Texas Crop Weather

United States Department of Agriculture,
National Agricultural Statistics Service,
Texas Field Office

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For the week of August 22 - 28, 2005
TX-CW3505

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

Crop Progress Table - August 28, 2005

Crop	2005	2004	Average 2000-2004
	- Percent -		
Corn			
Dough	99	97	98
Dented	89	90	91
Mature	68	73	69
Harvested	57	52	55
Cotton			
Setting Bolls	95	92	95
Bolls Opening	18	20	26
Harvested	15	11	13
Rice			
Harvested	71	70	78
Sorghum			
Headed	90	88	89
Turning Color	57	60	72
Mature	52	52	59
Harvested	51	50	54
Soybeans			
Setting Pods	75	--	--
Wheat			
Planted	3	6	2

Crop Condition Table - August 28, 2005

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
	- Percent -				
Corn	11	30	31	16	12
Cotton	15	46	26	8	5
Peanuts	26	52	21	1	0
Rice	17	51	31	1	0
Sorghum	9	42	33	9	7
Soybeans	2	27	32	24	15
Range & Pasture	4	28	36	22	10

Agricultural Summary: Weather conditions were considerably drier at the beginning of the week with the majority of rain showers occurring across the northern panhandle. Elsewhere, sea breeze showers were spotty across portions of Central and South Central Texas. Only minor delays were reported in harvesting cotton, rice and soybeans. Late in the week, a cool front crossed the majority of the state; bringing severe weather conditions to the Southern Plains and portions of North Central Texas. Hail damage was reported in several areas. Land preparation for fall planting moved ahead across the majority of the state. Planting of small grains was ongoing as producers prepared for early grazing this fall. In areas of North Central Texas, the Plains and Edwards Plateau, crop growth and development remained excellent. Range and pastures continued to rebound in those areas and livestock body condition was improving. Some areas have remained dry and pasture conditions in these areas continued to decline. Livestock herds were showing signs of heat stress and supplemental feeding remained strong in a few locations. Hay production in the driest areas remained lower than previous years, and producers remained concerned about adequate supplies for the winter months. Infestations of armyworms increased in many locations.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Land preparation moved ahead in many areas, especially in areas that were unaffected by rains late in the week.

Cotton: Good growth and development continued in many areas from abundant rainfall in recent weeks. Heavy rains and some damage from hail were reported across the Southern Plains. Many fields were saturated and continued to hold water at week's end. Insect activity increased in several areas. Many producers were able to discontinue irrigation as a result of the recent rainfall, especially in Southern Plains locations. In areas further south, harvest and preparations for harvest continued. Ginning and stalk destruction activities remained active in southern areas. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 76 percent of normal, compared with 85 percent last year.

Corn: Harvest moved ahead in areas that remained dry during the week. Scattered rainfall slowed harvest in a few locations and a few locations received extremely heavy rainfall for the second week in a row. Statewide, corn condition was rated at 62 percent of normal compared with 92 percent last year.

Sorghum: Sorghum growth and development remained fair to good across many areas at week's end. Earlier rainfall across the Plains and North Central areas helped some fields, however other fields were too far along in development to benefit. Harvest was on hold in a few areas of the Southern Plains and North Central Texas due to rainfall late in the week. Further south, harvest continued. Statewide, sorghum condition was rated at 76 percent of normal, compared with 81 percent last year.

Peanuts: Growth and development continued in most areas as the result of recent rainfall. Peanuts were lapping in the middles, especially across areas of the Plains. Disease pressure also continued to increase in many areas of the Plains as the result of the wet conditions over the last few weeks. Conditions of recently planted fields remained normal as growth and development moved ahead. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 88 percent of normal, compared with 91 percent last year.

Soybeans: Harvest continued in Northeast Texas and portions of the Upper Coast. A few showers placed harvest on hold for brief periods. Statewide, soybean condition was rated at 52 percent of normal.

Rice: Rice harvest continued at a rapid pace along the Upper Coast except for a very few locations where showers caused some delays. Statewide, rice condition was rated at 83 percent of normal, compared with 81 percent last year.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, preparations for fall planting continued. Irrigation was active in a few locations and cabbage transplants were being set. Pre-watering continued in preparation for planting fall crops.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, early planted cabbage made good progress and pre-watering continued in areas where other fall crops will be planted.

In **East Texas**, sweet potato harvest continued under dry conditions.

In the **High Plains**, pumpkins made good progress and harvest will begin within a couple of weeks.

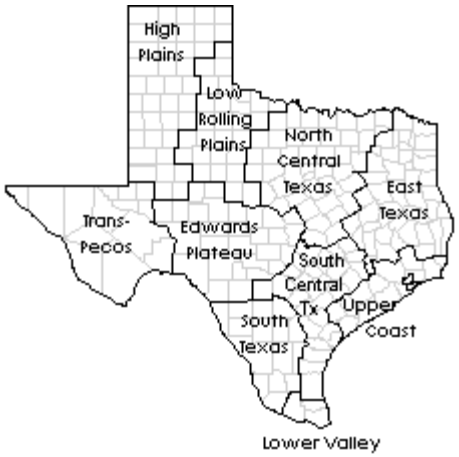
Pecans: Producers continued to spray for aphids, pecan weevils, web worms and hickory shuck worms in various locations across the state. Nut drop continued.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Pasture green up and improvement continued in areas where recent rainfall was received. In many of the these areas, livestock tanks and water reservoirs were filled to capacity by the rains. In areas that remained dry, pastures continued to suffer and supplemental feeding increased. Herd reduction continued in a few of the driest locations. Producers in the driest areas remained concerned about the prospects of ample feed for the winter months. Armyworm infestations increased in areas where earlier rains occurred. Hay producers were baling hay in areas where earlier rainfall was adequate. In dry areas, hay production was still very slow.

Weather Information Table [1]

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Aug 22 - 28) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Aug 1 - 28) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Aug 28) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (May - Jul) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.54	3.48	13.94	18.87	64
Low Rolling Plains	0.37	3.90	14.57	23.78	56
North Central Texas	0.38	3.75	16.47	34.00	43
East Texas	0.59	2.52	19.24	45.69	26
Trans Pecos	0.46	2.38	9.06	12.96	72
Edwards Plateau	0.62	3.33	15.35	24.01	77
South Central Texas	0.16	0.96	14.18	34.48	36
Upper Coast	0.89	2.43	28.32	47.63	49
South Texas	0.01	0.27	9.37	23.49	28
Lower Valley	0.00	0.22	6.27	25.34	19



[1] Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - August 28, 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	3	0	7	3	10	28	43	10	26	4	21	69	9	28	50
Short	29	21	21	16	35	36	49	34	35	43	42	31	26	31	25
Adequate	48	60	66	68	52	33	7	52	39	50	37	0	55	38	25
Surplus	20	19	6	13	3	3	1	4	0	3	0	0	10	3	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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