

# Texas Crop Weather



Released: May 17, 2004 (3:00 P.M. CDT)  
 For the week of May 10 - 16, 2004  
 TX-CW2004

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

**Crop Progress Table - May 16, 2004**

Crop	2004	2003	Average 1999-2003
	<i>Percent</i>		
<b>Corn</b>			
Planted . . . . .	96	96	95
Emerged . . . . .	80	85	82
Silked . . . . .	5	5	15
<b>Cotton</b>			
Planted . . . . .	43	41	39
Squaring . . . . .	6	6	6
<b>Peanuts</b>			
Planted . . . . .	50	49	47
<b>Rice</b>			
Planted . . . . .	99	98	98
Emerged . . . . .	95	95	94
<b>Sorghum</b>			
Planted . . . . .	58	53	52
Headed . . . . .	16	8	12
<b>Wheat</b>			
Headed . . . . .	91	91	89
Harvested . . . . .	2	5	4
<b>Other Field Crops Planted</b>			
Soybeans . . . . .	73	74	72
Sunflowers . . . . .	51	45	42

**Crop Condition Table - May 16, 2004**

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Corn . . . . .	24	46	25	4	1
Rice . . . . .	7	72	21	0	0
Sorghum . . . . .	28	42	23	6	1
Wheat . . . . .	6	37	34	18	5
Range & Pasture . . . . .	16	43	26	9	6

**Agricultural Summary:** In the Plains, rainfall early in the week caused a brief delay in planting and other fieldwork. Open weather conditions were then enjoyed in most areas, until a cold front arrived on Thursday. Moderate to heavy rain fell in areas east of a line from the Low Rolling Plains south to the Edwards Plateau. Coastal counties from Corpus Christi to Brazoria, and central counties around Milam received the heaviest rainfall, causing some flooding. Much of the Permian Basin and eastern Panhandle did not receive rain. When conditions allowed, haying, and planting of cotton, peanuts and sorghum were very active in the Plains.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Wheat acreage intended for grain continued to make good progress across the state. In the Plains, more fields of winter wheat were heading out. Harvest of wheat and oats for hay or silage continued. Some producers sprayed for rust and powdery mildew problems. Some acreage in southern parts of the state was ready for harvest, but wet field conditions made that impossible. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 65 percent of normal compared with 44 percent last year.

**Corn:** Planted corn made good progress in most parts of the state. In the Plains, planting activities were nearing completion. Yellowing of plants from too much moisture was still occurring in some central areas. Statewide, corn condition was rated at 84 percent of normal compared with 68 percent last year.

**Cotton:** Planting activities intensified in the Plains and north-western Edwards Plateau where there was adequate soil moisture. In the Southern Plains, cotton was starting to emerge in some fields, and some fields were being watered to assist emergence. Many areas in South Central Texas and the Coastal districts saw slow growth because of very wet fields. Some fields were still showing stress from a lack of thermal heat units. Weevil activity was seen in a few fields.

**Sorghum:** Planted sorghum statewide made good progress in areas that did not have excessive soil moisture. Planting was very active in the High Plains. Statewide, sorghum condition was rated at 84 percent of normal compared with 69 percent last year.

**Peanuts:** Planting activities remained heavy in the Plains.

**Rice:** Statewide, rice condition was rated at 85 percent of normal compared with 86 percent last year.

## Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

**Pecans:** Growers began monitoring traps and spraying for casebearer moths that were laying eggs on some trees.

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, harvest of cabbage, carrots, onions, watermelons, citrus and sugarcane continued regardless of the scattered rainfall.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, Onion and cabbage harvesting progressed slowly due to rainfall during the week. Watermelons were beginning to vine and made good progress. Wet fields slowed the harvest of potatoes.

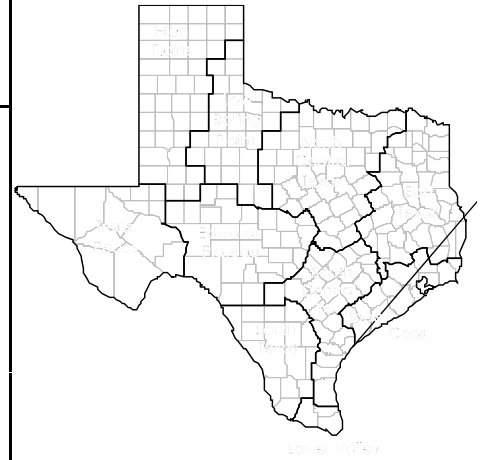
In the **Trans-Pecos region**, grasses were starting to seed out. Melons and potatoes were developing well. Chiles were reported behind in size compared to average years. Pecans and grapes are growing vigorously.

## Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Livestock remained in fair to excellent condition, with minimal supplemental feeding. Forage supplies were good in most areas. Some problems with flies were occurring in some areas. Sheep shearing and lamb marking neared completion.

**Weather Information Table <sup>1</sup>**

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (May 10 - 16) Accumulation	Month-to-date (May 1 - 16) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - May 16) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Feb - Apr) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.17	0.37	7.06	18.87	213
Low Rolling Plains	0.44	0.44	9.09	23.78	168
North Central Texas	0.65	0.74	12.19	34.00	119
East Texas	2.03	3.52	19.46	45.69	113
Trans Pecos	0.23	0.35	5.57	12.96	337
Edwards Plateau	0.71	0.74	9.61	24.01	163
South Central Texas	2.00	3.79	13.28	34.48	113
Upper Coast	5.27	8.05	23.60	47.63	128
South Texas	0.80	1.62	8.42	23.49	152
Lower Valley	0.36	1.47	9.24	25.34	197



<sup>1</sup> Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

**Top Soil Moisture by District - May 16, 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	10	8	15	3	5	5	0	0	28	13	0	0	0	2	0
Short	49	26	31	33	15	10	3	2	48	23	11	1	0	7	0
Adequate	41	62	47	59	69	49	68	32	24	57	30	19	25	78	55
Surplus	0	4	7	5	11	36	29	66	0	7	59	80	75	13	45

\* 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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