

# Texas Crop Weather

Released: July 25, 2005 (3:00 P.M. CDT)  
For the week of July 18 - 24, 2005  
TX-CW3005

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

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

Crop	2005	2004	Average 2000-2004
- Percent -			
<b>Corn</b>			
Silked .....	88	90	91
Dough .....	66	68	68
Dented .....	59	60	57
Mature .....	46	37	42
Harvested .....	11	5	10
<b>Cotton</b>			
Squaring .....	82	84	85
Setting Bolls .....	32	48	51
Bolls Opening .....	11	8	10
Harvested .....	1	--	--
<b>Peanuts</b>			
Pegging .....	86	83	80
<b>Rice</b>			
Headed .....	72	67	84
<b>Sorghum</b>			
Planted .....	100	100	100
Headed .....	56	59	63
Turning Color .....	47	47	47
Mature .....	39	39	38
Harvested .....	32	31	30
<b>Sunflowers</b>			
Planted .....	99	100	100
<b>Wheat</b>			
Harvested .....	100	100	100
<b>Oats</b>			
Harvested .....	99	100	100

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

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
- Percent -					
Corn .....	8	31	30	19	12
Cotton .....	8	38	34	14	6
Peanuts .....	1	7	28	48	16
Rice .....	15	45	34	6	0
Sorghum .....	11	36	33	13	7
Soybeans .....	5	28	39	20	8
Range & Pasture ..	2	19	39	25	15

**Agricultural Summary:** Weather conditions across the majority of the state were hot with some areas receiving varied amounts of rainfall during the week. Hurricane Emily brought considerable amounts of rainfall to the Rio Grande Valley, Coastal Bend and portions of South Texas. Strong winds and some tornados were also reported, however damage to property was reported to be minimal. Pastures and water impoundments in these same areas benefitted from the rains, and pasture improvement should be noticed soon. Harvest in these areas was on hold until drying can occur. Elsewhere, a few thunderstorms roamed Texas, but no widespread rains occurred. In these areas conditions remained generally dry and little benefit from passing showers was noticed. Irrigation was active in all areas where possible and irrigated crops were developing well. Dryland crops continued to show signs of extreme moisture stress in many areas and producers in some areas continued to graze fields that had been abandoned for crop production. Hay supplies continued to dwindle and concern increased as to the prospects of adequate supplies this winter. Herd reduction and dispersal continued in many locations as rain chances did not appear to be on the horizon. Range and pasture fires were on the increase in many areas due to the dry conditions.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Land preparation for fall planting remained strong in many areas, especially in locations where soil moisture was adequate.

**Corn:** Growth and development continued where irrigation was possible. Some producers were finding it difficult to keep up with water demands as steady hot winds continued to remove soil moisture. Dryland corn remained severely stressed in many areas and abandonment continued in some locations. Harvest remained active in southern and a few central locations, however rains from hurricane Emily placed a hold on harvest until drying out occurred. Statewide, corn condition was rated at 60 percent of normal, compared with 95 percent last year.

**Cotton:** Irrigation remained active in areas where possible. Scattered showers associated with hurricane Emily provided improvement to some dryland cotton fields in southern and some central locations however, long term improvement was not expected. Some dryland cotton was wilting down during the day in several of the driest locations. Harvest was on hold in Rio Grande Valley locations, especially where rains from hurricane Emily occurred. Defoliation chemicals were applied in a few southern locations during late week. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 67 percent of normal compared with 77 percent last year.

**Sorghum:** Scattered rain showers from hurricane Emily slowed harvest in South and South Central areas of the state. Elsewhere, development continued, but was severely stressed in many areas as the dry trend continued. Baling and grazing continued in many areas as production for grain would not be economical. In some areas where earlier heavy showers occurred, sorghum was responding well. Statewide, sorghum condition was rated at 68 percent of normal, compared with 82 percent last year.

**Peanuts:** Irrigation remained active in most areas. Peanuts in some South Central areas received showers during the week, however in other areas some dryland peanuts were wilting down during the day and these peanuts were undergoing severe stress. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 79 percent of normal, compared with 91 percent last year.

**Soybeans:** Soybeans continued to progress well under irrigation, however dryland beans in many areas continued to stress from lack of moisture and some were wilting down during the day. Production may be effected if adequate rain fall does not occur soon. Statewide, soybean condition was rated at 60 percent of normal.

**Rice:** Growth and development continued in all rice growing areas. Some rice fields were ready for drydown, but rain showers during the week kept soils moist. 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**, sugarcane, citrus and vegetables all benefitted greatly due to the rainfall from hurricane Emily. Wind damage appeared to be minimal.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, land preparation was active, but became stalled in locations where rains were received.

In **East Texas**, onion, squash and sweet potato harvest remained active in a few locations. A few areas received scattered rain showers and slight improvement was noticed, however the majority of the region remained dry. Insect and fungus pressure continued to increase in many locations and treatment was ongoing.

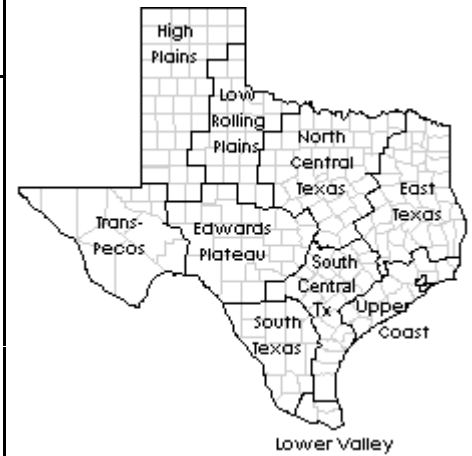
**Pecans:** Spraying for pecan nut casebearer and web worms remained active in many areas. Irrigation remained necessary in all areas where possible. Nut drop was reported as minimal in most areas.

## Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Areas of the Rio Grande Valley, Coastal Bend and some South Central locations received beneficial rainfall from hurricane Emily during the week. Pasture improvement in these areas should begin soon. Elsewhere, range and pasture conditions remained under stress across the majority of the state, although isolated showers occurred in a few other locations. Runoff was minimal to non-existent in all areas except the Rio Grande Valley. In areas that remained dry range and pasture decline was ongoing. Supplemental feeding remained necessary for many producers and herd reduction continued. Livestock water supplies were replenished in most areas of the Valley, however other areas were not as lucky and water supplies remained short. Haying operations were at a stand-still across most areas as producers continued to wait for adequate rainfall. Range fires were prominent in many areas as the dry trend continued.

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

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Jul 18 - 24) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Jul 1 - 24) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Jul 24) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Apr - Jun) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.00	1.31	9.90	18.87	73
Low Rolling Plains	0.04	1.62	10.37	23.78	54
North Central Texas	0.16	1.59	12.33	34.00	37
East Texas	0.44	2.75	16.71	45.69	34
Trans Pecos	0.00	0.44	5.49	12.96	93
Edwards Plateau	0.15	1.43	10.99	24.01	65
South Central Texas	0.61	1.93	12.96	34.48	38
Upper Coast	1.88	6.86	25.13	47.63	64
South Texas	1.35	2.30	8.76	23.49	29
Lower Valley	2.11	2.89	5.80	25.34	18



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

**Top Soil Moisture by District - July 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	12	25	25	25	15	38	23	11	37	29	17	2	0	12	0
Short	38	43	51	63	56	41	55	36	42	48	28	8	6	33	70
Adequate	49	27	24	12	29	20	22	52	21	22	49	77	74	49	23
Surplus	1	5	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	6	13	20	6	7

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

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