

Texas Crop Weather



Released: August 30, 2004 (3:00 P.M. CDT)
 For the week of August 23 - 29, 2004
 TX-CW3504

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

Crop Progress Table - August 29, 2004

Crop	2004	2003	Average 1999-2003
	<i>Percent</i>		
Corn			
Dough	98	97	99
Dented	91	88	90
Mature	74	73	68
Harvested	53	62	56
Cotton			
Squaring	100	99	100
Setting Bolls	92	91	97
Bolls Opening	20	21	28
Harvested	11	13	13
Peanuts			
Pegging	0	0	1
Rice			
Harvested	71	75	82
Sorghum			
Headed	89	76	90
Turning Color	61	59	75
Mature	52	53	62
Harvested	50	51	56
Wheat			
Planted	7	4	2
Other Field Crops Planted			
Oats	1	2	1

Crop Condition Table - August 29, 2004

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Corn	36	49	13	2	0
Cotton	31	43	18	5	3
Peanuts	41	41	14	2	2
Rice	10	54	34	2	0
Sorghum	19	49	24	7	1
Range & Pasture ..	14	45	30	9	2

Agricultural Summary: Statewide, conditions were dry in the middle of the week except for a few isolated light showers. Late in the week, a cold front entered the southern Plains and moved in a southeastern direction bringing scattered rainfall to areas east of a line from Del Rio to Wichita Falls. Heaviest rainfall was reported in parts of the Edwards Plateau and South Central Texas around the San Antonio area, and in South Texas around the Laredo area. The drier conditions in the Plains provided some needed heat units for cotton and allowed producers to cut silage, bale hay, plow, and plant wheat for early grazing. In the Lower Rio Grande Valley, irrigation was active on sugarcane and citrus, and cotton harvesting progressed well with dry weather. In South East Texas, corn and soybean

harvest was underway.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Land preparations continued except in a few areas slowed by the rain at the beginning and end of the week. In the High Plains, more producers started planting wheat for early grazing and continued land preparations.

Corn: Harvest was completed in most of South Texas, through South Central Texas and into the Upper Coast. Harvest in Central Texas and the Edwards Plateau experienced some delays from rain, but otherwise made good progress. Silage was being cut on the High Plains. Statewide, corn condition was rated at 92 percent of normal compared with 54 percent last year.

Cotton: In the Lower Rio Grand Valley, harvest was mostly completed. Harvest continued in South Texas, South Central Texas and the Coastal districts. There was some defoliation of cotton in areas of Central Texas. In the Plains, more heat units came with the drier weather as cotton progressed well. There was some irrigation in drier areas of the state. Isolated fields were being sprayed for boll worms and aphids. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 85 percent of normal compared with 52 percent last year.

Sorghum: Rains delayed harvest in some areas of Central Texas, the Edwards Plateau and East Texas. Silage was being cut in the Plains. Harvest was completed in much of South Central Texas, South Texas and the Coastal Districts. Statewide, sorghum condition was rated at 81 percent of normal compared with 57 percent last year.

Peanuts: Drier conditions in the Plains increased the heat units. The crop was looking good in general, despite some disease due to wet conditions over the past few weeks. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 91 percent of normal compared with 88 percent last year.

Rice: Harvest progressed rapidly, except where scattered showers slowed some operations. There was some damage to rice from feral hogs reported in an area of the Upper Coast. 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**, Pumpkin leaves were starting to dry down and harvest had begun. Watermelon harvest progressed well.

In the **Trans-Pecos**, Grape harvest was completed in some vineyards. Cantaloupe harvest was fairing badly from the wet, cool conditions the past few weeks.

On the **Edwards Plateau**, pecan trees continued to be irrigated in drier areas. Pecan growth stages ranged from gel to shell hardening. Generally, pecans looked good. There was some spraying for pecan weevils, and evidence of web worms on trees.

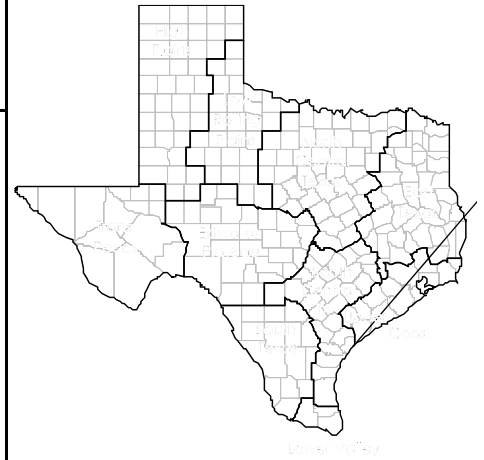
In **East Texas**, pecans were reported in the dough stage. Walnut caterpillar and web worm activity was reported in some orchards.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Hay cutting and baling was active in the Plains, but rains delayed cutting in some fields in the eastern half of the state. Insects continue to be a problem in some hay fields. Statewide, condition of pasture and rangeland was generally good to excellent with little supplemental feeding occurring. Statewide, livestock were mostly rated in good to excellent condition.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Aug 23 - 29) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Aug 1 - 29) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Aug 29) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (May - Jul) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.00	2.30	15.58	18.87	84
Low Rolling Plains	0.19	2.17	17.59	23.78	81
North Central Texas	0.66	3.15	26.87	34.00	119
East Texas	0.25	2.73	32.13	45.69	110
Trans Pecos	0.24	2.07	11.24	12.96	90
Edwards Plateau	0.35	2.72	18.62	24.01	91
South Central Texas	0.37	1.47	22.24	34.48	108
Upper Coast	0.60	2.84	38.11	47.63	137
South Texas	0.80	1.92	14.28	23.49	73
Lower Valley	0.20	1.01	15.82	25.34	92



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - August 29, 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	4	0	12	1	1	1	1	7	16	8	2	17	6	21	0
Short	24	22	34	6	13	18	33	20	43	35	47	65	59	30	70
Adequate	71	74	51	73	84	75	62	60	41	54	49	17	35	43	30
Surplus	1	4	3	20	2	6	4	13	0	3	2	1	0	6	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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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 Crop Weather, P.O. Box 70, Austin, TX 78767.

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