

# Texas Crop Weather



Released: April 25, 2005 (3:00 P.M. CDT)

For the week of April 18 - 24, 2005

TX-CW1705

1-800-626-3142

www.nass.usda.gov/tx

**Crop Progress Table - April 24, 2005**

Crop	2005	2004	Average 2000-2004
	<i>Percent</i>		
<b>Corn</b>			
Planted .....	72	69	67
Emerged .....	61	62	58
<b>Cotton</b>			
Planted .....	21	21	17
<b>Rice</b>			
Planted .....	78	84	83
Emerged .....	65	79	69
<b>Sorghum</b>			
Planted .....	47	50	45
<b>Wheat</b>			
Headed .....	32	46	38
<b>Other Field Crops Planted</b>			
Soybeans .....	54	60	48
Sunflowers .....	12	11	15

**Crop Condition Table - April 24, 2005**

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Corn .....	24	49	25	2	0
Rice .....	10	75	13	2	0
Wheat .....	20	44	27	8	1
Range & Pasture .....	11	40	37	10	2
Soybeans .....	16	55	26	3	0

**Agricultural Summary:** Weather conditions remained unsettled during the week. Additional moisture was received in some areas, ranging from the Plains to lower East Texas. Water was standing in the fields in a few locations across the Low Rolling Plains. High winds were present at times in several areas across the Plains, North and Central Texas. Hail was reported in several areas, and a few locations experienced baseball sized hail. Damage to buildings and some livestock was reported. Elsewhere, sunshine and warmer temperatures were present during the majority of the week. In late week, another cold front crossed the state and brought unseasonably cool conditions, moderate thunderstorms and rain showers to many locations across the state. Between weather events, land preparation moved ahead in all areas along with fertilization, pre-plant herbicide applications and pre-watering for some spring crops. Weed treatments were also active in various locations, depending on wind speeds in the area. Pasture green-up was ongoing in all areas, however pasture decline was evident in areas that have missed the majority of rainfall events. Supplemental feeding remained necessary in areas that were most susceptible to temperature swings, however in most other areas, feeding decline was ongoing. A few sunflowers were planted in areas of the Plains this week.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Wheat and oats continued to show signs of growth and development, however many areas were becoming very dry and many producers have indicated that production will be effected. Insect and plant diseases were common, and in some areas these problems have reached severe levels. Treatment for these conditions was being evaluated as the cost could be prohibitive based on amount of return. Baling remained active, and increased in several locations. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 80 percent of

normal, compared with 67 percent last year.

**Corn:** Land preparation remained active in several areas and planting was active in many areas of the Plains. In many locations, soils were unseasonably dry and a good soaking rain was needed. Insect populations were building in some areas on emerged corn, however treatment was not widespread at this time. Bird predation had reduced some stands in parts of the coastal bend. Statewide, corn condition was rated at 86 percent of normal, compared with 84 percent last year.

**Cotton:** Land preparation, herbicide applications and pre-watering remained active in many areas as weather permitted. Planting moved ahead in areas where soil temperatures were acceptable. Emergence of earlier planted cotton remained mostly acceptable.

**Sorghum:** Land preparation was active in central locations and most areas of the Plains. Planting was active in many areas as conditions allowed. Emergence of earlier planted sorghum remained mostly acceptable, however some damage was reported in a few areas from wind and hail. Irrigation was active in a few locations.

**Peanuts:** Land preparation was active in many locations across the state. High winds continued to cause some damage in a few locations around the state. Planting began in a few isolated locations.

**Soybeans:** Land preparation and planting were active in varied locations during the week, however weather conditions caused minor delays from time to time in a few areas. Statewide, soybean condition was rated at 83 percent of normal.

**Rice:** Planting continued, but was nearing completion in some locations. Germination and development was considered normal in earlier planted fields. Statewide, rice condition was rated at 87 percent of normal, compared to 88 percent last year.

## Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, harvest of greens, cabbage, carrots, onions and some citrus remained active. Melons made good progress, however a good rain was needed in most locations.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, land preparation was active in most areas. Rainfall was needed across the area and irrigation was common. Spinach and cabbage harvest remained active throughout the week.

In **East Texas**, land preparation remained active, as conditions allowed. Planting moved ahead in dry areas and preparations for sweet potato planting remained active.

In the **High Plains**, land preparation was active during the week, depending on weather conditions. High winds and occasional thunderstorms caused some delays during the week.

In the **Trans Pecos**, land preparation remained active in most locations during the week. Growth and development of spring onions continued. Peppers were being planted in a few locations. Cotton planting continued and baling alfalfa was active in a few locations. Rains were needed as high winds have reduced surface moisture.

**Pecans:** Bud break continued as conditions improved across the state. Irrigation continued in a few orchards and zinc applications were active in some locations. Pecan nut casebearer traps were placed for monitoring in some southern and central areas.

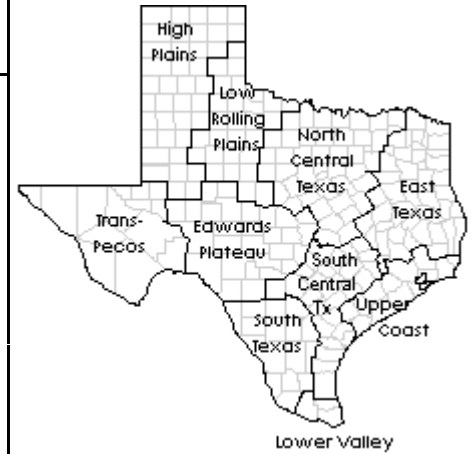
**Peaches:** Development continued across the state. Some damage was reported from hail storms during the week.

## Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Improvement in range and pastures continued, however was considerably slower in many areas as soil moisture was short to very short. Pasture seeding and sprigging was active in many locations. Fertilization was ongoing in many areas, however rainfall was needed to keep maintain conditions. Growth and development in alfalfa fields remained satisfactory and baling continued in a few locations. Supplemental feeding remained necessary in a few areas where green-up was slowed due to reduced soil moisture levels.

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

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Apr 18 - 24) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Apr 1 - 24) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Apr 24) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Jan - Mar) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.18	0.45	4.18	18.87	173
Low Rolling Plains	0.23	0.28	4.55	23.78	132
North Central Texas	0.04	0.34	6.84	34.00	97
East Texas	0.02	1.65	11.04	45.69	88
Trans Pecos	0.03	0.16	2.30	12.96	183
Edwards Plateau	0.03	0.07	4.51	24.01	125
South Central Texas	0.07	0.22	7.21	34.48	113
Upper Coast	0.09	0.59	10.56	47.63	111
South Texas	0.13	0.13	4.34	23.49	133
Lower Valley	0.01	0.01	1.60	25.34	45



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

**Top Soil Moisture by District - April 24, 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	4	12	16	9	13	7	0	4	11	12	1	27	2	14	39
Short	24	48	39	51	47	36	21	26	52	42	56	58	50	52	48
Adequate	63	32	41	40	40	53	72	67	37	44	43	15	45	33	13
Surplus	9	8	4	0	0	4	7	3	0	2	0	0	3	1	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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