

# Texas Crop Weather



Released: November 1, 2004 (3:00 P.M. CST)  
 For the week of October 25 - 31, 2004  
 TX-CW4404

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

**Crop Progress Table - October 31, 2004**

Crop	2004	2003	Average 1999-2003
	<i>Percent</i>		
<b>Corn</b>			
Harvested . . . . .	94	98	98
<b>Cotton</b>			
Bolls Opening . . . .	87	93	96
Harvested . . . . .	31	38	47
<b>Peanuts</b>			
Harvested . . . . .	39	43	49
<b>Sorghum</b>			
Turning Color . . . . .	99	94	99
Mature . . . . .	92	82	94
Harvested . . . . .	69	69	84
<b>Wheat</b>			
Planted . . . . .	83	88	82
Emerged . . . . .	69	72	62
<b>Other Field Crops</b>			
<b>Planted</b>			
Oats . . . . .	90	87	75
<b>Harvested</b>			
Pecans . . . . .	32	27	20
Soybeans . . . . .	89	92	94
Sunflowers . . . . .	80	87	92

**Crop Condition Table - October 31, 2004**

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Cotton . . . . .	19	48	22	8	3
Peanuts . . . . .	28	51	12	6	3
Wheat . . . . .	36	45	17	2	0
Range & Pasture . .	13	47	31	7	2

**Agricultural Summary:** Conditions for planting and harvesting were mostly undesirable across many areas of the state during the week. Spotted rain showers across many areas of the Plains preventing most farming activities, however some areas remained dry and harvest moved forward. Heavier rainfall occurred in many other areas of the state with some localized flooding and isolated property damage occurring as the result of severe thunderstorms. Maturity in remaining crops was slow as a result of the cloudy, moist conditions. The above average moisture levels continued to benefit small grain producers, however some planting was on hold as the result of the wet conditions. Range and pasture forage growth remained adequate and ample grazing for livestock continued, however dormancy continued with the decrease in day length and cooler conditions. Forage growth was still active in extreme southern locations.

**Field Crops Report**

**Small Grains:** Good moisture conditions and warm temperatures

have produced excellent growing conditions for small grains in most areas of the state. Producers were able to begin grazing some earlier planted fields. A few locations were experiencing problems with green bugs and army worms. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 91 percent of normal, compared with 63 percent last year.

**Corn:** Corn harvest continued, but was slow in some wetter locations. In a few locations across the plains, drying down remained necessary in late planted fields.

**Cotton:** Cotton harvest was slow or stalled in many areas as the result of wet field conditions. Maturity was running behind in some areas of the plains as adequate heat units were not available for continued development. Re-growth remained a problem for some producers as wet conditions made stalk destruction impossible. Some minor losses were reported as the result of heavy rainfall. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 79 percent of normal, compared with 52 percent last year.

**Sorghum:** Harvest continued in areas of the plains where weather conditions permitted. Drying down was still needed in some late planted fields.

**Peanuts:** Peanut harvest remained slow across most areas of the state due to the rainy conditions. Early planted fields were producing well, however some late planted fields needed further development. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 86 percent of normal, compared with 83 percent last year.

**Rice:** Harvest of the ratoon crop was slow due to the cloudy humid conditions.

**Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report**

In the **Rio Grande Valley** early planted vegetables continued to make good progress. Harvest of early citrus remained active.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, land preparation continued for later plantings of vegetables. Irrigation of earlier planted carrots, onions and cabbage was active. Spinach planting was winding down, but earlier planted fields needed cooler weather. Some problems with insect populations occurred in isolated locations.

In **East Texas**, harvest of sweet potatoes continued, however other remaining vegetables crops were mostly harvested.

In the **High Plains** pumpkin harvest was nearing completion.

In the **Trans Pecos** region, harvest of watermelons and potatoes continued.

**Pecans:** Pecan conditions were variable across the state. Some producers reported varied degrees of nut drop and some web worm infestations were also reported. Generally, producers expected an average production season.

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report**

Generally, range and pastures across the state were in good condition. Forage growth continued in central and southern locations, but dormancy was beginning in some northern locations. Supplemental feeding was minimal in all areas. Livestock condition around the state was good as the result of a good forage season. Some producers began grazing small grain fields. Hay production remained active in many areas and supplies were believed to be adequate for the upcoming winter months. Some producers were experiencing problems with army worm infestations, but control measures were minimal.

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

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Oct 25 - 31) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Oct 1 - 31) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Oct 31) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Jul - Sep) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.13	2.44	22.64	18.87	123
Low Rolling Plains	0.78	2.83	21.51	23.78	66
North Central Texas	1.68	5.36	33.51	34.00	89
East Texas	0.62	4.15	37.99	45.69	63
Trans Pecos	0.50	1.78	16.89	12.96	134
Edwards Plateau	1.32	4.23	25.53	24.01	91
South Central Texas	0.85	5.34	30.62	34.48	62
Upper Coast	0.55	4.37	44.80	47.63	54
South Texas	0.36	2.13	20.37	23.49	85
Lower Valley	0.00	1.64	24.99	25.34	95



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

**Top Soil Moisture by District - October 31, 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	0	0	1	8	1	1	16	4	3	0	0	20	1	0
Short	12	7	19	7	11	7	13	12	26	20	12	53	30	30	40
Adequate	77	68	81	58	77	63	81	56	70	72	76	47	50	66	60
Surplus	11	25	0	34	4	29	5	16	0	5	12	0	0	3	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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