

# Texas Crop Weather

Released: October 17, 2005 (3:00 P.M. CDT)  
For the week of October 10 - 16, 2005  
TX-CW4205

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

**Crop Progress Table - October 16, 2005**

Crop	2005	2004	Average 2000-2004
- Percent -			
<b>Corn</b>			
Mature .....	99	100	100
Harvested .....	91	89	93
<b>Cotton</b>			
Bolls Opening .....	82	67	84
Harvested .....	26	22	33
<b>Peanuts</b>			
Harvested .....	21	29	28
<b>Sorghum</b>			
Coloring .....	97	95	96
Mature .....	82	80	86
Harvested .....	66	62	74
<b>Soybeans</b>			
Harvested .....	74	77	86
<b>Sunflowers</b>			
Harvested .....	58	61	80
<b>Wheat</b>			
Planted .....	68	71	71
Emerged .....	38	48	45
<b>Oats</b>			
Planted .....	54	74	65
Emerged .....	16	--	--
<b>Pecans</b>			
Harvested .....	11	11	8

**Crop Condition Table - October 16, 2005**

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
- Percent -					
Cotton .....	14	46	23	12	5
Peanuts .....	22	54	21	2	1
Wheat .....	6	28	39	17	10
Range & Pasture ...	2	14	34	33	17

**Agricultural Summary:** Weather conditions were generally unstable across the state during the week. Rainfall across the Plains was heavy in some locations and harvest remained on hold at the time of this report. Heavy rains were also reported from several Rio Grande Valley locations and planting was on hold in portions of this region. Other areas received less rain and harvest as well as planting of small grains continued at weeks end. Irrigation was active in areas where rainfall was minimal. Many areas of the Edwards Plateau and some portions of South Central Texas also received rain which was heavy in a few locations. Localized flooding was reported from some of these locations, but property damage was light. The rain greatly benefitted small grains in these areas and will allow replanting in locations where earlier planted grain crops have failed. Some improvement in range and pastures is expected in areas where rain occurred, but in areas that remained dry pasture decline was expected to continue. Supplemental feeding was necessary in nearly all areas, however due to extended dry conditions many producers were unable to locate local hay supplies and were buying hay from out of state in order to maintain their herds. Reports from several locations indicated that hay production was 50 to 75 percent of normal resulting from the dry conditions that have prevailed this growing season. Water available for livestock also remained short in a few locations across the state. Problems with wild hogs have been on the increase according to reports over the past several weeks.

## Field Crops Report

**Small Grains:** Land preparation and planting continued and showed some improvement in areas that received rain, but remained slow in the areas that remained dry. Irrigation was active in areas that continued to be dry. Replanting was extremely active by producers who are counting on field grazing later this season. Problems with army worms continued and treatment was necessary in some areas. Other areas were damaged to the point that replanting was the only option. Statewide wheat condition was rated at 60 percent of normal compared with 88 percent last year.

**Cotton:** Harvest and pre-harvest activities moved ahead at a rapid rate across most remaining areas. Ginning and stalk destruction activities continued in areas where harvest was ongoing. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 74 percent of normal, compared with 78 percent last year.

**Corn:** Harvest activities continued across the Plains and portions of North Texas. Some delays were reported, due to rain during early to mid week.

**Sorghum:** Maturity continued in remaining sorghum, but was slow due to the cool temperatures and shorter day lengths. Harvest remained active across many areas of the Plains and North Central Texas. A few delays were reported due to rain in early week, however producers were able to continue buy weeks end.

**Peanuts:** Harvest and preparations for harvest were moving ahead at a rapid pace in remaining areas across the state. Many producers have completed harvest and were busy planting small grains. Further south, a few locations needed a few more days of development prior to harvest to obtain satisfactory yields. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 86 percent of normal, compared with 74 percent last year.

**Soybeans:** Harvest continued across areas of the Plains and in a few other remaining locations. Irrigated soybeans were producing relatively well, however dryland soybeans continued to show decreased yields in most areas. A few harvest delays were reported, due to rain showers in early to mid week.

## Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, moderate rains were reported from several areas during early week. Vegetable planting was on hold until drying occurred, but was able to continue in most locations by weeks end. Fall melons and cabbage were making good progress, however whiteflies were a problem for some producers. Early citrus harvest was in progress on a limited basis.

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. Spinach planting continued in varied locations, but only where pre-watering had occurred. Green beans were also progressing well, with the cooler temperatures.

In the **High Plains**, harvest of late season watermelons and pumpkins continued, but was winding down in all reporting areas.

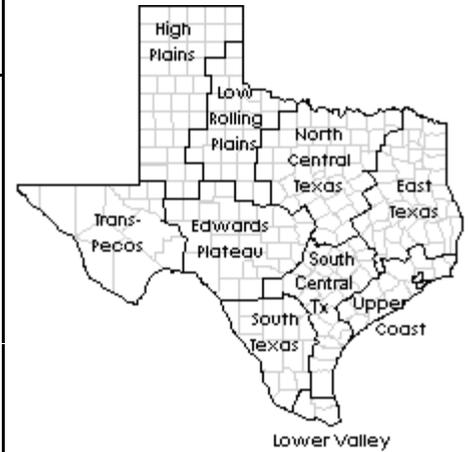
**Pecans:** Pecans continued to make fair to good progress across the state, especially where irrigation has been available this season. Nut drop continued in a few dry land orchards across the state. Harvest was active in a few locations, but became stalled in a few orchards due to wet conditions.

## Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Pasture green up and improvement was generally slow across the wetter areas of the state. Cooler temperatures and decreased day length were causing many pastures to slowly go dormant. In other areas that have remained dry the pastures have already entered into dormancy due to the continued dry conditions. Several areas indicated that pastures are totally gone and hay is selling at a premium. Many producers were searching out of state in hopes of locating enough hay for the winter months. Other producers continued to reduce the size of their herds. Many producers who generally utilize small grains for grazing in the fall and winter months have indicated that replanting will be necessary as the first crop has failed due to the dry conditions. Hauling water to livestock continued in a few of the driest areas. Improvement in areas of East Texas that received significant rain was variable. Army worm populations continued to rise in a few areas, however treatment was not widespread at this time.

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

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Oct 10 - 16) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Oct 1 - 16) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Oct 16) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Jul - Sep) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.30	1.44	15.85	18.87	78
Low Rolling Plains	0.22	1.58	17.49	23.78	90
North Central Texas	0.06	0.97	18.34	34.00	82
East Texas	0.22	0.26	22.58	45.69	87
Trans Pecos	0.74	2.23	12.06	12.96	76
Edwards Plateau	1.21	2.53	18.32	24.01	83
South Central Texas	0.68	1.28	17.29	34.48	52
Upper Coast	1.32	1.86	34.54	47.63	100
South Texas	0.87	1.15	11.13	23.49	45
Lower Valley	0.20	0.74	8.99	25.34	56



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

**Top Soil Moisture by District - October 16, 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	15	2	10	2	33	53	30	21	16	10	14	8	19	5	0
Short	37	17	25	16	39	40	65	65	10	38	37	42	16	34	50
Adequate	43	75	55	64	28	7	5	14	61	51	48	45	62	59	50
Surplus	5	6	10	18	0	0	0	0	13	1	1	5	3	2	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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