

Texas Crop Weather



Released: July 7, 2003 (3:00 P.M. CDT)
 For the week of June 30 - July 6, 2003
 TX-CW2703

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

Crop Progress Table - July 6, 2003

Crop	2003	2002	Average 1998-2002
	<i>Percent</i>		
Corn			
Silked	69	75	67
Dough	59	60	55
Dented	31	46	42
Mature	6	16	14
Cotton			
Planted	100	100	100
Squaring	35	59	62
Setting Bolls	20	20	18
Bolls Opening	2	6	5
Peanuts			
Pegging	28	38	39
Rice			
Headed	54	69	59
Sorghum			
Planted	91	96	96
Headed	47	63	52
Turning Color	39	40	39
Mature	20	23	27
Harvested	8	12	16
Wheat			
Harvested	90	95	92
Other Field Crops			
Planted			
Soybeans	98	100	99
Sunflowers	90	96	94
Harvested			
Oats	96	97	92

Crop Condition Table - July 6, 2003

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Corn	8	37	25	19	11
Cotton *	5	26	33	16	20
Peanuts	19	65	14	1	1
Rice	13	65	22	0	0
Sorghum	14	48	24	10	4
Range & Pasture	7	32	36	16	9

* Cotton percentages brought forward from previous week.

Agricultural Summary: Open hot conditions returned to the Plains for most of the week. Other parts of the state were hot and dry in early week, but by mid-week areas along the coast and part of South Central Texas received scattered thunderstorms and showers. By late week, a low pressure system in West Texas triggered more storms in the south, south central, part of the Edwards Plateau regions. Rainfall amounts varied widely, but many localities received generous amounts. Some downpours were heavy in areas of South Texas and the Hill county. Crops that received recent moisture were responding well. Earlier planted row crops were quickly approaching maturity and were being harvested in South Texas. Producers in the High Plains made progress with finishing-up with planting, replanting row crops and harvesting of wheat. Hay harvest was gaining momentum in more areas. Pastures and ranges were improving in areas

which have received recent moisture. Some parts of the state remained dry and were in need of rain. Livestock were mostly in good condition with some supplemental feeding taking place. Insect pressure was increasing in some locations but was not widespread. Some spraying for pests such as bollworms and headworms in sorghum was active. Harvest of summer vegetables and fruits was at various stages of completion.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Harvest made progress in remaining areas of the Plains and Panhandle. In other parts of the state, producers were working fields that had recently been harvested.

Corn: Development continued across the state. Fields in the Panhandle were mostly in good condition. Some early planted fields were tasseling. Corn silage harvest was active in north central areas and grain harvest had begun in the lower Valley. Most corn fields in southern regions were beginning to dry down. Statewide, corn condition was rated at 62 percent of normal compared with 69 percent last year.

Cotton: Early cotton in South and Central Districts was at various stages of development, and most fields were progressing well. In the Southern Plains, hot open weather was good for growing cotton. Planting of failed cotton fields had been mostly completed. Crop development was lagging behind due to less than ideal growing conditions and a larger amount later planted acreage. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 54 percent of normal compared with 57 percent last year.

Sorghum: Producers were wrapping up with planting activities across the Plains. Due to recent rains, most of the acreage continued to make good progress. More fields across central growing areas were turning color. In Southern areas, harvest activities were gaining momentum prior to late week rains. Statewide, sorghum condition was rated at 76 percent of normal compared with 62 percent last year.

Peanuts: Plants made good progress and were pegging. Most peanut areas benefitted greatly from the increased moisture. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 88 percent of normal compared with 86 percent last year.

Rice: Fields continued to head out and make good progress under favorable growing conditions. Most fields were running a little behind in development due to the late start. Statewide, rice condition was rated at 88 percent of normal, compared with 86 percent last year.

Soybeans: Planting of remaining soybeans on the Plains was wrapping up. Early planted fields were reaching maturity along the Upper Coast. Crop progress was generally good across the state.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley** harvest was wrapping up for remaining vegetables. Watermelon and cantaloupe harvest was winding down.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden** Summer vegetable and watermelon harvest was active between showers. Cabbage harvest was nearing completion.

In **East Texas**, harvest of various summer crops such as peaches, blueberries, watermelon and tomatoes was active. Soil moisture and growing conditions have been satisfactory.

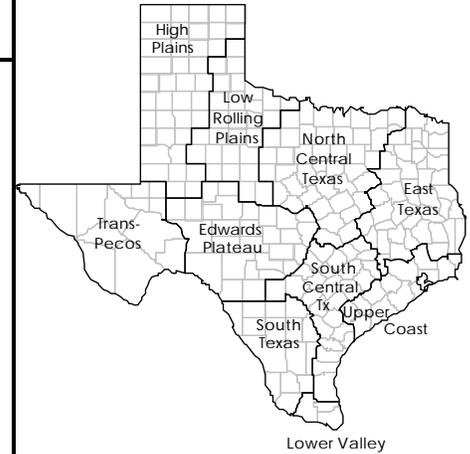
Pecans: Pecans were growing well and filling out nicely with few insect problems. Development was favorable with recent rainfall and the crop looks good overall.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Range and pastures were responding well in areas that recently received rainfall. Hay growth and cutting was in full swing. Supplemental feeding continued in areas where pasture conditions were poor. Livestock were mostly in good condition across the state. Supplemental feeding was active in the driest areas. Weaning and selling of calves was in progress for many producers. Stock tanks, which had been getting low, were filled by rains in some areas. Horn and heel flies remained a nuisance.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Jun 30 - Jul 6) Accumulation	Month-to-date (June 1 - 30) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Jul 6) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Apr - Jun) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.14	4.18	7.07	18.87	93
Low Rolling Plains	0.04	3.53	7.51	23.78	72
North Central Texas	0.39	4.00	11.59	34.00	65
East Texas	0.69	4.44	14.00	45.69	56
Trans Pecos	0.93	2.09	4.11	12.96	85
Edwards Plateau	1.07	3.36	8.70	24.01	66
South Central Texas	1.83	3.24	9.84	34.48	35
Upper Coast	2.49	6.39	16.45	47.63	61
South Texas	2.63	2.71	10.18	23.49	44
Lower Valley	1.16	2.46	7.55	25.34	55



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - July 6, 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	6	7	6	5	6	9	4	13	61	16	9	7	4	9	0
Short	5	26	24	23	30	24	34	53	32	49	72	8	34	39	40
Adequate	70	46	69	71	62	63	61	34	7	35	19	83	51	51	60
Surplus	19	21	1	1	2	4	1	0	0	0	0	2	11	1	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.**