

Texas Crop Weather



Released: January 31, 2005 (3:00 P.M. CST)
 For the week of January 24 - 30, 2005
 TX-CW0505

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

Crop Progress Table - January 30, 2005

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

Crop Condition Table - January 30, 2005

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Wheat	20	42	30	7	1
Range & Pasture . . .	9	37	36	15	3

Agricultural Summary: Conditions were mild and dry across the state during early week. Harvest activities for remaining crops were active across the Plains and portions of North Texas. Producers who have had the opportunity to complete harvest were busy with fertilization and other land preparation activities. Pre-watering for spring planting remained necessary in a few locations earlier in the week. In late week a cold front brought sleet, light snow and some light rain to portions of the Plains and North Texas. Generally, the remainder of the state received varied amounts of rainfall which caused delays in farming activities. Pasture conditions continued to be variable across the state, however most producers reported adequate grazing conditions for their herds. Producers in the drier locations were hopeful that the added moisture would bring growth spurts to the winter grasses. Supplemental feeding remained constant across the state and generally most increases were weather related in late week. Sickness in livestock herds continued to be average for late January.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Small grains were responding well to the warmer and dryer conditions during early week. Moisture stress was still increasing in several southern locations. Greenbug and aphid populations were increasing in varied locations, however treatment was minimal at this point. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 80 percent of normal, compared with 37 percent last year.

Corn: Land preparation remained steady in early week, but stalled later in the week due to wet conditions. Pre-watering continued in a few areas.

Cotton: Remaining cotton harvest was active during early week, however rain, sleet and snow caused delays later in the week. Ginning activities continued to be active across the Plains and portions of North Texas. Land preparation moved ahead in areas where soils were adequately dry.

Sorghum: Land preparation was steady, but became stalled in late week.

Peanuts: Land preparation was active during early week, but mostly stalled later in the week due to this latest rain event.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, harvest of early spinach and cabbage remained active in several locations, however some delays occurred with an increase in rain showers. Later planted spinach, cabbage, onions, carrots and potatoes continued to make good progress. Citrus harvest remained active.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, land preparation and harvest for early cabbage and spinach remained active during early week. By mid to late week, weather related delays were common. Onions and carrots made good progress.

In **East Texas**, land preparation became stalled in late week as rain showers were numerous across the area. Dormant oil applications were being applied by some fruit growers.

In the **High Plains**, land preparation remained active, but stalled in late week as a series of upper level disturbances crossed the region bringing intermittent periods of rain, sleet and snow.

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

Pecans: Remaining harvest moved ahead in many areas, however delays were necessary in late week as rain showers returned to many areas of the state.

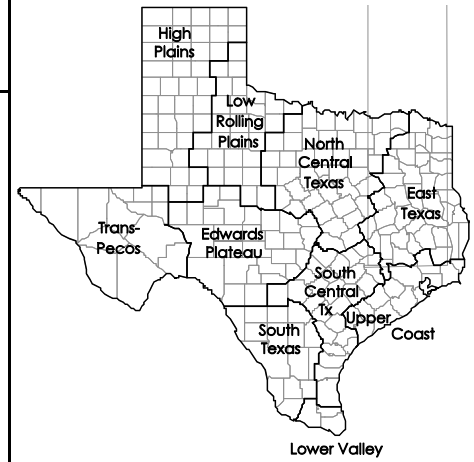
Peaches: Several reports indicated that chill hours were not sufficient at this time to produce a good peach crop, and producers were generally concerned. Applications of dormant oil were being applied in a few locations.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Moisture levels for range and pasture remained good to excellent across the state. Southern regions that were becoming somewhat deficient in surface moisture could see some relief from this rain event. Supplemental feeding continued to be necessary across the state. In a few southern locations where supplemental feeding has been heavy for some time, some producers were becoming short of available hay supplies. Pasture production of winter grasses was variable depending on moisture levels, however many producers were enjoying increased benefit from winter forages and supplemental feeding was down accordingly. Varied degrees of livestock sickness remained a problem for many producers. A few losses from ingestion of poisonous weeds were reported.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Jan 24 - 30) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Jan 1 - 30) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - 30) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Oct - Dec) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.47	1.73	1.73	18.87	267
Low Rolling Plains	0.58	1.38	1.38	23.78	195
North Central Texas	0.92	2.48	2.48	34.00	150
East Texas	1.10	2.81	2.81	45.69	114
Trans Pecos	0.27	0.31	0.31	12.96	189
Edwards Plateau	0.82	0.92	0.92	24.01	178
South Central Texas	1.07	1.90	1.90	34.48	154
Upper Coast	0.70	1.72	1.72	47.63	166
South Texas	0.72	1.05	1.05	23.49	89
Lower Valley	0.05	0.52	0.52	25.34	79



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - January 30, 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	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	8	0	5	0	4	10
Short	6	17	10	15	3	0	0	5	32	27	20	32	0	44	60
Adequate	72	46	83	73	76	53	54	57	56	54	59	62	55	49	30
Surplus	22	35	7	12	21	47	46	38	0	11	21	1	45	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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