

Texas Crop Weather



Released: April 19, 2004 (3:00 P.M. CDT)
 For the week of April 12 - 18, 2004
 TX-CW1604

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

Crop Progress Table - April 18, 2004

Crop	2004	2003	Average 1999-2003
	<i>Percent</i>		
Corn			
Planted	63	67	59
Emerged	59	56	51
Cotton			
Planted	18	17	14
Rice			
Planted	80	64	69
Emerged	72	40	49
Sorghum			
Planted	48	44	41
Wheat			
Headed	28	21	25
Other Field Crops			
Planted			
Soybeans	49	36	33
Sunflowers	11	17	6

Crop Condition Table - April 18, 2004

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Corn	29	42	24	3	2
Rice	17	70	13	0	0
Wheat	7	34	37	17	5
Range & Pasture ..	17	37	31	10	5

Agricultural Summary: The week started off slowly with cold temperatures and a freeze. A hard freeze with temperatures in the 20's was mostly concentrated in the Plains, but other northern areas received a light freeze. The extent of any damage from the freeze was still being assessed. The cooler spell also lowered soil temperatures and slowed growth of recently planted acreage. A few isolated showers were reported during the week, but no significant amounts of rain fell. Windy and warmer conditions prevailed during the later half of the week. Areas that had previously been too wet were beginning to dry out with the assistance of the wind and warmer days, however fields in some locations were still too wet to work. Pasture green-up and improvement was very noticeable in most areas. Haying activities were gaining momentum across some areas. Most livestock were in good condition and were requiring less supplemental feeding. Some crop losses from hail were confirmed from the previous week's storms in some central areas.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Wheat continued to make good progress across most areas of the state. In the Plains, producers were somewhat concerned with the effects of the freeze early in the week. Some light damage may have occurred, but the full effects of the freeze was still not known. In central areas, wheat fields had headed out and were maturing under excellent growing conditions. Disease and insect pressure was still a problem in several areas. Cattle grazing on wheat was still going strong, and some haying of wheat fields had begun. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 65 percent of normal compared with 57 percent last year.

Corn: Planted acreage in central and southern areas was making good progress and was benefitting from recent moisture. Corn planting in the Panhandle was beginning to get underway. Soil moisture levels were ideal for planting in most areas. Statewide, corn condition was rated at 85 percent of normal compared with 79 percent last year.

Cotton: Cotton planting and preparations resumed as fields began to dry. Some replanting was still expected to take place in fields damaged by earlier storms. Most acreage in South Texas was making good progress as warmer and drier conditions were returning.

Sorghum: Land preparations and planting was again taking place in northern areas. For the most part, planted sorghum in southern regions was making good progress and was benefitting from good soil moisture.

Peanuts: Land preparations were active where conditions allowed. Planting had begun in a few isolated areas.

Rice: Planting and emergence of rice continued.

Soybeans: Land preparations and planting were active where conditions allowed.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Pecans: Application of zinc was active in some areas. Pecans were budding out in more areas.

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, onion harvest was active again. Harvest of citrus, cabbage and greens, and sugarcane had resumed. Preparations for melon harvest had begun.

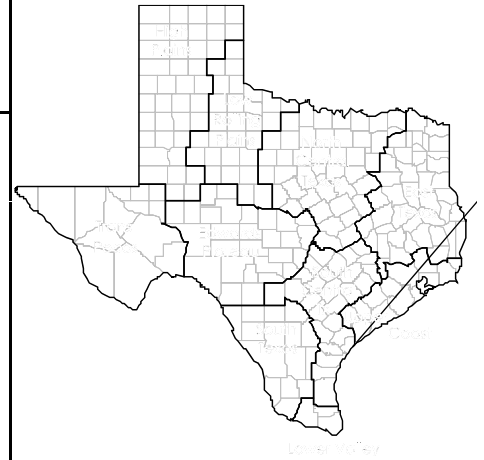
In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, cabbage harvest continued. Onions made progress and were nearing harvest.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Pasture and range green-up was prominent across the state. Livestock were mostly in good condition. Cattle continued to graze wheat fields. Supplemental feeding was slowing. Haying activities were beginning to gain momentum across the state. Pasture fertilization was occurring where conditions allowed. Stock ponds water levels were in better shape across most areas. Some locations were still in need of additional rainfall.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Apr 12 - 18) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Apr 1 - 18) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Apr 18) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Jan - Mar) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.00	2.32	6.46	18.87	193
Low Rolling Plains	0.11	1.79	7.95	23.78	191
North Central Texas	0.02	1.26	8.59	34.00	110
East Texas	0.36	1.66	12.98	45.69	106
Trans Pecos	0.04	1.94	4.99	12.96	261
Edwards Plateau	0.00	2.59	7.55	24.01	139
South Central Texas	0.02	1.98	7.72	34.48	93
Upper Coast	0.08	2.66	14.38	47.63	131
South Texas	0.00	2.08	5.84	23.49	119
Lower Valley	0.00	2.57	6.75	25.34	117



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - April 18, 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	7	10	7	2	6	7	1	1	25	5	0	0	0	2	0
Short	8	12	28	21	29	19	14	10	31	16	10	5	0	10	25
Adequate	85	74	63	66	64	63	74	58	44	75	63	65	63	80	50
Surplus	0	4	2	11	1	11	11	31	0	4	27	30	37	8	25

* 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.

**PERIODICALS
POSTAGE PAID AT
AUSTIN, TEXAS**

Texas Crop Weather (USPS 396-770) is published weekly by the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service, 300 E. 8th St., Austin, TX 78701, (512) 916-5581. **PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID** at Austin, TX. POSTMASTER: Send change of address to Texas

Penalty for Private Use, \$300

**AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE
NASS - USDA
P.O. BOX 70
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767**

**T
E
X
A
S**