

Texas Crop Weather

Released: November 21, 2005 (3:00 P.M. CST)
For the week of November 14- 20, 2005
TX-CW4705

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

Crop Progress Table - November 20, 2005

Crop	2005	2004	Average 2000-2004
- Percent -			
Corn			
Harvested	99	99	100
Cotton			
Bolls Opening	98	94	98
Harvested	59	44	61
Peanuts			
Harvested	95	72	76
Sorghum			
Mature	99	99	98
Harvested	86	79	87
Soybeans			
Harvested	98	97	98
Sunflowers			
Harvested	90	88	95
Wheat			
Planted	93	91	92
Emerged	76	81	79
Oats			
Planted	87	98	91
Emerged	67	--	--
Pecans			
Harvested	51	50	43

Crop Condition Table - November 20, 2005

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
- Percent -					
Cotton	20	48	21	7	4
Wheat	6	21	36	21	16
Oats	0	8	18	28	46
Range & Pasture ..	1	9	25	32	33

Agricultural Summary: Weather conditions were dry and colder across the state during the week. A fast moving cold front crossed the state in early week and brought the first hard freeze to many areas of the state. Rain showers associated with the front were light and widely scattered, however most areas remained totally dry. High winds caused some minor damage in varied locations, including damage to some remaining sunflower fields. Planting and replanting of small grains continued to be slow as many producers were skeptical as to the availability of soil moisture in the near future. Irrigation remained active in areas where possible and development of small grains was normal in these locations. Range and pastures continued to decline across the state and many stock water ponds were dry and others were extremely low. Supplemental feeding remained necessary across the state and feed reserves continued to decline. Some producers have begun to burn prickly pear cactus to supplement their cattle herds.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Land preparation and planting continued, however was extremely slow. Emergence of earlier planted fields remained poor due to the continued dry conditions. Irrigation was active in areas where possible

and for many producers, this was the only way to keep grain crops alive. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 53 percent of normal compared with 90 percent last year. Statewide, oat condition was rated at 27 percent of normal.

Cotton: Harvest continued at a rapid pace across the Plains and other remaining locations. Ginning activities were strong. Many gins were running around the clock and were still behind schedule due to the large volume of cotton already harvested. A few minor delays occurred in areas where light rain fell, however harvest resumed as drying occurred. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 80 percent of normal, compared with 74 percent last year.

Corn: Harvest was generally completed in all remaining locations and only a few fields were left to harvest. Land preparation for next year's crops was underway in most areas as producers took advantage of the dry weather conditions. Some fertilizer applications were made for next year's crop.

Sorghum: Harvest was mostly completed in all remaining areas across the Plains and North Central Texas. A few minor delays were reported, but drying out occurred quickly and harvest resumed. Shredding stalks and land preparations for next year's crop were in progress in a few locations.

Peanuts: Harvest continued at a rapid pace in remaining areas across the state. Yields were reported as being excellent in most areas. Many producers that had completed harvest were preparing land for next year's crops.

Soybeans: Harvest continued, however was generally complete as the open conditions allowed most producers to complete harvest with only minimal delays.

Rice: Harvest of the ratoon crop continued in varied locations throughout the rice belt.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **Rio Grande Valley**, spinach, fall melons, onions, tomatoes and cabbage were making good progress. Irrigation was heavy in all locations, especially on vegetable crops. Early planted cabbage harvest moved ahead in some locations. Sugarcane harvest was active during the week.

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, early planted cabbage, green beans and spinach made good progress. Harvest of cabbage, cucumbers and green beans remained active in a few locations. Irrigation remained necessary in all locations.

In **East Texas**, sweet potato harvest remained active in a few locations.

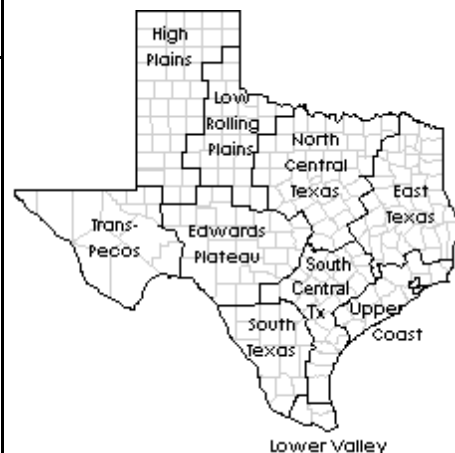
Pecans: Harvest activity remained steady in remaining areas across the state. Reports indicate that many orchards were experiencing a lighter than normal yield due to the extended dry conditions and late season worm damage.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Generally, range and pastures across the state remained in poor condition. Emergence of cool season forages was slow in most areas due to continued dry conditions. Producers were having difficulty securing adequate hay supplies for the coming months, and some producers continued to reduce the size of their herds. Field grazing was generally limited to those producers who had irrigation available. Burning prickly pear cactus as a source of supplemental feed was in practice by producers in varied locations; especially in southern and south western locations. Water available for livestock continued to decline in most areas of the state and many ponds were already dry. Hauling water to livestock continued to be necessary for some producers.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Nov 14- 20) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Nov 1 - 20) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Nov 20) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous 3 months (Aug - Oct) % of Normal
High Plains	0.00	0.04	15.98	18.87	84
Low Rolling Plains	0.00	0.05	17.68	23.78	84
North Central Texas	0.00	0.00	18.93	34.00	66
East Texas	0.19	0.25	23.90	45.69	66
Trans Pecos	0.00	0.00	12.15	12.96	94
Edwards Plateau	0.00	0.00	18.66	24.01	80
South Central Texas	0.11	0.18	17.97	34.48	43
Upper Coast	0.75	0.96	36.19	47.63	66
South Texas	0.01	0.11	11.57	23.49	27
Lower Valley	0.38	0.38	10.64	25.34	41



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - November 20, 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	45	12	30	17	53	77	55	38	27	22	47	35	12	25	3
Short	44	41	53	60	42	21	44	41	46	51	47	63	36	42	60
Adequate	11	45	17	21	5	2	1	21	27	27	6	2	46	31	37
Surplus	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	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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STATISTICS SERVICE
NASS - USDA
P.O. BOX 70
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767**

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