

Texas Crop Weather



Released: November 10, 2003 (3:00 P.M. CST)

For the week of November 3 - 9, 2003

TX-CW4503

1-800-626-3142

www.nass.usda.gov/tx

Crop Progress Table - November 9, 2003

Crop	2003	2002	Average 1998-2002
	<i>Percent</i>		
Corn			
Harvested	100	100	100
Cotton			
Bolls Opening . . .	96	98	99
Harvested	49	44	60
Peanuts			
Harvested	68	44	64
Sorghum			
Turning Color . . .	96	100	100
Mature	88	96	99
Harvested	73	81	89
Wheat			
Planted	91	88	87
Emerged	77	80	70
Other Field Crops			
Planted			
Oats	92	83	80
Harvested			
Pecans	38	23	26
Soybeans	97	95	96
Sunflowers	90	95	95

Crop Condition Table - November 9, 2003

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Cotton	6	20	36	20	18
Peanuts	21	47	25	5	2
Wheat	5	27	34	24	10
Range & Pasture . .	7	30	34	18	11

Agricultural Summary: Weather conditions across the state were mostly warm, dry and windy during early week. By mid week, a cold front brought in clouds, cold temperatures, and scattered showers to many areas of the state. Some locations reported receiving very little moisture, while other areas received from ½ to two inches of rain. Most of the heaviest amounts fell in areas of the Lower Plains and North Central Texas. A hard freeze occurred mainly in the Panhandle region, while other areas received only a mild frost or cold temperatures. Prior to rains, soil moisture levels were short to adequate in most areas. In the Plains region, harvest of sorghum, cotton, sunflower, dry beans, guar, pecans and peanuts made progress in early week. By mid week, activities were stalled or delayed in some areas due to weather conditions. Planting of small grains made progress in some areas. In dry areas, some herd reduction was taking place and cattle grazing on small grains increased where growth has been adequate. Supplemental feeding increased slightly. Cattle were in good condition and markets were very active as cattle prices remained high. Hunting season was in full swing.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Some small grain planting was active in early week, but was slowed in most areas. Cooler temperatures and moisture have provided excellent conditions for small grain fields. Irrigated wheat was progressing better than the dryland acreage. Armyworm and greenbug infestations continue to cause problems in some areas. Cattle grazing on wheat pastures were on the increase. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 57 percent of normal, compared with 87 percent last year.

Corn: Corn harvest was mostly completed, with just a few fields remaining to be harvested. Land preparation continued for next year.

Cotton: Harvest continued across the Plains, Cross Timbers, East Texas and the Edwards Plateau. Progress was slowed in some areas due to fog and dampness. Some growers continued to wait for a hard frost before attempting to harvest their cotton. Stalk destruction was ongoing in areas where condition allowed. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 52 percent of normal, compared with 63 percent last year.

Sorghum: Adverse weather conditions delayed harvest for a few days in some areas. Due to freezing temperatures, late maturing grain sorghum may have lighter test weights.

Peanuts: Peanut harvest continued at the beginning of the week, but came to a halt at the end of the week with a cool front and wet weather. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 82 percent of normal, compared with 74 percent last year.

Rice: Harvest of the ratoon crop was still ongoing.

Soybeans: Harvest on the Plains and other remaining areas was mostly complete.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, growing and field conditions improved for fall and winter vegetables. Harvest of citrus gained momentum as orchards began to dry out. Sugarcane harvest was still awaiting drier conditions before restarting.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, harvest of cabbage, cucumbers and spinach resumed with favorable weather conditions. Preparation for planting of cabbage and onions continue to make good progress.

In **East Texas**, Sweet potato harvest continued. Harvest in some areas was interrupted because of the wet conditions. Yields and quality remained good.

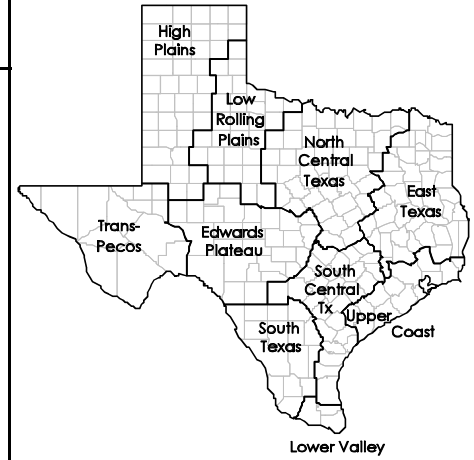
Pecans: The crop continued to mature, and harvest activities had progressed in early week. Production remained varied across the state, but many growers were optimistic about quality and yields.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Late week showers brought temporary relief to some range and pastures. Cold, wet conditions slowed haying operations in some areas. In other areas, supplemental feeding remained necessary where there was little regrowth. Cattle auction barns were seeing a lot of calves and cull cows going to market. Prices remained high and cattle markets were active. In the Trans-Pecos, shrimp harvest was just about complete.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Nov 3 - 9) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Nov 1 - 9) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Nov 9) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Aug - Oct) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.07	0.07	10.82	18.87	54
Low Rolling Plains	0.81	0.81	12.82	23.78	54
North Central Texas	0.82	0.84	20.91	34.00	83
East Texas	0.17	0.17	26.72	45.69	93
Trans Pecos	0.02	0.02	9.76	12.96	78
Edwards Plateau	0.27	0.32	19.37	24.01	115
South Central Texas	0.07	0.08	24.96	34.48	116
Upper Coast	0.00	0.00	37.09	47.63	112
South Texas	0.16	0.23	24.89	23.49	139
Lower Valley	0.02	0.07	22.81	25.34	140



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - November 9, 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	36	34	64	8	19	12	21	0	26	7	2	0	0	14	0
Short	52	53	25	38	39	43	35	33	26	30	26	0	5	11	0
Adequate	12	13	11	54	42	38	41	63	48	61	60	97	78	65	70
Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	7	3	4	0	2	12	3	17	10	30

* 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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