

# Texas Crop Weather

Released: July 5, 2005 (3:00 P.M. CDT)  
For the week of June 27 - July 3, 2005  
TX-CW2705

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

**Crop Progress Table - July 3, 2005**

Crop	2005	2004	Average 2000-2004
	<i>Percent</i>		
<b>Corn</b>			
Silked .....	66	68	68
Dough .....	57	48	54
Dented .....	31	26	34
Mature .....	3	2	8
<b>Cotton</b>			
Planted .....	99	99	99
Squaring .....	36	50	52
Setting Bolls .....	14	16	17
Bolls Opening .....	1	2	3
<b>Peanuts</b>			
Pegging .....	20	31	32
<b>Rice</b>			
Headed .....	16	26	47
<b>Sorghum</b>			
Planted .....	94	92	93
Headed .....	46	48	50
Turning Color .....	39	36	38
Mature .....	22	24	24
Harvested .....	13	9	13
<b>Soybeans</b>			
Planted .....	99	100	99
<b>Sunflowers</b>			
Planted .....	89	97	95
<b>Wheat</b>			
Harvested .....	92	93	90
<b>Oats</b>			
Harvested .....	94	96	94

**Crop Condition Table - July 3, 2005**

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Corn .....	27	34	23	12	4
Cotton .....	7	39	35	13	6
Peanuts .....	17	52	26	5	0
Rice .....	20	43	30	7	0
Sorghum .....	11	41	30	11	7
Soybeans .....	6	29	37	18	10
Oats .....	6	25	48	16	5
Range & Pasture ...	1	16	38	29	16

**Agricultural Summary:** Weather conditions across the state continued to be hot and dry during the week. Only a few showers were reported across portions of the Plains, North and East Texas but no substantial accumulations were reported. Growers were busy finishing wheat harvest. Some sorghum, sunflowers and late cotton were planted, however soils remain dry as rainfall has been scarce. Irrigation was active where possible, and crops under irrigation were showing normal development. In some locations growers indicated that it may be too late for rain to benefit their crops. Range and pasture conditions continued to decline statewide because of hot, dry conditions. Supplemental feeding increased in most areas as producers were attempting to hold the body condition of their herds. Herd reduction continued in a few areas. Hay baling operations continued, but slowed in some areas as the result of dry conditions. A few areas in East Texas have not been able to bale any hay this season, and producers were concerned about winter hay supplies.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Grain harvest was active in many areas of the Plains and North Texas, but was winding down in most areas. A few growers in central areas were finishing harvest. Some baling remained active according to reports. Statewide, oat condition was rated at 62 percent of normal.

**Corn:** Growth and development made good progress where irrigation was possible. Dryland corn in general continued to suffer in most areas of the state as rainfall has been scarce. Some producers have declared their dryland corn crop a failure and have turned livestock in to graze, and others have shredded the stalks. Aflatoxin continued to be a concern for growers in extremely dry areas. Silage harvest was ongoing in some locations. Statewide, corn condition was rated at 77 percent of normal, compared with 93 percent last year.

**Cotton:** Irrigation was active in areas where possible and good growth and development continued in these locations. Dryland cotton needed rain and many dryland fields were suffering from lack of moisture. Insect populations continued to increase. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 67 percent of normal compared with 70 percent last year.

**Sorghum:** Planting continued across the Plains, especially behind other failed crops, but was winding down by week's end. Planting in dry soils was common. In areas that received earlier rain, sorghum was responding well. Baling remained necessary for some producers as production for grain has become impossible due to the continued dry conditions. Insect activity continued to increase and some control measures were in progress. Statewide, sorghum condition was rated at 70 percent of normal, compared with 82 percent last year.

**Peanuts:** Irrigation was active across the state where possible as rainfall continued to be very limited. Growth and development was good, but dryland acres could use rain in all locations. A few dryland acres remained to be planted. Insect activity was increasing. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 82 percent of normal, compared with 84 percent last year.

**Soybeans:** Soybeans progressed well under irrigation and dry land acres were made progress where soil moisture was adequate. Many areas were beginning to suffer and show signs of stress and rainfall was needed. Statewide, soybean condition was rated at 60 percent of normal.

**Rice:** Growth and development continued in all reporting areas. Flooding of fields continued. Insect problems remained light. Statewide, rice condition was rated at 80 percent of normal, compared with 84 percent last year.

## Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, irrigated watermelons and cantaloupes made good progress. Harvest of early planted melons was ongoing.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, green bean harvest continued in a few locations. Surface moisture continued to decline in all areas and irrigation was ongoing.

In **East Texas**, onion, squash and sweet potato harvest remained active, however moisture shortages were severely affecting production across the area. Insect and fungus pressure continued to increase in many locations and treatment was ongoing. Losses in dryland crops increased in some locations as a result of hot, dry conditions.

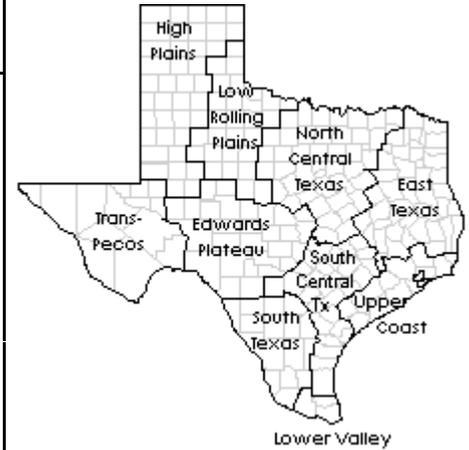
**Pecans:** Spraying for pecan nut case bearer and web worms remained active in many areas. Other insect pressure was generally light. Irrigation continued to increase in locations where possible. Nut development remained satisfactory in areas where moisture was adequate. Nut drop was light at this time.

## Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Range and pasture conditions remained varied across the state; however drought stress increased across the state and had become severe in many locations. Rain showers were limited during the week. Supplemental feeding and herd reduction continued to increase in many areas as producers were finding it difficult to maintain good body condition in livestock herds. Livestock water supplies were short in many areas and hauling of water increased in a few locations. Haying operations continued to suffer and were suspended in several locations until adequate rainfall is received. Many producers report increasing concern over winter hay supplies. Grasshopper populations remained a problem in some locations.

**Weather Information Table <sup>1</sup>**

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Jun 27 - Jul 3) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Jun 1 - 30) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Jul 3) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Apr - Jun) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.25	1.88	8.80	18.87	73
Low Rolling Plains	0.23	1.05	8.90	23.78	54
North Central Texas	0.19	0.66	10.93	34.00	37
East Texas	0.52	0.61	14.48	45.69	34
Trans Pecos	0.04	0.59	5.09	12.96	93
Edwards Plateau	0.00	0.57	9.56	24.01	65
South Central Texas	0.03	0.23	11.03	34.48	38
Upper Coast	0.54	0.85	18.75	47.63	64
South Texas	0.00	0.25	6.46	23.49	29
Lower Valley	0.00	0.30	2.91	25.34	18



<sup>1</sup> Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

**Top Soil Moisture by District - July 3, 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	15	16	31	11	30	58	61	56	28	24	46	64	39	31	63
Short	37	51	44	63	56	39	36	36	44	50	48	35	50	56	27
Adequate	40	28	25	26	14	3	3	8	28	25	6	1	11	5	10
Surplus	8	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8	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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