

# Texas Crop Weather



Released: February 7, 2005 (3:00 P.M. CST)  
 For the week of January 31 - February 6, 2005  
 TX-CW0605

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

**Crop Progress Table - February 6, 2005**

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

**Crop Condition Table - February 6, 2005**

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Wheat . . . . .	22	41	29	7	1
Range & Pasture . . .	9	39	35	14	3

**Agricultural Summary:** Weather conditions turned cold and nasty during early week. Many areas across the Plains received varied amounts of sleet and snow while remaining areas received a slow cold rain. Temperatures were generally below freezing during the night time hours across the Plains, but gradually warmer in central and southern areas. Farming activities became stalled as a result of this weather pattern. By midweek conditions were improved, however producers were bracing for another rain event during the weekend, which brought heavy rainfall and some flash flooding to many areas of the Trans Pecos and Plains regions. Drying out will be necessary before farming activities can continue. Recovery from extensive wet periods in pastures and grain fields used for grazing has been slow and additional moisture just prolongs the process. Supplemental feeding increased during the week as producers were once again attempting to offset the weather related stress in their livestock herds. Sickness in livestock herds continued to be variable across the state.

**Field Crops Report**

**Small Grains:** Small grains were responding well to the warmer and drier conditions of the previous week, however many areas are now waterlogged and small grains are suffering from too much standing water. Greenbug and aphid populations continued to increase, but treatment became impossible by midweek and drying out is necessary. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 80 percent of normal, compared with 40 percent last year.

**Corn:** Land preparation was active in a few locations during early week, however by midweek additional rainfall had stopped all progress. Drier conditions are needed soon as normal planting time approaches in some areas.

**Cotton:** Cotton harvest is generally complete, however cotton remained in the fields in a few isolated locations. It may be some time before adequate drying has occurred. Ginning activities were steady, however module trucks were having some difficulties as wet and muddy conditions made hauling difficult to impossible.

**Sorghum:** Land preparation was generally on hold across the state as additional rainfall was widespread.

**Peanuts:** Land preparation was active in a few isolated locations during later parts of the week, however additional rainfall has again slowed progress in all reported locations.

**Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report**

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, harvest of spinach and cabbage was slow depending on rainfall accumulations. Cabbage continued to make good progress, however spinach harvest was becoming critical as continued maturity will reduce quality for the fresh and processed market. 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 was active, but only in a few locations. Harvest of spinach and cabbage was mostly on hold due to additional rainfall. Later planted onions and carrots made good progress.

In **East Texas**, land preparation was generally on hold during the week as rain showers crossed the region. Dormant oil applications continued to be applied in late week and between rains.

In the **High Plains**, land preparation remained on hold due to inclement weather conditions.

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

**Pecans:** Remaining harvest moved ahead in many locations, however delays due to intermitted rainfall were common. Trimming was active in locations where the orchard floor was dry enough to support equipment.

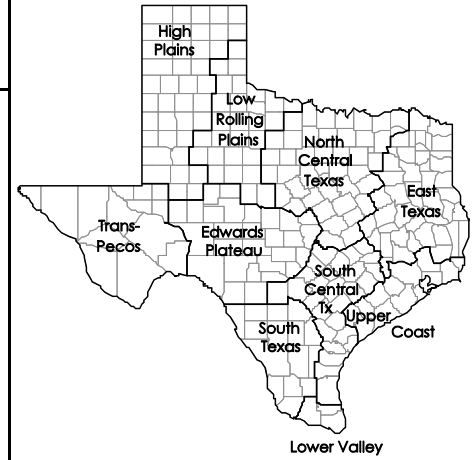
**Peaches:** Much concern continued as to the number of chill hours so far this season. Applications of dormant oils continued in a few of the dryer locations and between rains.

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report**

Moisture levels for range and pasture remained generally excellent across the state. However, many pastures are just too wet and trampling was a major problem for many producers. Some losses were reported in young cattle as they became stuck and could not free themselves from the mud. Supplemental feeding became more necessary in many areas as weather conditions turned downward. Many producers were having a difficult time in getting feed to their herds as muddy conditions were severe in some locations. Producers that have large amounts of grazing in small grain fields were having even more problems from bogging and trampling. Varied degrees of livestock sickness continued and some increases were seen in the colder areas of the state.

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

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Jan 31-Feb 6) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Jan 1 - 31) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan -Feb 6) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Nov-Jan) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.57	1.73	2.30	18.87	384
Low Rolling Plains	0.68	1.38	2.06	23.78	248
North Central Texas	0.59	2.52	3.07	34.00	145
East Texas	1.47	3.01	4.28	45.69	110
Trans Pecos	0.64	0.33	0.95	12.96	210
Edwards Plateau	0.48	0.99	1.40	24.01	173
South Central Texas	0.90	2.19	2.80	34.48	134
Upper Coast	1.08	2.33	2.80	47.63	156
South Texas	0.16	1.11	1.21	23.49	97
Lower Valley	0.09	0.59	0.61	25.34	72



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

**Top Soil Moisture by District - February 6, 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	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	4	0	2	0	1	0
Short	5	18	6	18	3	0	0	2	27	22	0	15	0	21	70
Adequate	60	43	54	76	80	29	31	26	72	62	51	80	30	70	30
Surplus	35	36	40	6	16	71	69	72	0	12	49	3	70	8	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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