

Texas Crop Weather



Released: August 9, 2004 (3:00 P.M. CDT)
 For the week of August 2 - 8, 2004
 TX-CW3204

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

Crop Progress Table - August 8, 2004

Crop	2004	2003	Average 1999-2003
	<i>Percent</i>		
Corn			
Silked	99	99	98
Dough	86	87	85
Dented	72	70	66
Mature	56	62	56
Harvested	24	24	33
Cotton			
Squaring	96	90	96
Setting Bolls	71	59	78
Bolls Opening	15	16	15
Harvested	3	3	6
Peanuts			
Pegging	97	93	91
Rice			
Headed	95	98	97
Harvested	12	21	32
Sorghum			
Headed	72	62	75
Turning Color	50	50	56
Mature	45	46	48
Harvested	41	41	41

Crop Condition Table - August 8, 2004

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Corn	39	45	13	3	0
Cotton	24	49	19	6	2
Peanuts	33	48	18	1	0
Rice	13	51	33	3	0
Sorghum	20	56	17	5	2
Range & Pasture ..	14	41	27	12	6

Agricultural Summary: Sunshine and rains in the same week kept many producers happy. The early part of the week was quiet as producers awaited rains across the State. Portions of the state, including the Upper Coast, eastern Trans Pecos, and isolated areas of the Panhandle saw a trace to an inch of rain early in the week. Later in the week, larger amounts of rain spread from the Panhandle to southeast regions of the state. Some isolated locations saw up to 4 inches in the Panhandle and up to 2 inches in areas of the South Plains. Many irrigation pumps rested as rains replenished the soil profile. In areas receiving the most moisture over the past few weeks, heat was still needed to help with insects and possible mildew threats. Areas near creeks and basins were swarming with mosquitos. Some isolated hail storms damaged crops on the Plains. Fences were repaired from past storms in some areas. Insect, weed and disease control continued. Although several areas saw rains, there were still dry areas in need of more soil moisture.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Wheat field preparation continued throughout the week.

Corn: Panhandle corn was in soft dough to dent stage and getting closer to maturity. Some borer spraying was occurring. Blacklands producers continued harvest on corn, but some of them were unable to get a good start due to humidity. Rust helped the corn dry down faster, whereas other areas of the Blacklands saw slow drying due to humidity. Harvest of corn continued in the South Central region, and was nearing completion along the Coastal Bend, Upper Coast, and some portions of South Texas. Statewide, corn condition was rated at 92 percent of normal compared with 60 percent last year.

Cotton: Cotton was generally average to above average across all regions. There was some failure due to over saturation and hail. Some areas in the Southern High Plains were seeing some of the best crops ever. Growth regulator and weed control were being administered. Insect scouting had begun. While producers sprayed for aphids, some weevils were witnessed. Isolated worm findings were witnessed across the state. There was root rot reported in some Blackland cotton. South Central cotton was nearing cut-out and harvest was getting closer with light insect damage being reported. Harvest was in full swing or nearing along the Coastal Bend. South Texas cotton producers were either harvesting or nearing harvest. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 84 percent of normal compared with 58 percent last year.

Sorghum: Most dryland sorghum in the Plains benefitted from increased moisture, but there were still fields in need of rain. Harvest of sorghum in the Blacklands had begun and progress was moving north. For the most part, the state saw promising yields. Statewide, sorghum condition was rated at 84 percent of normal compared with 59 percent last year.

Peanuts: In the Plains, peanuts were pegging rapidly. There was some disease and leaf-spots in some fields. Peanuts in the South Central region were at the pegging stage and were at their peak water use time. South Texas peanuts were progressing nicely. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 91 percent of normal compared with 88 percent last year.

Rice: Rice harvest had begun on the Upper Coast. Statewide, rice condition was rated at 81 percent of normal, compared with 88 percent last year.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

On the **High Plains**, pumpkins were ahead of schedule, and responded well to recent rains. Watermelon fields were being harvested.

In the **Trans-Pecos**, melon harvest was going well.

On the **Edwards Plateau**, due to heat and water stress, some pecans were dropping from trees. Orchards that received rain were benefitting.

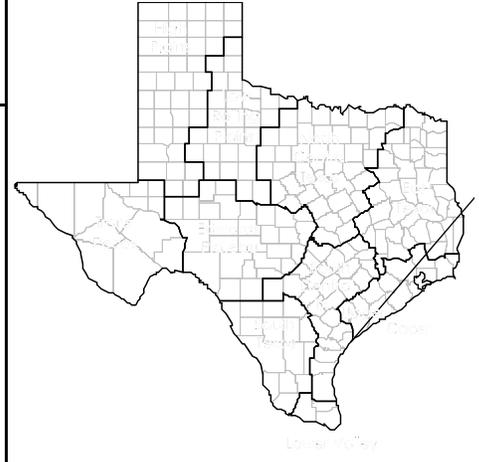
In **East Texas**, peach harvest continued. Vegetable crop production had slowed down with the hotter temperatures.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Pastures and rangeland continued to grow in the Plains after rainfall. Most cattle in the region were not in need of supplemental feeding. Hay baling continued as weather permitted. Grasses continued to green as moisture was in abundance in many areas. Fly populations were extremely high on some ranches in the Cross Timbers where little or no control was being used. Land preparations were active for winter forages. Grasshopper pressure was on the rise in East Texas. Some supplementing was taking place on the Trans Pecos.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Aug 2 - 8) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Aug 1 - 8) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Aug 8) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (May - Jul) Percent of Normal
High Plains	1.06	1.06	14.34	18.87	84
Low Rolling Plains	0.39	0.39	15.81	23.78	81
North Central Texas	0.21	0.21	23.93	34.00	119
East Texas	0.04	0.13	29.53	45.69	110
Trans Pecos	0.26	0.26	9.43	12.96	90
Edwards Plateau	0.50	0.50	16.40	24.01	91
South Central Texas	0.03	0.07	20.84	34.48	108
Upper Coast	0.43	0.68	35.95	47.63	137
South Texas	0.08	0.08	12.44	23.49	73
Lower Valley	0.17	0.17	14.98	25.34	92



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - August 8, 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	4	9	7	2	13	10	3	9	22	18	1	50	0	5	0
Short	24	17	22	8	39	29	46	52	28	42	34	45	30	47	40
Adequate	69	64	67	84	48	55	50	39	50	39	58	5	70	44	60
Surplus	3	10	4	6	0	6	1	0	0	1	7	0	0	4	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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