

Texas Crop Weather



Released: September 13, 2004 (3:00 P.M. CDT)
 For the week of September 6 - 12, 2004
 TX-CW3704

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

Crop Progress Table - September 12, 2004

Crop	2004	2003	Average 1999-2003
	<i>Percent</i>		
Corn			
Dough	100	100	100
Dented	98	97	97
Mature	78	86	86
Harvested	62	67	63
Cotton			
Setting Bolls	97	98	100
Bolls Opening	26	33	49
Harvested	16	17	17
Peanuts			
Harvested	1	0	4
Rice			
Harvested	95	88	93
Sorghum			
Headed	92	89	96
Turning Color	69	63	83
Mature	57	57	74
Harvested	54	54	65
Wheat			
Planted	25	19	16
Other Field Crops			
Planted			
Oats	17	14	7
Harvested			
Soybeans	55	60	65
Sunflowers	4	41	45

Crop Condition Table - September 12, 2004

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Corn	36	49	13	2	0
Cotton	23	48	19	6	4
Peanuts	38	47	11	2	2
Rice	10	54	34	2	0
Sorghum	19	49	24	7	1
Range & Pasture ..	12	42	33	10	3

Agricultural Summary: A high pressure system from Texas north to the Great Lakes dominated the weather. Cooler temperatures and dry conditions were experienced for most of Texas in the latter part of the week. The major rainfall occurred early in the week, along the Rio Grande Valley from the Del Rio area down to Brownsville, and in a band running northeast to Wichita Falls and Sherman. Isolated areas of North Central Texas received up to 4 inches of rain. Scattered, lighter showers occurred east of the main band of precipitation down to the Gulf of Mexico. Record low temperatures were recorded in several areas. Soil moisture was

generally very good statewide. Harvest of summer crops and planting of small grains continued to progress northward. Apple growers in the Trans Pecos reported that their crop would be very good, and about 2 weeks early. Armyworms were attacking hay fields and pastures in several counties in Eastern and Central Texas and some producers were spraying them. Lovebugs, hackleberry wooly aphids and crickets were more isolated problems.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Wheat and oat planting made good progress. Field conditions were favorable most of the week with adequate soil moisture.

Corn: In the Northern Plains, harvest was beginning and silage harvest continued. Producers in North Central Texas were moving closer to harvest completion. Statewide, corn condition was rated at 92 percent of normal compared with 54 percent last year.

Cotton: More heat units were needed in the western part of the state. Most irrigation has stopped statewide. Cotton defoliating and some stripping were underway in North Central Texas. Harvest was nearing completion in the Coastal districts and South Central Texas, with some delays from scattered rainfall. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 82 percent of normal compared with 51 percent last year.

Sorghum: Harvest progressed northward into the Plains, where harvesting has begun in some fields. The cooler temperatures and moisture have caused some fields to be later than others. Harvest was winding down in North Central Texas. Statewide, sorghum condition was rated at 81 percent of normal compared with 57 percent last year.

Peanuts: Harvest was underway in the Plains with some weed problems in fields. More heat units would be beneficial. Peanuts were developing with some wilt reported; the crop still looked good. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 91 percent of normal compared with 84 percent last year.

Rice: Harvest progressed and was near completion in several counties. Statewide, rice condition was rated at 81 percent of normal, compared with 87 percent last year.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

On the **High Plains**, pumpkin harvest was in full swing. Watermelon harvest was slowing down, and more melons were getting midew.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden** region, spinach and onion fields and cabbage seed beds were being prepared.

Pecans: Pecans in the Trans Pecos were reaching the hardening stage. In Central and East Texas, pecan scab and pecan weevil were problems in many orchards with some pecan trees continuing to drop nuts. Spraying to control the weevils continued. Tree nut load in some orchards appeared to be above normal for a light year.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Statewide pastures and ranges continued to be in good to excellent condition. In the central and eastern parts of the state, producers were concerned about the invasion of armyworms in pastures and forage fields. Most body scores on cattle continued to show fair to excellent condition. Supplemental feeding was very limited and in isolated areas. Fall calving has started. Some producers were weaning calves and reporting above average weaning weights. On the Edwards Plateau, bucks and rams were being put out for breeding.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Sep 6 - 12) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Sep 1 - 12) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Sep 12) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Jun - Aug) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.00	0.18	16.10	18.87	111
Low Rolling Plains	0.04	0.06	17.73	23.78	113
North Central Texas	0.31	0.53	27.40	34.00	181
East Texas	0.13	0.28	32.41	45.69	121
Trans Pecos	0.05	0.19	12.01	12.96	113
Edwards Plateau	0.34	0.51	20.00	24.01	142
South Central Texas	0.24	1.18	24.06	34.48	108
Upper Coast	0.08	1.14	39.35	47.63	104
South Texas	1.08	2.79	17.48	23.49	91
Lower Valley	0.45	1.93	18.24	25.34	99



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - September 12, 2004 *

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	8	1	15	1	5	1	7	8	19	9	2	0	30	4	0
Short	44	20	25	21	24	21	47	34	35	31	42	18	28	26	18
Adequate	46	75	58	78	71	75	46	53	46	57	55	80	42	59	57
Surplus	2	4	2	0	0	3	0	5	0	3	1	2	0	11	25

* 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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