

Texas Crop Weather



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 For the week of November 22 - 28, 2004
 TX-CW4804

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

Crop Progress Table - November 28, 2004

Crop	2004	2003	Average 1999-2003
	<i>Percent</i>		
Corn			
Harvested	100	100	100
Cotton			
Bolls Opening	96	99	100
Harvested	46	67	74
Peanuts			
Harvested	75	92	85
Sorghum			
Mature	100	96	99
Harvested	82	84	93
Wheat			
Planted	92	96	94
Emerged	86	87	82
Other Field Crops			
Planted			
Oats	99	96	90
Harvested			
Pecans	57	58	48
Soybeans	98	100	100
Sunflowers	97	94	99

Crop Condition Table - November 28, 2004

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Cotton	15	44	26	11	4
Wheat	34	51	14	1	0
Range & Pasture . .	16	44	29	9	2

Agricultural Summary: Conditions across the state were generally unfavorable to farming activities during the week. Periods of sunshine were seen in most locations; however freezing temperatures, rain, drizzle, fog, thunderstorms, tornadoes and some hail was reported especially during early week. Property damage seemed to be minimal, but many roads remained impassable due to extreme muddy conditions. Remaining harvest was at a standstill across the state due to these conditions. Pastures and stock ponds received the most benefit as moisture levels were great for growth of winter grasses and most reservoirs were full. Producers were desperately in need of an extended drying out time, however long range reports were not favorable. In some areas field grazing was discontinued as conditions became too muddy and supplemental feeding of livestock increased as the result of the harsh conditions. Sickness in livestock continued to rise and some losses were reported.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Growth and development remained slow as the result of the continued wet conditions. Yellowing and drowning remained an increasing problem for many producers and problems with rust began in some other areas. Many areas indicated that further plantings may not occur

if conditions do not improve soon. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 92 percent of normal, compared with 62 percent last year.

Corn: Harvest remained on hold during the week as rain and muddy field conditions prevented any farming activities. Laying down and blowing over remained a problem for many producers and harvest will be more difficult in these locations.

Cotton: Cotton harvest remained stalled across the state as field conditions continued to be extremely wet. Stringing and dropping out continued to be a major problem for producers. Quality was also declining with each weather front and many gins remained closed due to the muddy conditions. Some cotton was damaged by passing hail storms during early week. A few producers have indicated that further harvest might be impossible; therefore abandonment and zeroing out may be the only option. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 75 percent of normal, compared with 54 percent last year.

Sorghum: Extreme muddy conditions kept harvest on hold during the week. An extended drying out time is needed; however some producers indicate that abandonment is possible if conditions remain unimproved.

Peanuts: Remaining peanut harvest was generally on hold during the week as conditions were totally unfavorable. Grade and yield continued to be affected on peanuts that have been dug, but not thrashed. Concern over remaining peanuts continued to grow and possibilities of severe losses increased for some producers.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, progress remained good for early planted vegetables. Harvest of early citrus and sugarcane was active in several locations.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, land preparation was generally stalled as the result of widespread rainfall in early week. Harvest of early cabbage was slow, but increased somewhat in late week. Onions and carrots continued to make good progress.

In the **High Plains**, land preparation remained generally on hold during the week.

In the **Trans Pecos**, remaining harvest and land preparation for next year's crops was on hold across the area. In some locations water was standing in the fields.

Pecans: Harvest was generally on hold across the state, however in a few locations harvest moved ahead in late week. Some producers reported extreme muddy conditions which prevented machinery from operating in their orchard. It seems that producers with native orchards which generally grow along natural waterways have been hurt the worst as flooding rivers and streams have washed away thousands of pounds of pecans.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Range and pastures across the state continued to benefit from the above average rainfall this growing season. Pasture damage due to trampling and bogging was a major problem for producers in many locations and some pastures were reported as too wet to graze. Supplemental feeding continued to increase in many areas, especially in areas of the plains where temperatures were cooler and extreme wet conditions were present. Remaining hay production was on hold in most locations and some losses were reported due to excessive rainfall. Livestock sickness increased in the cooler areas as the result of constant weather swings and some losses were reported especially in light weight cattle.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Nov 22 - 28) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Nov 1 - 28) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Nov 28) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Aug - Oct) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.65	4.38	27.02	18.87	143
Low Rolling Plains	0.44	5.35	26.86	23.78	74
North Central Texas	1.10	5.44	38.95	34.00	104
East Texas	1.78	7.00	44.99	45.69	81
Trans Pecos	0.14	2.61	19.50	12.96	132
Edwards Plateau	0.24	4.41	29.94	24.01	116
South Central Texas	1.79	6.33	36.95	34.48	92
Upper Coast	1.63	12.35	57.15	47.63	67
South Texas	0.19	2.05	22.42	23.49	93
Lower Valley	0.04	1.11	26.10	25.34	100



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - November 28, 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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	2	0	0	0
Short	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	28	4	0	12	0	16	40
Adequate	57	33	13	82	90	8	0	0	61	75	0	78	5	72	60
Surplus	43	67	87	5	10	92	100	100	0	21	100	8	95	12	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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