

Texas Crop Weather

Released: June 16, 2003 (3:00 P.M. CDT)

For the week of June 9 - 15, 2003

TX-CW2403

1-800-626-3142

www.nass.usda.gov/tx

Crop Progress Table - June 15, 2003

Crop	2003	2002	Average
			1998-2002
			<i>Percent</i>
Corn			
Silked	62	63	53
Dough	27	37	35
Dented	6	14	12
Cotton			
Planted	87	93	91
Squaring	19	26	22
Setting Bolls	11	11	10
Bolls Opening	0	0	1
Peanuts			
Planted	95	92	91
Pegging	4	5	3
Rice			
Headed	12	17	14
Sorghum			
Planted	73	81	82
Headed	39	45	40
Turning Color	19	19	23
Mature	4	6	8
Harvested	1	1	2
Wheat			
Harvested	52	48	49
Other Field Crops			
Planted			
Soybeans	93	96	92
Sunflowers	72	80	79
Harvested			
Oats	77	83	72

Crop Condition Table - June 15, 2003

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
Corn	6	34	26	19	15
Cotton	6	23	31	19	21
Peanuts	14	63	19	4	0
Rice	11	73	16	0	0
Sorghum	6	45	34	11	4
Wheat	3	15	32	25	25
Range & Pasture	5	21	39	23	12

Agricultural Summary: Stormy weather continued across many areas of the State as Gulf moisture collided with cooler dry air from the northwest. The High Plains received rainfall ranging from a trace to about 2 inches. While the moisture was welcomed, the hail, high winds, and lightning were not. Crop acreage continued to be lost or damaged by strong winds, hail storms, and water erosion. Widespread areas of North, East, Central Texas, the Coastal Bend and the Edwards Plateau received at least 2 inches of rain with many locations reporting 3 to 5 inches and up to 7 inches in parts of East Texas. The Trans Pecos region reported isolated thunderstorms with most locations recording little rain. Only trace amounts of moisture were realized in the Rio Grande Valley. Field work was suspended in most regions because of the rain. Soil moisture conditions improved over most of the state, giving producers optimism about second hay cuttings, improved pastures, and summer crops that could still benefit. Thrips and disease continued to cause problems in cotton fields. Some farmers missed the insurance deadline to plant and alternative crops were being discussed.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Winter wheat harvest was suspended in many areas because of weather. Where conditions allowed, combining was active on the Low Rolling Plains and North Texas, and was gaining momentum on the High Plains. Some acreage was lost to hail and lodging occurred in some fields due to wind. The total amount of acres lost was still being accessed. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 44 percent of normal compared with percent 39 last year.

Corn: Many fields on the High Plains were destroyed or damaged by hail and wind. The rain was very beneficial to those fields that were able to avoid the severe conditions. All corn fields in southern regions were just about fully developed, but many were too far gone to benefit from this rain. In parts of South Texas, some corn was being harvested for silage or was being zeroed-out. Statewide, corn condition was rated at 58 percent of normal compared with 60 percent last year.

Cotton: Severe weather continued to wreak havoc on cotton fields on the High Plains. Hail, high winds, and blowing sand destroyed or damaged emerging seedlings. Cooler temperatures and moist conditions resulted in an increase in disease. Some producers were replanting where conditions allowed and others were evaluating alternative crops such as sorghum and soybeans. Planting was delayed in many locations, and many producers missed getting acreage planted prior to insurance deadlines. Thrips continued to be a problem for producers on the High Plains. Fields that were not destroyed by hail varied from poor to good condition on the Plains. In Central Texas, cotton was mostly in fair to good condition. Cotton in the Coastal Bend benefitted from the rain and was starting to bloom. Rio Grande Valley cotton was progressing well but in need of moisture. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 52 percent of normal compared with 59 percent last year.

Sorghum: Many acres received damage from the storms. Hail and wind damage were common. Those fields that were not adversely affected by severe weather benefitted from the added moisture. Where conditions allowed planting was active on the High Plains. Additional acreage was expected to be planted after disastered cotton and fields that missed the planting deadline. Sorghum in southern areas made good progress. In the Coastal Bend, fields had turned color and were expected to be harvested in the next few weeks. Some combining was occurring in the Rio Grande Valley. Statewide, sorghum condition was rated at 70 percent of normal compared with 56 percent last year.

Peanuts: Planting was delayed in remaining fields but was completed in most locations. Some peanuts were damaged or destroyed by storms. Some producers were discussing planting Spanish peanuts after disastered cotton. Fields in southern regions benefitted greatly from the increased moisture. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 85 percent of normal compared with 85 percent last year.

Rice: Fields were flooded and development was progressing. Statewide, rice condition was rated at 87 percent of normal compared with 91 percent last year.

Soybeans: Planting on the Plains was delayed due to the weather. Some producers were evaluating soybeans whether to plant after disastered cotton. When conditions allowed, planting continued in Southeast Texas.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley** harvest was wrapping up for onions and other vegetables. Watermelon harvest continued.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden** onion harvest was delayed by rain. Carrot and cabbage harvest was near completion. Watermelons and cantaloupes needed spraying for aphids.

In **East Texas**, vegetables that were not too far gone from drought benefitted greatly from the rain. Watermelons were turning color and sweet potato producers were completing slip transplanting.

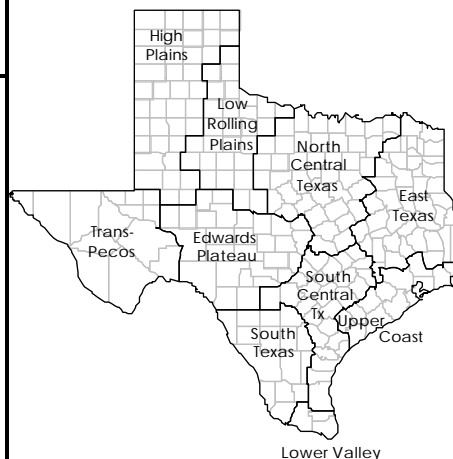
Pecans: Additional rain helped to reduce Pecan Nut Casebearer problems. Development was favorable with recent rainfall.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Range and pastures were greening up after a few weeks of rain. Much of the green up actually consisted of fast growing weeds with limited food value, but producers were optimistic about the improving conditions. Some ranchers were delaying stocker sell off due to the improved pasture. Stock tanks, which had been getting low, were filled by rains. Horn and heel flies remained a nuisance. In some areas, supplemental feeding was still necessary.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (June 9 - 15) Accumulation	Month-to-date (June 1 - 15) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Jun 15) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Mar - May) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.94	2.53	5.28	18.87	54
Low Rolling Plains	0.63	2.24	6.18	23.78	44
North Central Texas	1.84	3.11	10.31	34.00	41
East Texas	1.99	2.72	11.59	45.69	38
Trans Pecos	0.51	0.74	2.59	12.96	44
Edwards Plateau	1.61	3.12	7.39	24.01	42
South Central Texas	1.33	2.60	7.43	34.48	22
Upper Coast	1.64	3.24	11.39	47.63	35
South Texas	1.89	2.43	7.27	23.49	47
Lower Valley	0.65	0.93	4.86	25.34	52



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - June 15, 2003 *

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	18	1	5	0	7	5	6	19	61	12	27	21	24	7	8
Short	37	18	15	7	14	17	27	45	39	31	39	52	61	46	82
Adequate	45	73	74	72	51	61	64	29	0	54	31	24	12	45	10
Surplus	0	8	6	21	28	17	3	7	0	3	3	3	3	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.**