

Texas Crop Weather

Released: July 18, 2005 (3:00 P.M. CDT)
For the week of July 11 - 17, 2005
TX-CW2905

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

Crop Progress Table - July 17, 2005

Crop	2005	2004	Average 2000-2004
- Percent -			
Corn			
Silked	80	84	84
Dough	62	62	62
Dented	52	55	52
Mature	32	19	30
Harvested	5	2	4
Cotton			
Squaring	71	79	78
Setting Bolls	21	32	34
Bolls Opening	9	5	7
Peanuts			
Pegging	81	74	69
Rice			
Headed	61	57	74
Sorghum			
Planted	99	98	99
Headed	54	52	58
Turning Color	46	44	44
Mature	37	32	33
Harvested	29	23	24
Sunflowers			
Planted	96	100	99
Wheat			
Harvested	99	100	98
Oats			
Harvested	96	100	99

Crop Condition Table - July 17, 2005

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
- Percent -					
Corn	11	35	27	16	11
Cotton	7	39	35	13	6
Peanuts	17	51	26	5	1
Rice	16	45	33	6	0
Sorghum	11	39	31	12	7
Soybeans	5	26	38	22	9
Range & Pasture ...	2	15	37	30	16

Agricultural Summary: Weather conditions across the state were hot with some areas receiving varied amounts of rainfall during the week. Pop up showers, and showers associated with an unstable air mass across the middle portion of the state caused light to moderate rain during mid to late week across many portions of North, Central and East Texas. A few locations received strong winds and some small hail but, property and crop damage appeared to be light. Elsewhere, rain events were more widely scattered and benefit to crops and pastures was minimal. Generally, dry conditions continued and even in areas where rains fell, many producers indicated that it was too little too late to benefit crops. Irrigation was active in all areas where possible and crops were developing well. Dryland crops were showing signs of extreme moisture stress in many areas and some producers had turned livestock into fields of late planted crops as in an attempt to salvage some good from the crop failure. A few areas saw enough rainfall to benefit range and pastures however, most regions received no benefit and in these areas producers continued to reduce or disperse their livestock herds. Some producers were totally out of hay supplies and the future was not promising at this time on further hay cuttings this season.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Grain harvest was generally completed across the state with only a very few isolated locations left to harvest. Land preparation for fall planting was underway in many areas, especially in locations where earlier rainfall had increased soil moisture.

Corn: Growth and development continued where irrigation was possible. A few areas planted with dryland corn received moderate rainfall during the week however, little improvement was noticed in corn development. Harvest remained active in several southern locations especially where the threat of heavy rains associated with hurricane Emily were possible. Statewide, corn condition was rated at 64 percent of normal, compared with 95 percent last year.

Cotton: Irrigation was ongoing in most areas where possible. Light to moderate rainfall was received in a few areas during the week and some producers indicated improvements in their dryland cotton. Harvest was underway in a very few Rio Grande Valley locations, especially where rains from hurricane Emily were likely. Other producers were waiting until possible rains were over before applying defoliation chemicals. Insect populations continued to increase in some areas, especially weevils and grasshoppers. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 67 percent of normal compared with 76 percent last year.

Sorghum: Scattered rain showers improved sorghum development in many central areas during the week. In other areas rainfall was more widely scattered. In a few locations conditions remained excessively dry and producers had bailed or turned livestock into sorghum fields. Baling remained active in some areas that have remained dry and harvest moved ahead in southern regions. Statewide, sorghum condition was rated at 69 percent of normal, compared with 85 percent last year.

Peanuts: Irrigation remained active in most areas. Rainfall during the week was limited, however some dryland producers in central areas did receive good rains. A few dryland acres have continued to miss passing rains and these peanuts were in sad shape. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 82 percent of normal, compared with 86 percent last year.

Soybeans: Soybeans progressed well under irrigation and dryland acres also made progress in areas where showers fell. Many other areas were suffering from lack of moisture and the beans were reported to be in bad shape. Statewide, soybean condition was rated at 58 percent of normal.

Rice: Growth and development continued in all rice growing areas. Flooding of fields continued. Insect problems remained light. Statewide, rice condition was rated at 79 percent of normal, compared with 83 percent last year.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, irrigated watermelons and cantaloupes made good progress. Preparations for fall planting was underway in some locations.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, green bean harvest continued in a few locations. Land preparation was active in areas where soil moisture was suitable for farming activities.

In **East Texas**, onion, squash and sweet potato harvest remained active in a few locations. Conditions were improved in a few areas as rains showers occurred during mid to late week. Insect and fungus pressure continued to increase in many locations and treatment was ongoing.

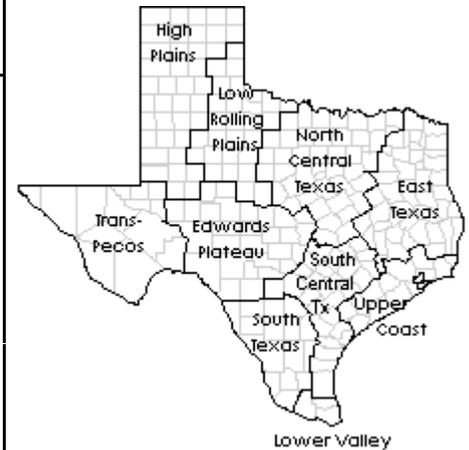
Pecans: Spraying for pecan nut casebearer and web worms remained active in many areas. Irrigation remained active where necessary. Nut development remained satisfactory in areas where moisture was adequate. Nut drop remained light.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Range and pasture conditions remained varied across the state. Many central and eastern locations received varying amounts of rainfall during the week and improvement could be soon noticed if the trend continues. Other areas were not as lucky and pasture decline remained in effect. Supplemental feeding remained necessary for many producers and herd reduction continued to increase in many areas. Livestock water supplies were short in many areas and hauling water to livestock was necessary for some producers. Hay operations continued to suffer and baling remained suspended in some areas until rainfall is received. Concern continued among many producers as to the possibility of hay shortages this fall.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Jul 11 - 17) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Jul 1 - 17) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Jul 17) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Apr - Jun) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.07	1.31	9.90	18.87	73
Low Rolling Plains	0.21	1.58	10.33	23.78	54
North Central Texas	0.80	1.43	12.17	34.00	37
East Texas	1.20	2.31	16.27	45.69	34
Trans Pecos	0.15	0.44	5.49	12.96	93
Edwards Plateau	0.76	1.28	10.84	24.01	65
South Central Texas	1.01	1.32	12.35	34.48	38
Upper Coast	3.25	4.98	23.25	47.63	64
South Texas	0.95	0.95	7.41	23.49	29
Lower Valley	0.62	0.78	3.69	25.34	18



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - July 17, 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	7	14	9	14	13	36	38	25	25	28	32	71	10	35	33
Short	23	36	45	55	59	45	44	52	47	49	40	28	22	46	34
Adequate	62	38	42	29	28	17	16	23	28	22	26	1	55	18	30
Surplus	8	12	4	2	0	2	2	0	0	1	2	0	13	1	3

* 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.

**PERIODICALS
POSTAGE PAID AT
AUSTIN, TEXAS**

Texas Crop Weather (USPS 396-770) is published weekly by the Texas Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, 300 E 8th St, Austin, TX 78701, (512) 916-5581. **PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID** at Austin, TX and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send change of address to Texas Crop Weather, PO Box 70, Austin, TX 78767.

**AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE
NASS - USDA
P.O. BOX 70
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767**

T
E
X
A
S