

# Texas Crop Weather



Released: January 24, 2005 (3:00 P.M. CST)  
 For the week of January 17 - 23, 2005  
 TX-CW0405

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

**Crop Progress Table - January 23, 2005**

Crop	2005	2004	Average 2000-2004
	<i>Percent</i>		
<b>Cotton</b>			
Harvested . . . . .	91	99	99
<b>Peanuts</b>			
Harvested . . . . .	100	100	100
<b>Sorghum</b>			
Harvested . . . . .	99	100	100
<b>Wheat</b>			
Planted . . . . .	98	100	100
Emerged . . . . .	96	98	97
<b>Other Field Crops</b>			
<b>Harvested</b>			
Pecans . . . . .	97	98	96

**Crop Condition Table - January 23, 2005**

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Wheat . . . . .	23	43	25	7	2
Range & Pasture . . .	9	39	34	15	3

**Agricultural Summary:** Conditions were generally mild and dry across the state throughout the week. Remaining harvest moved ahead in most areas as the dryer conditions allowed many producers to finally complete harvest. With warm and mostly sunny conditions, soils dried quickly and land preparation became more widespread. Fertilization was very active as planting is just around the corner especially in southern locations. Pre-watering for spring planting was necessary in a few areas where rainfall has been limited. By late in the week, another cold front crossed the state, however rainfall was minor and delays were held to a minimum. Livestock and grazing conditions were variable across the state, depending on rainfall in earlier months. In areas where rainfall has been heavy, native pastures were holding up well except where bogging remained a problem. Some areas further south and west have had smaller amounts of moisture and pasture decline is in progress. In these areas, supplemental feeding increased and rainfall is needed soon before hay shortages begin. Sickness in livestock improved as a result of warmer and dryer conditions. Shrimp producers out west were making preparations for stocking later this spring.

**Field Crops Report**

**Small Grains:** Drying out was substantial in many locations and the warmer temperatures aided in recovery and growth across the state. Many areas reported a decline in planted acres as a further result of the extended rain event during the late fall months, however minor planting was active in a few locations. Stress was noticed in a few southern locations due to insufficient soil moisture. A few areas reported green bugs were increasing slightly. Disease pressure remained light, but increased in some areas. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 81 percent of normal, compared

with 37 percent last year.

**Corn:** Land preparation was steady in many locations where adequate drying had occurred. Some pre-watering occurred in varied locations as planting time neared.

**Cotton:** Remaining cotton harvest continued, however many areas have completed harvest and remaining locations are in the process of finishing up. Ginning activities and stalk destruction remained very active across northern locations. Land preparation was active in many areas, where soils were adequately dry.

**Sorghum:** Land preparation remained active in many areas; only a few minor delays were reported.

**Peanuts:** Land preparation moved ahead in all reporting areas across the state.

**Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report**

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, harvest of early spinach and cabbage remained active in several locations. Later planted spinach, cabbage, onions, carrots and potatoes made fair to good progress. Irrigation was active as available soil moisture was short in several areas. Citrus harvest remained active. Land preparation and fertilization remained active as spring planting neared.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, land preparation was ongoing during the week. Harvest of early cabbage and spinach moved ahead. Onions and carrots made good progress, however moisture shortages were common and irrigation was active in many locations.

In **East Texas**, harvest of cabbage and greens remained active in a few locations. Land preparation moved ahead in areas where soils were adequately dry.

In the **High Plains**, land preparation was very active in most areas. Seed bed preparation and fertilization remained steady in preparation for spring planting.

In the **Trans Pecos**, fall onions continued to make good progress. Land preparation remained active.

**Pecans:** Remaining harvest moved ahead in most areas. A few delays remained, however harvest was expected to resume shortly in these locations. Orchard irrigation was active in a few southern locations, where soil moisture was short.

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report**

Generally moisture levels for range and pasture remained good across the state, however many southern and southwestern locations were short and pasture decline was advancing. Supplemental feeding remained necessary statewide. Producers in these dryer locations were using large amounts of hay to help sustain body condition in their livestock herds. Pasture damage resulting from too much water continued to be an issue for many producers in varied locations around the state, however drying out was progressing. Varied degrees of livestock sickness remained; however improvements were noticed by many producers.

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

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Jan 17 - 23) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Jan 1 - 23) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - 23) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Oct - Dec) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.00	1.26	1.26	18.87	267
Low Rolling Plains	0.00	0.80	0.80	23.78	195
North Central Texas	0.00	1.56	1.56	34.00	150
East Texas	0.00	1.71	1.71	45.69	114
Trans Pecos	0.00	0.04	0.04	12.96	189
Edwards Plateau	0.00	0.10	0.10	24.01	178
South Central Texas	0.00	0.83	0.83	34.48	154
Upper Coast	0.00	1.02	1.02	47.63	166
South Texas	0.04	0.33	0.33	23.49	89
Lower Valley	0.08	0.47	0.47	25.34	79



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

**Top Soil Moisture by District - January 23, 2005 \***

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	4	0	0	0	0	0	3	10	7	3	13	0	13	0
Short	9	32	20	9	13	2	0	3	41	32	24	50	0	42	70
Adequate	56	58	74	89	78	73	53	77	49	58	51	36	30	42	30
Surplus	35	6	6	2	9	25	47	17	0	3	22	1	70	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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