

Texas Crop Weather



Released: May 31, 2005 (3:00 P.M. CDT)
 For the week of May 23 - 29, 2005
 TX-CW2205

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

Crop Progress Table - May 29, 2005

Crop	2005	2004	Average
			2000-2004
	<i>Percent</i>		
Corn			
Planted	98	99	99
Emerged	90	95	95
Silked	22	27	35
Cotton			
Planted	70	72	68
Squaring	11	11	12
Peanuts			
Planted	86	89	80
Rice			
Emerged	100	98	98
Sorghum			
Planted	60	73	68
Headed	28	25	26
Wheat			
Headed	98	98	98
Harvested	8	13	16
Other Field Crops			
Planted			
Soybeans	83	84	87
Sunflowers	40	56	64
Harvested			
Oats	24	-	-

Crop Condition Table - May 29, 2005

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
Corn	7	56	24	10	3
Cotton	9	47	33	9	2
Peanuts	22	55	22	1	0
Rice	25	43	24	8	0
Sorghum	8	34	33	15	10
Wheat	6	35	40	15	4
Soybeans	3	44	39	13	1
Oats	4	27	45	19	5
Range & Pasture	5	27	41	20	7

Agricultural Summary: Weather conditions were generally hot and dry across the state during early week. Record breaking temperatures were reported in several locations, however these open conditions also allowed farming operations to move ahead with planting and some harvesting of small grains. Crops were wilting down during daylight hours in some areas as the result of dry soils and the unusual high temperatures. At mid-week, a front entered the state and brought rain showers and some severe storms to parts of the Plains and North Texas. The same weather front moved across the state and destabilized the atmosphere enough to cause rain showers and storms over a broader area of the state for the rest of the week. High winds, hail and heavy rainfall occurred in many areas and damage to crops and property varied from location to location. Localized flooding was also reported in some areas. Lightning caused wildfires in several locations.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Harvest activity increased in early week across many areas. By mid-week, harvest was stalled in some areas and more delays were reported state wide as the week progressed due to the storms that crossed the state. Several areas received varying degrees of damage from high winds and hail. Widespread baling was reported

in some areas during early week as many producers indicated that it was not profitable to combine their small grains. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 66 percent of normal compared with 61 percent last year. Statewide, oat condition was rated at 61 percent of normal.

Corn: Planting in the Panhandle remained active during early week in a few locations and was mostly complete in all reporting areas by week's end. Some replanting was necessary in a very few locations. Emergence in most irrigated locations was considered adequate, but emergence in some dry-land locations was not as good due to dry conditions. Corn was curling and wilting down in some areas due to the extreme heat and dry soils during early week. In late week, some newly emerged corn was washed out due to heavy rainfall. Statewide, corn condition was rated at 75 percent of normal, compared with 87 percent last year.

Cotton: Planting remained active in most areas of the Panhandle and South Plains. Many areas were finished or almost finished with planting. Emergence of earlier planted cotton was mostly satisfactory with the exception of some dry planted cotton. Some damage occurred in a few locations due to passing storms during mid to late week. Irrigation was active in a few areas. Further south, cotton was suffering in areas of the Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Valley from dry conditions, however a few areas received some relief from passing storms during late week. Some cotton was plowed under in southern locations due to the extreme drought conditions. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 74 percent of normal compared with 78 percent last year.

Sorghum: Planting moved ahead across the Plains and in Central areas of the state where conditions were favorable. Stress from high temperatures and lack of moisture was evident in many newly emerged fields. By mid-week, some areas of the Plains received some relief as passing thunderstorms brought varied amounts of rainfall. In many southern locations, this rain event came too late to improve conditions. Some producers in southern locations have indicated that they will not harvest their sorghum crop as production would not yield a profit. Some damage was also received from hail in varied locations. Statewide, sorghum condition was rated at 63 percent of normal, compared with 83 percent last year.

Peanuts: Planting continued in remaining locations across the state. Some earlier planted peanuts were washed out by hard rains during mid to late week in isolated areas. Most early planted fields have made good progress, however irrigation was necessary in several dry locations. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 87 percent of normal, compared with 84 percent last year.

Soybeans: Planting continued in several northern and central locations and areas of the Plains. Some earlier planted fields in central and southern areas continued to show signs of moisture stress during early week, but some relief was obtained in late week as the result of passing rain events. Statewide, soybean condition was rated at 70 percent of normal.

Rice: Condition of early planted stands was considered mostly favorable. Some producers remain concerned with yield potential on later planted fields. Statewide, rice condition was rated at 83 percent of normal, compared with 86 percent last year.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, onion and cabbage harvest remained active in a few locations. Melon harvest was ongoing.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, onion harvest remained active with good yields and quality reported. Rainfall was needed as conditions continued to be mostly dry across the area. Irrigation was active in many locations. Harvest of cabbage and some potatoes continued.

In **East Texas**, vegetables made good progress where irrigation water was available, however dry land crops continued to suffer. Onion and squash harvest remained active. Preparations for sweet potato planting continued. Blackberry harvest was active across the region, however several acres of blueberries and blackberries were damaged by hail in late week.

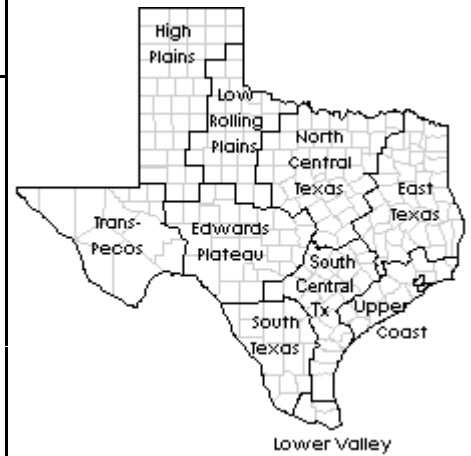
Pecans: Spraying for pecan nut case bearer increased statewide. Other insect pressure was generally light. Some web worm activity was noticed. Irrigation continued to be active, especially in the driest locations.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Range and pasture conditions ranged from very poor to good across the state. In the driest areas of South Texas, herd reduction began for some producers and supplemental feeding increased. Passing rain events in mid to late week across several areas of the state brought some relief. In some areas, surface livestock water continued to decline. Haying operations remained active during the week but were delayed in some areas due to rain. Some producers were baling grain sorghum to supplement their hay reserves. Passing thunderstorms caused wildfires that damaged pastures in some locations.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (May 23 - 29) Accumulation	Month-to-date (May 1 - 29) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - My 29) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Feb - Apr) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.87	1.94	6.14	18.87	91
Low Rolling Plains	0.49	2.30	6.85	23.78	74
North Central Texas	1.24	2.48	9.47	34.00	55
East Texas	1.00	1.87	13.20	45.69	74
Trans Pecos	1.75	2.16	4.46	12.96	154
Edwards Plateau	2.46	3.94	8.61	24.01	81
South Central Texas	1.17	2.80	10.26	34.48	80
Upper Coast	3.82	5.48	16.93	47.63	110
South Texas	0.96	1.57	6.00	23.49	86
Lower Valley	0.65	0.89	2.49	25.34	30



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - May 29, 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	1	10	20	3	21	32	47	28	21	16	13	85	14	19	73
Short	38	35	34	34	44	50	38	52	34	41	43	15	17	56	17
Adequate	58	46	44	59	35	15	15	20	45	42	43	0	57	24	10
Surplus	3	9	2	4	0	3	0	0	0	1	1	0	12	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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**AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE
NASS - USDA
P.O. BOX 70
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767**

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