

Texas Crop Weather



Released: April 11, 2005 (3:00 P.M. CDT)

For the week of April 4 - 10, 2005

TX-CW1505

1-800-626-3142

www.nass.usda.gov/tx

Crop Progress Table - April 10, 2005

Crop	2005	2004	Average 2000-2004
	<i>Percent</i>		
Corn			
Planted	62	62	55
Emerged	45	52	45
Cotton			
Planted	15	17	13
Rice			
Planted	44	69	62
Emerged	27	41	36
Sorghum			
Planted	41	44	39
Wheat			
Headed	10	15	15
Other Field Crops Planted			
Soybeans	32	42	26
Sunflowers	10	9	4

Crop Condition Table - April 10, 2005

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Wheat	23	48	22	6	1
Range & Pasture	14	48	28	9	1

Agricultural Summary: Weather conditions remained unsettled across the state during the week. Thunderstorms accompanied by hail and varied amounts of rainfall crossed portions of the state during early, mid and late week. High winds have caused problems nearly all week across the state. In many areas farming operations were placed on hold due to high winds; some wind speeds reached sixty miles per hour, but were generally constant at around forty miles per hour. Some early planted drops received damage from sand burn and some freshly cultivated fields were damaged from the winds. The extent of hail damage was not known at this time; however some crops, trees, buildings and many automobiles were damaged in areas where hail fell. When conditions allowed, planting continued to move northward as temperatures remained warm throughout the week. Applications of weed control, yellow herbicides and fertilizers were active, however became stalled at time due to the high winds. Green-up continued for pastures, but some areas were in need of surface moisture as high winds were removing moisture faster than it could be received. Supplemental feeding remained necessary in some areas, but was declining rapidly as pasture grasses were emerging. In a few southern locations early planted crops continued to suffer from lack of moisture as these areas have missed the majority of the rain fall this year.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Wheat and oats continued to show signs of growth and development, but was slowing as surface moisture was needed in many areas. Weed control treatments, fungicide and insect control treatments were active in many locations when conditions allowed. High winds caused damage around the state, however the extent was not reported at this time. Some small grains were bailed for hay during the week. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 83 percent of normal, compared with 68 percent last year.

Corn: Land preparation was active in a few areas during the week, however high winds at times made some preparations difficult. Planting moved ahead, but became stalled at times as the result of local weather conditions. Emergence of earlier planted corn has been acceptable, however some damage was caused from high winds and hail in a few locations.

Cotton: Land preparation including herbicide applications were active in many areas as weather permitted, however high winds caused delays at varied times during the week. Emergence of earlier planted cotton was mostly acceptable in all reporting areas.

Sorghum: Land preparation and planting remained active in southern and central locations. Land preparation was stalled at times in areas of the plains due to high wind speeds. Emergence of earlier planted sorghum was mostly acceptable, although some damage was received from high winds.

Peanuts: Land preparation was active at times in many locations across the state. High winds caused field damage in some locations and also prevented applications of pre-plant herbicides. Planting should begin soon in many areas.

Soybeans: Land preparation and planting were active in a few locations during the week as weather conditions permitted, however weather related delays were common.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, cabbage and carrot harvest remained active in many locations during the week. Spinach harvest was completed. Harvest of greens and some onions remained active in a few locations.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, land preparation was active in most areas, however rain showers and windy conditions caused some delays from time to time. Spinach and cabbage harvest was active as weather conditions permitted.

In **East Texas**, land preparation was active; however some delays were necessary as some locations received additional rainfall. Planting moved ahead where soils were adequately dry. Preparations for sweet potato planting was active in areas where conditions were favorable.

In the **High Plains**, land preparation was active during the week as conditions allowed. High winds caused the majority of delays as row destruction and soil movement was common.

In the **Trans Pecos**, land preparation remained active in most locations during the week. Growth and development of spring onions continued. Cotton planting began and the first cut of alfalfa was completed in a few locations.

Pecans: Bud break continued to move northward as temperatures and day length improved. Irrigation continued in a few orchards and zinc applications were active in some locations as conditions permitted.

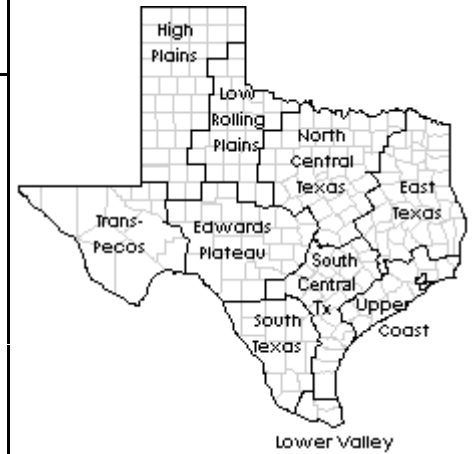
Peaches: Some orchards experienced light hail, but little damage was reported. There appears to be little damage from earlier frost in most orchards, however some varieties that are now blooming, did not receive adequate chill hours and production possibly could suffer.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Improvement in range and pastures continued, however soil moisture is needed in many locations as recent high winds have removed most available moisture to pasture grasses. A few southern locations were experiencing continued to experience moderately dry conditions and pasture improvement was slow. Sprigging and seeding of grasses remained active in many areas during the week. Fertilization was active in a few locations during the week as conditions allowed. Growth and development in alfalfa fields remained satisfactory and the first cutting occurred for some producers this week. Planting of hay crops continued as conditions allowed. Supplemental feeding remained necessary in some areas, however has been greatly reduced or suspended in many other locations.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Apr 4- 10) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Apr 1 - 10) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Apr 10) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Jan - Mar) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.02	0.02	3.75	18.87	173
Low Rolling Plains	0.01	0.01	4.28	23.78	132
North Central Texas	0.30	0.30	6.80	34.00	97
East Texas	1.11	1.11	10.50	45.69	88
Trans Pecos	0.00	0.00	2.14	12.96	183
Edwards Plateau	0.04	0.04	4.48	24.01	125
South Central Texas	0.14	0.14	7.13	34.48	113
Upper Coast	0.19	0.19	10.16	47.63	111
South Texas	0.00	0.00	4.21	23.49	133
Lower Valley	0.00	0.00	1.59	25.34	45



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - April 10, 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	15	2	8	2	0	0	0	9	10	0	4	0	0	45
Short	7	27	19	27	15	11	9	7	39	30	11	26	4	44	35
Adequate	75	47	56	63	75	69	74	69	52	60	75	70	83	52	20
Surplus	18	11	23	2	8	20	17	24	0	0	14	0	13	4	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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