

# Texas Crop Weather



Released: September 27, 2004 (3:00 P.M. CDT)  
 For the week of September 20 - 26, 2004  
 TX-CW3904

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

**Crop Progress Table - September 26, 2004**

Crop	2004	2003	Average 1999-2003
	<i>Percent</i>		
<b>Corn</b>			
Dented . . . . .	100	100	100
Mature . . . . .	98	95	96
Harvested . . . . .	73	78	78
<b>Cotton</b>			
Setting Bolls . . . . .	100	100	100
Bolls Opening . . . . .	53	54	71
Harvested . . . . .	18	20	23
<b>Peanuts</b>			
Harvested . . . . .	9	4	13
<b>Rice</b>			
Harvested . . . . .	99	97	98
<b>Sorghum</b>			
Headed . . . . .	98	95	99
Turning Color . . . . .	88	75	91
Mature . . . . .	74	61	80
Harvested . . . . .	58	58	72
<b>Wheat</b>			
Planted . . . . .	61	51	42
Emerged . . . . .	26	19	18
<b>Other Field Crops</b>			
<b>Planted</b>			
Oats . . . . .	49	45	28
<b>Harvested</b>			
Soybeans . . . . .	60	70	75
Sunflowers . . . . .	42	50	64

**Crop Condition Table - September 26, 2004**

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Cotton . . . . .	28	51	17	3	1
Peanuts . . . . .	34	50	15	1	0
Sorghum . . . . .	10	54	26	9	1
Range & Pasture . . . . .	9	38	33	16	4

**Agricultural Summary:** As fall approached, the fall weather was also approaching. Temperatures across the state were cooling down. Hurricane Ivan brought welcomed rains to the Eastern and Coastal portions of the state. Accumulations of moisture were seen in the Plains and along East Texas regions. Producers in these regions had a hard time getting field operations underway. Most areas received light rains amounting to less than an inch or no moisture at all. Fall planting of pasture was approaching as forages were drying in several regions. Supplemental feeding had begun in a few areas and will be picking up as cooler weather approaches. Some areas receiving rains may be able to avoid supplementing for a little longer.

**Field Crops Report**

**Small Grains:** Planting continued in the Plains as some producers were stalled by rains. Other areas of the plains were planted and up to a great start.

There were some areas, toward the east through the Cross Timbers, however, that could definitely use a little moisture. Armyworms were reported in small grains in portions of the Cross Timbers. Small grain planting on the Edwards Plateau slowed due to lack of moisture. Planted wheat has struggled for the same reason. Some farmers in South Texas are rotating Cotton with Wheat and therefore the planting of some wheat has been delayed.

**Corn:** Harvest was halted in the western portions of the plains due to excess rainfall. Harvest on the Blacklands was just about complete. Yields for the most part have made producers happy.

**Cotton:** Cooler temperatures slowed development in the plains as some producers began applying harvest aid materials. Some defoliation was evident in older cotton. Quality is depreciating and young age and poor root systems were causing severe wilt in several acres in the Southern Low Plains. The heat units to be received in October will determine the quality of the cotton crop in areas yet to harvest. Harvest was progressing in the Blacklands and harvest aids were applied in the Cross Timbers region. Cotton Harvest on the Coastal Bend was slowed due to rains. South Texas cotton was behind schedule as the demand for harvest equipment was on the rise. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 88 percent of normal compared with 51 percent last year.

**Sorghum:** Some fields in the Panhandle were just getting harvest of sorghum underway. In the Southern High Plains, the crop was heading with a little color change. Late planted milo on the Coastal Bend was completing harvest for the year. Statewide, sorghum condition was rated at 77 percent of normal compared with 57 percent last year.

**Peanuts:** Moisture slowed digging in the Southern High Plains, and diseases were reported, but not a threat at this time. Harvest is expected to begin shortly in the Cross Timbers as early peanuts are being harvested in South Texas. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 92 percent of normal compared with 83 percent last year.

**Rice:** Ratoon rice was looking good and harvest is expected for to begin next month.

**Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report**

In **East Texas**, sweet potato harvest continued with some disappointment in size.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden** region, preparations for winter vegetables continued. Cabbage is making good progress.

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, the tomato crop progressed. Fall planting was in the planning stages.

In the **Trans Pecos** region, chile harvest was complete, and jalapeno harvest was initiated.

In the **Plains** region, pumpkin harvest was in full swing with excellent yields.

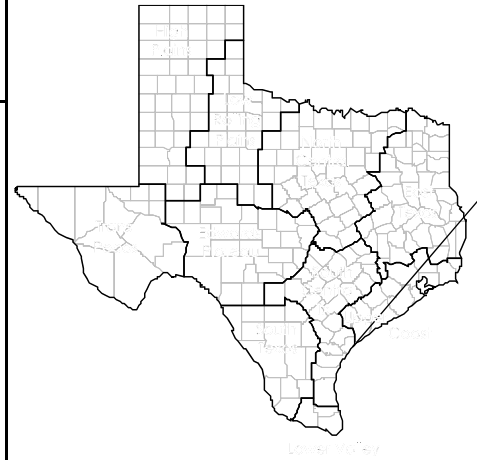
**Pecans:** Pecan scab continued to be a problem for areas and may cause some yield loss in the Cross Timbers. East Texas pecans saw some Walnut caterpillars and Oak Orange Stripe canker worms, but still expected to see more pecans than last season. Pecans on the Trans Pecos were a week from harvest. South Central early varieties were being harvested.

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report**

Livestock remained in good condition although in some areas, forage growth slowed and supplemental feeding picked up. Haying continued across the state, losing momentum for the most part due to rains in wet areas and due to drying in others. Planting of Winter forages began in several regions. Some South Central ranches were threatened by bee swarms as well as army worms. This area expects some spraying in the near future to take care of the army worm threat. Toxic growth in an isolated area caused some cattle losses. Fall calving began. Stock ponds were getting low due to the lack of rainfall.

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

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Sep 20 - 26) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Sep 1 - 26) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Sep 26) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Jun - Aug) Percent of Normal
High Plains	2.97	3.40	19.32	18.87	111
Low Rolling Plains	0.41	0.47	18.14	23.78	113
North Central Texas	0.12	0.92	27.79	34.00	181
East Texas	1.15	1.71	33.84	45.69	121
Trans Pecos	2.14	2.64	14.46	12.96	113
Edwards Plateau	0.98	1.54	21.03	24.01	142
South Central Texas	0.50	2.38	25.26	34.48	108
Upper Coast	0.42	2.22	40.43	47.63	104
South Texas	0.43	3.48	18.17	23.49	91
Lower Valley	1.19	7.00	23.31	25.34	99



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

**Top Soil Moisture by District - September 26, 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	0	2	0	13	12	3	15	40	14	12	0	0	33	3	0
Short	9	36	5	41	50	42	42	45	34	45	31	38	63	32	10
Adequate	76	41	85	44	38	51	43	15	52	42	69	62	4	48	90
Surplus	15	21	10	2	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	17	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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