

# Texas Crop Weather



Released: May 9, 2005 (3:00 P.M. CDT)  
 For the week of May 2 - 8, 2005  
 TX-CW1905

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

**Crop Progress Table - May 1, 2005**

Crop	2005	2004	Average 2000-2004
	<i>Percent</i>		
<b>Corn</b>			
Planted .....	84	94	89
Emerged .....	68	73	72
Silked .....	1	2	6
<b>Cotton</b>			
Planted .....	24	30	27
Squaring .....	2	4	3
<b>Peanuts</b>			
Planted .....	11	44	29
<b>Rice</b>			
Planted .....	97	98	97
Emerged .....	90	92	90
<b>Sorghum</b>			
Planted .....	49	55	51
Headed .....	7	8	6
<b>Wheat</b>			
Headed .....	76	82	75
<b>Other Field Crops</b>			
<b>Planted</b>			
Soybeans .....	61	65	66
Sunflowers .....	14	33	33

**Crop Condition Table - May 1, 2005**

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
	<i>Percent</i>				
Corn .....	12	41	38	9	0
Rice .....	10	75	12	3	0
Wheat .....	12	37	34	14	3
Range & Pasture .....	8	32	39	17	4
Soybeans .....	11	49	38	2	0
Oats .....	6	26	45	17	6

**Agricultural Summary:** Weather conditions were unsettled across the state during the week. Snow covered areas of the high plains with some freezing temperatures and accumulations ranging upward to around five inches. Elsewhere, scattered light showers were reported, but accumulations were mostly light. With the sudden drop in temperatures, most farming activities were on hold and earlier planted crops were struggling to emerge. Further south, temperatures were warmer and progress and development remained active in earlier planted crops. In late week, another front crossed the majority of the state bringing light to moderate rainfall, hail, and high winds to many portions of the Edwards Plateau, North Central, Central and East Texas. Some hail reached soft ball size and damage to property and crops was extensive in a few locations. Dry conditions increased and were becoming severe in some southern and costal locations. Pasture green-up continued, but remained slow in most areas as cooler temperatures and lack of moisture affected development. Pasture decline remained active in a few areas where surface moisture was especially low. Supplemental feeding continued to decline, but remained necessary in some areas due to the continued decline in native pastures.

**Field Crops Report**

**Small Grains:** Wheat and oats continued to show signs of growth and development in areas where moisture remained adequate. In other areas dry conditions were becoming severe and production could be effected. Freeze damage to wheat across the high plains was still being accessed. Some locations received damage from high winds and hail, but the extent of damage is unknown at this time.

Baling remained active in many locations. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 71 percent of normal, compared with 66 percent last year. Statewide, oat condition was rated at 62 percent of normal.

**Corn:** Land preparation and planting moved ahead in early week across areas of the Plains, however cold temperatures and snow fall in other areas of the Plains brought progress to a halt. Insect populations remained active on emerged corn in a few areas. High winds and hail caused some damage in central locations. Dry land corn was suffering in a few southern locations from lack of moisture. Elsewhere, normal progress was reported. Statewide, corn condition was rated at 75 percent of normal, compared with 87 percent last year.

**Cotton:** Land preparation, herbicide applications and pre-watering remained active in many areas as weather permitted. Planting was active in a few areas, but was on hold in many other areas as soil temperatures were too cool for planting. Emergence of earlier planted cotton remained mostly acceptable.

**Sorghum:** Land preparation moved ahead in central locations, but was mostly stalled across the plains due to wet conditions. Planting was active in several areas, but dry conditions in some areas and wet conditions in other areas caused delays. Emergence of earlier planted sorghum remained mostly acceptable. Irrigation remained necessary in a few locations. Sorghum fields in a few southern locations were extremely dry.

**Peanuts:** Land preparation and planting activities continued in many central and southern locations. Cool soil temperatures delayed planting in many areas across the Plains.

**Soybeans:** Land preparation and planting continued in some locations, however cold and wet conditions caused delays in many areas of the Plains and North Texas. Statewide, soybean condition was rated at 79 percent of normal.

**Rice:** Progress and development continued in earlier planted fields. Flushing and flooding remained active in some locations. Statewide, rice condition was rated at 86 percent of normal, compared to 87 percent last year.

**Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report**

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, harvest of citrus, greens, cabbage, carrots, onions and other cool season vegetables remained active. Harvest was active for earlier planted melon crops, and later planted melons made good progress. Dry-land melons continued to suffer across the area.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, land preparation was active in most areas. Rainfall was needed across the area and irrigation was common. Cabbage and some potato harvest continued. Melon and green bean planting was active in some locations. Dry-land vegetables were suffering across the area from lack of sufficient moisture.

In **East Texas**, earlier planted vegetables made good progress. Planting of peas, beans and melons moved ahead. Preparations for sweet potato planting remained active. Some squash harvest was in progress.

In the **High Plains**, earlier planted potatoes and onions made good progress. Colder temperatures generally prevented additional planting during early week. High winds and occasional thunderstorms caused further delays in other areas of the Plains.

In the **Trans Pecos**, land preparation remained active in most locations. Growth and development of spring onions continued. Planting of peppers and melons continued in some locations. Cotton planting and baling alfalfa continued in a few areas.

**Pecans:** Nut formation moved ahead in many areas and was considered normal for this time of year. Insect damage was reported in a few locations. Treatment for pecan nut case bearer was active in a few areas. Monitoring remained active across many other areas of the state.

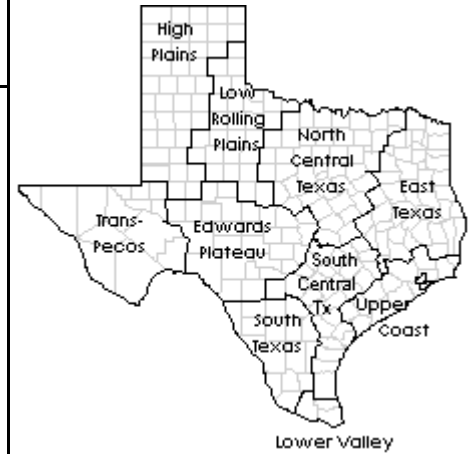
**Peaches:** Development continued across the state. Some damage was reported from hail and high winds. Major damage was reported in a very few locations.

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report**

Improvement in range and pastures continued in some areas, however in other areas, pasture conditions declined due to lack of moisture. Near drought conditions were present in many areas of South Texas. Water available for livestock was also becoming short in a few locations. Pasture seeding, sprigging and fertilization continued in many locations; however some earlier planted grasses were suffering from lack of moisture. Growth and development of alfalfa remained satisfactory and irrigation was active in many locations. Supplemental feeding remained necessary and increased in some of the driest locations. Elsewhere, pastures were mostly in good to excellent condition.

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

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (May 2 - 8) Accumulation	Month-to-date (May 1 - 8) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - May 8) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Feb - Apr) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.22	0.45	4.65	18.87	91
Low Rolling Plains	0.73	0.78	5.33	23.78	74
North Central Texas	0.90	0.90	7.89	34.00	55
East Texas	0.87	0.87	12.20	45.69	74
Trans Pecos	0.16	0.16	2.46	12.96	154
Edwards Plateau	0.83	0.83	5.50	24.01	81
South Central Texas	1.41	1.41	8.87	34.48	80
Upper Coast	1.33	1.33	12.78	47.63	110
South Texas	0.07	0.07	4.50	23.49	86
Lower Valley	0.15	0.15	1.75	25.34	30



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

**Top Soil Moisture by District - May 8, 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	2	7	7	5	2	17	0	18	21	19	7	92	7	24	60
Short	15	51	40	37	42	42	35	59	47	46	66	8	36	52	27
Adequate	64	33	49	53	54	40	65	22	32	35	27	0	54	23	13
Surplus	19	9	4	5	2	1	0	1	0	0	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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