 2003 (3:00 P.M. CDT)
 For the week of June 16 - 22, 2003
 TX-CW2503

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

Crop Progress Table - June 22, 2003

Crop	2003	2002	Average 1998-2002
	<i>Percent</i>		
Corn			
Silked	64	67	57
Dough	34	47	43
Dented	11	25	21
Mature	1	4	2
Cotton			
Planted	95	97	97
Squaring	27	33	33
Setting Bolls	13	15	13
Bolls Opening	0	2	1
Peanuts			
Planted	98	96	94
Pegging	5	9	9
Rice			
Headed	17	32	26
Sorghum			
Planted	77	86	88
Headed	41	50	44
Turning Color	24	23	28
Mature	8	10	13
Harvested	2	4	6
Wheat			
Harvested	63	61	64
Other Field Crops			
Planted			
Soybeans	94	98	95
Sunflowers	77	84	85
Harvested			
Oats	82	89	81

Crop Condition Table - June 22, 2003

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Corn	6	32	26	22	14
Cotton	5	26	32	19	18
Peanuts	8	65	25	2	0
Rice	25	65	10	0	0
Sorghum	6	42	31	15	6
Wheat	3	15	32	25	25
Range & Pasture	8	30	34	18	10

Agricultural Summary: Rain showers and storms brought precipitation to many areas of the state during the week. In parts of the Plains and East Texas, rain came with hail and high winds that damaged some cotton, corn and other crops. West Texas and Central Texas received some moisture, but continued to suffer from the effects of hot and dry weather. Along the Upper Coast, the Coastal Bend and in South Texas, rainfall varied from light to heavy. The much needed moisture was welcomed by producers. In some areas, wet conditions slowed wheat harvest, hay baling, and planting of summer crops. However, harvest of small grains was winding down in most remaining areas. Soil moisture conditions continue to improve in many areas, giving producers hope for additional hay cuttings, improved pastures, and summer crops that could still benefit. Grasshopper and armyworm populations continued to increase and were causing economic damage in some areas. Treatment was being applied where possible. Most cattle were in good condition, but supplemental feeding continues in areas where a lack of moisture has prevented sufficient pasture growth.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Winter wheat harvest was slowed in many areas across the Plains, but was mostly complete in all other areas. Where conditions allowed, combining was active. Some acreage was lost to hail, and lodging occurred in some fields due to wind. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 44 percent of normal compared with 37 percent last year.

Corn: Rains were very beneficial to those fields that were still immature enough. Most corn fields in southern regions were near fully developed, and were too far along to benefit much from this rain. In parts of South Texas, some corn was being harvested for silage or was being zeroed-out. Statewide, corn condition was rated at 57 percent of normal compared with 60 percent last year.

Cotton: Severe weather continued to affect cotton fields on the High Plains. Cotton in some areas was again set back by severe weather conditions. Moist conditions resulted in an increase in disease problems in some fields. Some producers were replanting where conditions allowed and others were evaluating alternative crops such as sorghum and soybeans. Thrips continued to be a problem for producers in some areas. On the plain, fields varied from poor to good condition. In Central Texas, cotton was mostly in fair to good condition. Cotton in the Coastal Bend benefitted from the rain and was starting to bloom. Rio Grande Valley cotton was progressing well but continued in need of moisture. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 54 percent of normal compared with 61 percent last year.

Sorghum: Some areas received hail and wind damage from thunderstorms. However, other areas benefitted from the added moisture. Additional acreage was expected to be planted after disaster cotton and fields that missed the planting deadline. Sorghum in southern areas made good progress. Some combining occurred in the Rio Grande Valley. Statewide, sorghum condition was rated at 67 percent of normal compared with 56 percent last year.

Peanuts: Planting was delayed in remaining fields, but was completed in most locations. Some peanuts were damaged or destroyed by storms. Most peanut areas benefitted greatly from the increased moisture. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 83 percent of normal compared with 82 percent last year.

Rice: Fields were flooded and development was progressing. Statewide, rice condition was rated at 92 percent of normal, the same as last year.

Soybeans: Planting of remaining soybeans on the Plains was delayed due to the weather, but generally planting has been completed. Some producers were evaluating whether to plant soybeans after disaster cotton. Armyworm problems remained steady in some locations. Crop progression was generally good across the state.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley** harvest was wrapping up for onions and other vegetables. Watermelon and cantaloupe harvest continued. Soil moisture levels were favorable in some areas.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden** Summer vegetables and melons harvest was delayed by rain. Insect pressure on vegetables was a concern in some locations.

In **East Texas**, Some vegetables that were not too far along benefitted greatly from the rain. Watermelon harvest may be slightly delayed due to weather. Sweetpotatoes made good progress. Disease pressure was moderate on fruits and vegetables.

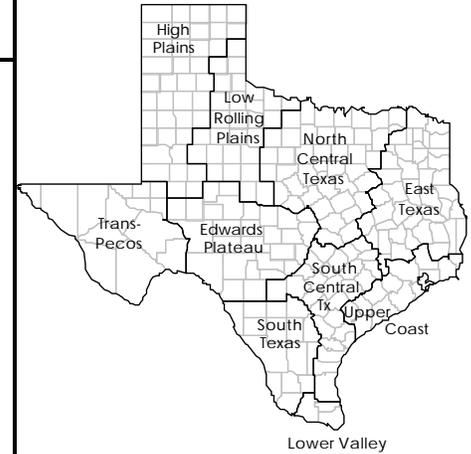
Pecans: A few areas reported nut drop, but additional rain helped to reduce Pecan Nut Casebearer problems. Development was favorable with recent rainfall. The pecan crop looks good overall, especially the improved varieties.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Range and pastures were greening in many areas due to the recent rains. Some hay fields were ready for a second harvest. Supplemental feeding of hay continues in some areas where pasture conditions are poor. Body condition scores on cattle were good with a few in fair condition. Some ranchers were delaying stocker sell off due to the improved pasture. Stock tanks, which had been getting low, were filled by rains. Horn and heel flies remained a nuisance. Grasshopper populations continued to grow and treatment remained necessary for some producers.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (June 16 - 22) Accumulation	Month-to-date (June 1 - 22) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Jun 22) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Mar - May) Percent of Normal
High Plains	1.00	3.53	6.28	18.87	54
Low Rolling Plains	0.63	2.87	6.81	23.78	44
North Central Texas	0.16	3.27	10.47	34.00	41
East Texas	0.82	3.54	12.41	45.69	38
Trans Pecos	0.29	1.03	2.88	12.96	44
Edwards Plateau	0.00	3.12	7.39	24.01	42
South Central Texas	0.14	2.74	7.57	34.48	22
Upper Coast	0.94	4.18	12.33	47.63	35
South Texas	0.05	2.48	7.32	23.49	47
Lower Valley	0.43	1.36	5.29	25.34	52



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - June 22, 2003 *

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	12	4	12	1	8	5	3	13	65	16	13	10	7	10	8	
Short	20	21	19	16	12	13	4	24	31	31	47	40	37	42	57	
Adequate	49	69	63	81	76	67	63	53	4	52	40	46	47	45	35	
Surplus	19	6	6	2	4	15	30	10	0	1	0	4	9	3	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.**