

Texas Crop Weather

Released: August 15, 2005 (3:00 P.M. CDT)
For the week of August 8 - 14, 2005
TX-CW3305

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

Crop Progress Table - August 14, 2005

Crop	2005	2004	Average 2000-2004
- Percent -			
Corn			
Dough	91	87	91
Dented	70	73	76
Mature	61	61	60
Harvested	38	34	42
Cotton			
Squaring	97	98	98
Setting Bolls	77	81	84
Bolls Opening	16	17	18
Harvested	8	6	8
Peanuts			
Pegging	97	98	96
Rice			
Headed	97	98	99
Harvested	34	32	47
Sorghum			
Headed	80	78	79
Turning Color	53	53	58
Mature	49	48	51
Harvested	46	46	45

Crop Condition Table - August 14, 2005

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
- Percent -					
Corn	8	32	29	17	14
Cotton	13	42	29	12	4
Peanuts	24	52	20	4	0
Rice	21	53	23	3	0
Sorghum	9	39	33	12	7
Soybeans	2	23	39	24	12
Range & Pasture	3	2	38	22	10

Agricultural Summary: Light to moderate rainfall was received across most of the state during the week. Higher rain accumulations occurred in areas stretching from the Panhandle to areas south and east. The Trans Pecos region received minimal rainfall and the Southernmost tip remained dry. Areas along the eastern coast saw minimal sporadic rains. In the Blacklands, harvest activities were halted while producers waited for the rains to end. Later in the week, harvest was resumed as fields dried down. Moisture levels improved across most of the state. Temperatures for the most part remained cooler throughout the week. Most areas of the state experienced fall-like temperatures. In Southern, Eastern, the Trans Pecos as well as the Edwards Plateau, the average temperature for the week was 85 degrees. The Western area of the Trans Pecos as well as the Panhandle saw even cooler temperatures. Fall planting preparations were in full swing in most areas.

Field Crops Report

Cotton: Improvement in the crop was reported across most areas, although some dryland fields continued to suffer from lack of adequate moisture. Heat units continued to accumulate at about a normal pace. Irrigation requirements were reduced as the rains came. Pest pressure increased in some areas. Cotton was setting squares and bolls in the Northern Low Plains. In South Texas, defoliation was in progress and harvest continued under good conditions. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 72 percent of normal, compared with 85 percent last year.

Sorghum: In the Panhandle, irrigated sorghum was looking good although dryland fields needed additional moisture. Harvest was on hold in the Blacklands for a few days due to scattered rains, but had resumed by week's end. Harvest was completed in some areas and decent yields were noted. In other areas, harvest was just beginning and yields were reported as average. Statewide, sorghum condition was rated at 68 percent of normal, compared with 85 percent last year.

Peanuts: Disease pressure increased in areas where heavy rains fell and producers in the lower Plains were applying fungicides. Development continued although wet, cool conditions were causing concern for some growers. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 86 percent of normal, compared with 94 percent last year.

Soybeans: Harvest continued in North East Texas with less than normal yields and had started along the Upper Coast. Scattered showers brought welcomed moisture to most areas. Statewide, soybean condition was rated at 53 percent of normal.

Rice: Rice harvest continued at a rapid pace along the Upper Coast. Statewide, rice condition was rated at 85 percent of normal, compared with 84 percent last year.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, producers were making preparations for fall planting.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, early planted cabbage made good progress and transplanting was active in pre-watered fields.

In **East Texas**, the majority of vegetable crops have been harvested.

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, tomatoes were starting to set fruit and okra was doing well.

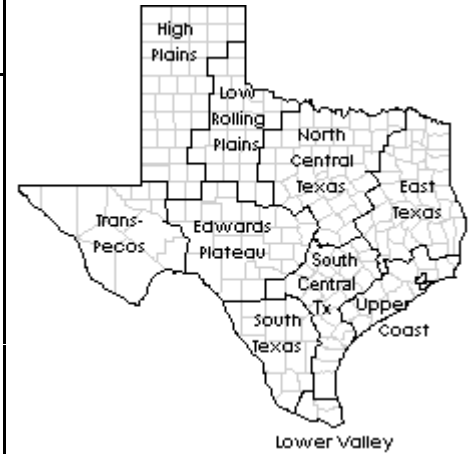
Pecans: Producers continued to spray for aphids and pecan weevil. Drought stress caused nuts to drop in some areas, and some producers were shaking trees to thin nut clusters.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Pasture green up continued with recent rainfall over most of the state. For the most part, livestock condition was rated good although some areas reported conditions continued to decline where rainfall has been scarce. Conditions were reported to be most severe in eastern areas, where hay production has been less than normal and herd reduction continued. Insect pressure increased and supplemental feeding continued. Stock tanks were filling up in some areas from recent rains. Isolated areas suffered some flood damage. Armyworms were becoming more of a threat. Some fourth cutting of hay was reported although rains brought baling to a halt. Cutting resumed as fields dried up. Fall shearing has begun in the Edwards Plateau.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Aug 8 - 14) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Aug 1 - 14) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Aug 14) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (May - Jul) Percent of Normal
High Plains	1.24	1.90	12.36	18.87	64
Low Rolling Plains	2.32	2.77	13.44	23.78	56
North Central Texas	2.22	2.90	15.62	34.00	43
East Texas	0.95	1.53	18.25	45.69	26
Trans Pecos	1.06	1.46	8.14	12.96	72
Edwards Plateau	1.50	2.55	14.57	24.01	77
South Central Texas	0.34	0.58	13.80	34.48	36
Upper Coast	0.76	1.04	26.93	47.63	49
South Texas	0.16	0.26	9.36	23.49	28
Lower Valley	0.00	0.16	6.21	25.34	19



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - August 14, 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	27	0	13	0	14	20	29	8	23	7	15	11	1	13	33
Short	43	31	37	45	40	31	50	27	33	33	29	34	13	31	60
Adequate	28	61	50	55	32	29	20	60	44	54	54	55	74	51	7
Surplus	2	8	0	0	14	20	1	5	0	6	2	0	12	5	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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STATISTICS SERVICE
NASS - USDA
P.O. BOX 70
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767**

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