

# Texas Crop Weather

Released: October 11, 2005 (3:00 P.M. CDT)  
For the week of October 3 - 9, 2005  
TX-CW4105

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

**Crop Progress Table - October 9, 2005**

Crop	2005	2004	Average 2000-2004
- Percent -			
<b>Corn</b>			
Mature .....	96	100	99
Harvested .....	86	79	87
<b>Cotton</b>			
Bolls Opening .....	72	60	78
Harvested .....	25	21	29
<b>Peanuts</b>			
Harvested .....	15	22	20
<b>Rice</b>			
Harvested .....	100	100	100
<b>Sorghum</b>			
Coloring .....	96	93	94
Mature .....	79	78	84
Harvested .....	65	61	72
<b>Soybeans</b>			
Dropping Leaves .....	84	--	--
Harvested .....	67	73	82
<b>Sunflowers</b>			
Harvested .....	53	58	76
<b>Wheat</b>			
Planted .....	59	67	65
Emerged .....	29	42	36
<b>Oats</b>			
Planted .....	47	65	56
Emerged .....	9	--	--
<b>Pecans</b>			
Harvested .....	5	7	5

**Crop Condition Table - October 9, 2005**

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
- Percent -					
Cotton .....	16	45	20	12	7
Peanuts .....	19	54	23	3	1
Wheat .....	2	26	44	21	7
Range & Pasture ...	1	12	29	35	23

**Agricultural Summary:** Weather conditions were relatively stable at the beginning of the week. Harvest of summer crops moved ahead, but planting of small grains remained slow as soil moisture levels remained mostly unacceptable for optimum planting. In areas where irrigation was possible emergence of earlier planted grains was progressing well, however in dry locations emergence was very limited and death losses were continuing to rise. Replanting will be necessary when moisture conditions improve. Range and pastures were also in varying stages of drought across the state forcing many producers to reduce the size of their herds. Supplemental feeding was necessary in nearly all areas, however due to the continued dry conditions many producers were unable to locate adequate supplies. Water available for livestock also remained short to very short in many locations across the state. In mid to late week, a strong cold front crossed the state and brought light to moderate rains to portions of the Plains. Generally only minor accumulations were reported, however a few locations received one to two inches of moisture. Some hail was reported resulting in slight crop damage. Elsewhere, only very light showers occurred as the cool front moved south and east. The colder temperatures will reduce the growth and maturity rate of remaining crops, however most crops were in the

final stages of development and awaited harvest.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Land preparation and planting continued, but was extremely slow as soil moisture levels were generally inadequate for good emergence. Many producers continued to indicate that replanting will be necessary as soon as sufficient rain is received. High winds across the Plains destroyed a few recently dry planted fields. Irrigation remained active in areas where possible. Some problems with army worms continued, however there were no widespread problems. Statewide wheat condition was rated at 58 percent of normal.

**Cotton:** Further development became impossible as much cooler temperatures covered the Plains. Harvest and pre-harvest activities moved ahead at a rapid rate across most remaining areas. Ginning and stalk destruction activities continued in areas where harvest was ongoing. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 73 percent of normal, compared with 76 percent last year.

**Corn:** Harvest activities were heavy across the Plains and portions of North Texas.

**Sorghum:** Continued growth was mostly finished for the season as a result of colder temperatures across the Plains. Harvest remained active across many areas of the Plains and North Central Texas. Only a few delays were reported from these areas.

**Peanuts:** Harvest and preparations for harvest were moving ahead at a rapid pace in portions of the Plains. Pre watering before harvest was necessary in a few locations. Further south, a few locations needed a few more days of development prior to harvest to obtain satisfactory yields. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 84 percent of normal, compared with 77 percent last year.

**Soybeans:** Harvest continued across areas of the Plains and in a few other locations where rains had prevented earlier harvest. Irrigated soybeans were producing relatively well, however dryland soybeans were showing decreased yields in most areas.

## Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, vegetable planting was in progress across several areas where pre-watering was possible. Early citrus harvest was in progress on a limited basis.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, early planted cabbage made good progress and pre-watering continued in areas where other fall crops will be planted. Spinach planting continued in varied locations, but only where pre-watering had occurred.

In the **High Plains**, harvest of late season watermelons and pumpkins continued, but was winding down in all reporting areas.

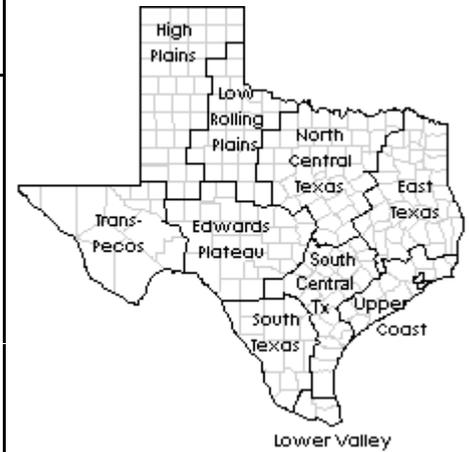
**Pecans:** Pecans continued to make fair to good progress across the state, especially where irrigation has been available this season. Nut drop increased in dry land orchards in several areas as the dry conditions continued. Other losses occurred during the week as the result of high winds across portions of the Plains and the Trans Pecos region.

## Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Pasture green up and improvement was generally slow to non-existent across most areas of the state. The improvement that occurred as the result of earlier rains has generally diminished as dry and hot weather conditions have returned. Many areas have reported that pasture grasses have started to go dormant and available forage is quickly disappearing. With the cool front that crossed the state, temperatures are considerable cooler and native pastures will be slow to recover prior to winter. Hay production remained very slow across the state as rainfall was needed in the majority of all locations. Culling and herd reduction continued to be necessary in the driest locations. Many producers who planted small grains for fall grazing have indicated that replanting and additional moisture will be necessary before grazing could occur. Hauling water to livestock was ongoing in a few of the driest areas. Improvement in areas of East Texas that received significant rain were still undefined. Some locations received quick run-off, but did little to improve pastures. A few reports of army worms were received, however problems appear to be isolated with no widespread problems at this time.

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

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Oct 3 - 9) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Oct 1 - 9) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Oct 9) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Jul - Sep) Percent of Normal
High Plains	1.14	1.14	15.55	18.87	78
Low Rolling Plains	1.36	1.36	17.27	23.78	90
North Central Texas	0.91	0.91	18.28	34.00	82
East Texas	0.01	0.04	22.36	45.69	87
Trans Pecos	1.49	1.49	11.32	12.96	76
Edwards Plateau	1.32	1.32	17.11	24.01	83
South Central Texas	0.52	0.60	16.61	34.48	52
Upper Coast	0.46	0.54	33.22	47.63	100
South Texas	0.28	0.28	10.26	23.49	45
Lower Valley	0.50	0.54	8.79	25.34	56



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

**Top Soil Moisture by District - October 9, 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	25	6	14	9	29	51	33	31	18	29	42	51	43	34	0
Short	46	36	27	20	43	44	58	45	18	43	43	40	30	44	48
Adequate	25	51	48	64	26	5	9	24	57	28	15	9	27	20	52
Surplus	4	7	11	7	2	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	2	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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