

Texas Crop Weather



Released: August 23, 2004 (3:00 P.M. CDT)
 For the week of August 16 - 22, 2004
 TX-CW3404

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

Crop Progress Table - August 22, 2004

Crop	2004	2003	Average 1999-2003
<i>Percent</i>			
Corn			
Dough	94	96	97
Dented	85	83	84
Mature	68	68	62
Harvested	49	54	51
Cotton			
Squaring	99	97	99
Setting Bolls	89	84	93
Bolls Opening	18	20	22
Harvested	8	10	10
Peanuts			
Pegging	100	98	97
Rice			
Headed	100	100	99
Harvested	64	56	66
Sorghum			
Headed	83	72	86
Turning Color	55	56	67
Mature	50	51	56
Harvested	49	49	51

Crop Condition Table - August 22, 2004

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
<i>Percent</i>					
Corn	39	47	12	2	0
Cotton	26	45	20	6	3
Peanuts	36	47	15	2	0
Rice	10	54	34	2	0
Sorghum	24	49	20	6	1
Range & Pasture ..	14	43	29	11	3

Agricultural Summary: Rain activity from the Southern High Plains across the state through the middle of East Texas kept conditions wet and cooler than normal in the second half of the week. Heaviest rainfall was reported east of a line from Childress to Del Rio and north of Interstate 10. Accumulations of up to 11" were reported in the southern part of North Central Texas. Some corn and sorghum harvesting was delayed by rains. Scattered pea-size hail and some damage to cotton was reported from the counties around Lubbock. The Lower Rio Grande Valley, South Texas, Coastal Bend and the area around Midland saw only isolated, light showers. More heat units were needed for cotton, peanuts and late planted sorghum in the High Plains as the recent cooler, wet weather conditions slowed crop progress.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Land preparations, including plowing and fertilization

continued between rainstorms. A few producers in the High Plains started planting wheat in drier fields.

Corn: Harvest was completed in many counties from South Texas, through south Central Texas into the Upper Coast. Some rust was reported in the Southern High Plains. Silage cutting had begun on the High Plains. In Central and East Texas, harvest was making good progress until rains delayed it later in the week. Statewide, corn condition was rated at 93 percent of normal compared with 54 percent last year.

Cotton: Harvesting continued in the Lower Rio Grand Valley, parts of South Texas and the Coastal districts. Defoliation of cotton continued in some areas of the Upper Coast. In the Plains, cooler temperatures and rains threatened progress. More heat units were needed for optimum growth. Some irrigation occurred in drier areas of the state. Isolated fields of the Lower Plains, Cross Timbers, and Blacklands were being sprayed for boll worms and aphids. Some fields were damaged by isolated hail storms in the central High Plains. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 83 percent of normal compared with 53 percent last year.

Sorghum: Harvesting continued between the rains from the Southern Low Plains through North East Texas. Harvest was completed in many areas of South Central Texas, South Texas and the Coastal Districts. Silage cutting had begun in the Plains. Statewide, sorghum condition was rated at 84 percent of normal compared with 59 percent last year.

Peanuts: Producers in the Plains had concerns about the lack of heat units due to cooler temperatures and higher than normal humidity. These conditions also created an increase in disease pressure. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 91 percent of normal compared with 85 percent last year.

Rice: Rice harvest progressed rapidly before midweek rains, and neared completion in some counties. Statewide, rice condition was rated at 81 percent of normal, compared with 87 percent last year.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

On the **High Plains**, Watermelon harvest continued with interruptions from the rains.

In the **Trans-Pecos**, light to medium damage to pecans from hickory shuckworm was reported in some orchards. Grape and cantaloupe harvests were delayed and hampered by unusually wet conditions.

On the **Edwards Plateau**, irrigation of pecan trees continued. Pecan scab, army worms and pecan weevil were seen in some orchards.

In **East Texas**, most vegetable harvest was finished, with the exception of new crop tomatoes, which were progressing well.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Rains delayed hay cutting and baling in some areas across the northern half of the state. Army worms and grasshoppers were reported in some hay fields in Eastern and South Central Texas. Statewide, condition of pasture and rangeland was generally adequate, with supplemental feeding unnecessary. Some cattle producers in East Texas, South Texas, and the Trans-Pecos were feeding protein and other supplements where forage conditions were drier. Livestock were mostly rated in good to excellent condition, with some cattle in hotter and drier areas of the Trans-Pecos and Edwards Plateau rated in fair condition. Weaning and selling of calves continued.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Aug 16 - 22) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Aug 1 - 22) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Aug 22) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (May - Jul) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.45	2.30	15.58	18.87	84
Low Rolling Plains	1.26	1.98	17.40	23.78	81
North Central Texas	2.10	2.49	26.21	34.00	119
East Texas	2.06	2.48	31.88	45.69	110
Trans Pecos	0.52	1.83	11.00	12.96	90
Edwards Plateau	1.60	2.37	18.27	24.01	91
South Central Texas	0.61	1.10	21.87	34.48	108
Upper Coast	1.00	2.24	37.51	47.63	137
South Texas	0.75	1.12	13.48	23.49	73
Lower Valley	0.03	0.81	15.62	25.34	92



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - August 22, 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	3	9	4	0	5	9	3	18	18	14	2	8	8	15	0
Short	17	4	19	0	8	12	48	38	36	37	41	57	37	46	70
Adequate	69	70	73	73	65	54	48	42	46	47	56	33	51	35	30
Surplus	11	17	4	27	22	25	1	2	0	2	1	2	4	4	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.

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