

Texas Crop Weather



Released: September 7, 2004 (3:00 P.M. CDT)
 For the week of August 30 - September 5, 2004
 TX-CW3604

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

Crop Progress Table - September 5, 2004

Crop	2004	2003	Average 1999-2003
	<i>Percent</i>		
Corn			
Dough	99	98	100
Dented	92	94	94
Mature	75	80	79
Harvested	55	65	59
Cotton			
Setting Bolls	96	95	99
Bolls Opening	22	27	38
Harvested	15	15	15
Peanuts			
Harvested	0	0	3
Rice			
Harvested	84	85	89
Sorghum			
Headed	91	83	94
Turning Color	66	61	80
Mature	56	55	69
Harvested	53	53	61
Wheat			
Planted	16	11	7
Other Field Crops			
Planted			
Oats	8	7	3
Harvested			
Soybeans	43	56	59
Sunflowers	1	36	39

Crop Condition Table - September 5, 2004

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Corn	36	49	13	2	0
Cotton	25	47	19	5	4
Peanuts	38	46	13	1	2
Rice	10	54	34	2	0
Sorghum	19	49	24	7	1
Range & Pasture ...	12	45	30	10	3

Agricultural Summary: Mild and wet conditions continued for most regions in the State. Late summer cold fronts made their way down from the northwest to bring unusually cool temperatures. Most areas experienced highs only in the 80's. Night time lows dropped down into the lower 60's and upper 50's in many locations. On the Panhandle, scattered showers moved through, resulting in rainfall amounts ranging from a trace to ½ inch of rain. Isolated locations received up to an inch. Widely scattered thunderstorms blew through the South Plains. Hail was reported with these storms as well as rainfall accumulations near 3 inches in some locations. Heavy precipitation was reported on the Edwards Plateau, down through South Texas, and in the Rio Grande Valley. A trace to over 4 inches of rain were recorded in those regions, with 2 inches accumulation being the most common. Isolated locations on the Upper Coast

and Coastal Bend saw scattered rainfall ranging from 2 to 4 inches. Soil moisture was excellent nearly statewide. Field work was delayed in southern regions due to rain. Harvest of summer crops continued to progress northward. Many grain producers were opening up their fields to dove hunters. Horn and heel flies were a consistent problem on cattle.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Wheat planting made good progress. Field conditions were very favorable. Many producers were anxious to put out their stockers for the upcoming fall and winter.

Corn: Silage cutting continued on the Panhandle. Grain harvest was expected to begin in the region within the next week or two as fields dry down. Blackland corn growers continued combining when conditions allowed and should be nearing completion shortly. Harvest of remaining fields in South Texas was delayed due to rain. Harvest was virtually complete on the Upper Coast, Coastal Bend, and Rio Grande Valley. Statewide, corn condition was rated at 92 percent of normal compared with 54 percent last year.

Cotton: On the Panhandle and South Plains, more heat units were still needed in most fields. Producers were pleased with the moisture received, but were concerned with the maturity of the crop. Irrigation had been reduced or halted all together in many areas. A few fields in wetter locations showed signs of moisture stress. Cotton stripping moved forward in southern areas on the Blacklands. Boll worms and aphids were a problem in a few fields. Defoliant was applied heavy in the region due to vibrant plant growth. Harvest was delayed in many areas of the Upper Coast and Coastal Bend due to passing showers. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 83 percent of normal compared with 52 percent last year.

Sorghum: Fields continued to progress on the Panhandle and South Plains, where some limited harvesting began. Most growers will start combining within the next few weeks. Some fields were a little bit behind due to cooler weather. Harvest on the Blacklands was wrapping up for the most part. Statewide, sorghum condition was rated at 81 percent of normal compared with 57 percent last year.

Peanuts: Disease began to plague peanut fields with the onset on cool, wet conditions. Producers reported pod rot and leaf spots in their fields and were spraying accordingly. More heat units would be needed to reach the full potential of the crop. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 91 percent of normal compared with 86 percent last year.

Rice: Harvest of the first crop progressed rapidly and was near completion in many counties. Damage from feral hogs remained a problem. 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**, pumpkins looked good and harvest of early fields progressed. Watermelon harvest continued.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden** region, cabbage planting was expected to begin in some locations.

In **East Texas**, sweet potato harvest has begun.

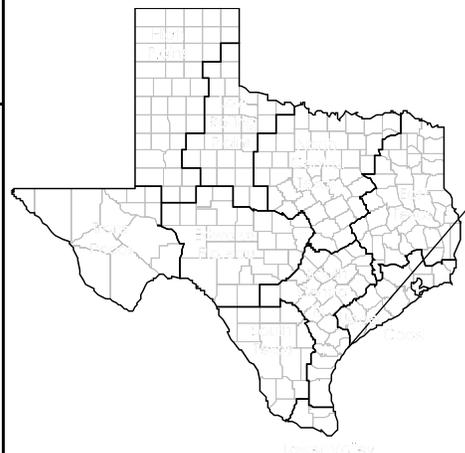
Pecans: Disease was a problem in many orchards due to the increased moisture. Pecan scab and pecan weevil were apparent in several regions. High winds caused serious damage to orchards on the Trans Pecos.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Range and pasture land continued to be in excellent shape nearly statewide. However, weeds were evident in many pastures. Cattle were also reported in excellent condition. Supplemental feeding was limited to isolated areas or not occurring at all. Horn and heel flies were an increasing nuisance on cattle. Cattlemen expected good weaning weights this fall. Shrimp producers on the Trans Pecos continued to struggle with low prices.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Aug 30 - Sep 5) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Aug 1 - 31) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Sep 5) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Jun - Aug) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.52	2.64	16.10	18.87	111
Low Rolling Plains	0.10	2.25	17.69	23.78	113
North Central Texas	0.22	3.15	27.09	34.00	181
East Texas	0.15	2.73	32.28	45.69	121
Trans Pecos	0.72	2.65	11.96	12.96	113
Edwards Plateau	1.04	3.59	19.66	24.01	142
South Central Texas	1.58	2.11	23.82	34.48	108
Upper Coast	1.16	2.94	39.27	47.63	104
South Texas	2.12	2.33	16.40	23.49	91
Lower Valley	1.97	1.50	17.79	25.34	99



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - September 5, 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	0	11	1	0	2	5	0	3	8	3	0	29	2	0
Short	29	16	21	12	20	20	24	25	34	29	43	19	26	11	30
Adequate	59	79	67	80	80	74	64	66	55	60	53	52	42	75	70
Surplus	9	5	1	7	0	4	7	9	8	3	1	29	3	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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