

# Texas Crop Weather



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For the week of October 4 - 10, 2004

TX-CW4104

1-800-626-3142

www.nass.usda.gov/tx

**Crop Progress Table - October 10, 2004**

Crop	2004	2003	Average 1999-2003
<i>Percent</i>			
<b>Corn</b>			
Mature . . . . .	100	99	100
Harvested . . . . .	80	89	90
<b>Cotton</b>			
Bolls Opening . . . . .	61	68	85
Harvested . . . . .	21	24	31
<b>Peanuts</b>			
Harvested . . . . .	23	8	20
<b>Sorghum</b>			
Headed . . . . .	100	99	100
Turning Color . . . . .	94	84	95
Mature . . . . .	79	66	86
Harvested . . . . .	61	61	77
<b>Wheat</b>			
Planted . . . . .	68	74	64
Emerged . . . . .	44	46	36
<b>Other Field Crops</b>			
<b>Planted</b>			
Oats . . . . .	66	70	52
<b>Harvested</b>			
Pecans . . . . .	7	9	5
Soybeans . . . . .	74	81	84
Sunflowers . . . . .	60	68	80

**Crop Condition Table - October 10, 2004**

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
<i>Percent</i>					
Cotton . . . . .	17	47	21	10	5
Peanuts . . . . .	19	46	19	11	5
Range & Pasture . . . . .	13	42	33	9	3

**Agricultural Summary:** An upper level trough of low pressure over the Southern Rockies moved slowly east to combine with moist air flowing from the Gulf of Mexico resulting in more moisture accumulation for most of the state. Some areas of the Plains received up to six inches of rainfall, and there were reports of hail and flooding in isolated areas. Around the state, harvesting and other field activities were delayed by the wet conditions. Generally, the Trans Pecos was enjoying the precipitation with pastures and native range looking greener than had been seen in many years. Rainfall ranged from zero to 12 inches in this district. Scattered heavy rains delayed alfalfa harvesting, fall onion and alfalfa planting, and damaged some chiles. Drier conditions occurred between San Antonio and Waco, and in the Big Bend area. Temperatures remained cool during the week, and producers were concerned about lack of needed heat units for cotton. Winter wheat was progressing well with the

moisture. There were a few reports of army worm, boll weevil and fire ant activity. Cattle condition was rated from good to excellent, with some supplemental feeding due to continuation of very wet conditions in isolated areas on the Plains.

**Field Crops Report**

**Small Grains:** Early planted winter wheat was emerging and benefitted from the rainfall and cool temperatures. Wet fields prevented planting of wheat and oats in many districts of the state. Some isolated areas of low-lying wheat were drowned out.

**Corn:** Wet fields continued to delay harvest on the Panhandle. High winds caused lodging in some fields. About one-fourth of the crop remained to be harvested, as producers on the Plains and in North Central Texas waited for the rains to end so they could get equipment into the fields.

**Cotton:** Warmer, drier conditions were needed to increase the heat unit accumulation. Aerial application of defoliants was the only method available for some mature fields in the Plains, where the ground was too wet for equipment access. Ginning slowed until harvest could gear up again. Damage from rain storms, hail, colder temperatures, and delayed harvest may make yields less favorable as autumn progresses, unless longer periods of sunshine arrive. State-wide, cotton condition was rated at 76 percent of normal compared with 51 percent last year.

**Sorghum:** Harvest was delayed by rains in the Plains for most of the week. Maturity remained behind the five-year average primarily due to cooler and wetter conditions. Harvest was completed in most of the other regions.

**Peanuts:** Harvest was delayed by rain in areas of the Southern Plains, South Texas and Central Texas. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 77 percent of normal compared with 84 percent last year.

**Rice:** The Upper Coast and East Texas received needed rainfall, more than 4 inches in some places, reducing the shortage of soil moisture and benefitting the ratoon crop which is expected to begin harvest next month.

**Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report**

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden** region, rains halted most field work until later in the week, when some vegetable planting resumed. Cabbage progressed well and harvesting began this week. Spinach planting is expected to begin next week.

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, fall planting continued. Early planted vegetable crops were progressing well.

In the **Plains** region, pumpkin harvest was delayed by rainstorms.

**Pecans:** Pecan harvest continued around the rain in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, South Central Texas, and Edwards Plateau. Pecans were reported beginning to open, but not shedding yet in the Trans-Pecos region.

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report**

Range and pastures were rated from good to excellent in most parts of the State. Cattle body condition was rated from good to excellent around the state. Very little supplemental feeding was reported. Stock ponds benefitted from the rainfall across most of the state, with some ponds receiving damage from excess water accumulation this week.

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

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Oct 4 - 10) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Oct 1 - 10) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Oct 10) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Jul - Sep) Percent of Normal
High Plains	2.03	2.13	22.33	18.87	123
Low Rolling Plains	1.07	1.69	20.37	23.78	66
North Central Texas	1.57	2.52	30.67	34.00	89
East Texas	2.22	2.80	36.64	45.69	63
Trans Pecos	1.01	1.06	16.17	12.96	134
Edwards Plateau	1.60	2.18	23.48	24.01	91
South Central Texas	0.76	2.03	27.31	34.48	62
Upper Coast	1.60	1.82	42.25	47.63	54
South Texas	0.98	1.51	19.75	23.49	85
Lower Valley	0.49	1.38	24.73	25.34	95



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

**Top Soil Moisture by District - October 10, 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	1	0	10	2	8	0	2	10	3	2	1	0	0	3	0
Short	11	0	25	12	18	9	7	11	13	25	18	0	20	13	13
Adequate	40	30	48	48	69	52	72	52	60	64	73	30	70	70	87
Surplus	48	70	17	38	5	39	19	27	24	9	8	70	10	14	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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