



Vol. 27, No. 10

ISSN-0194-4770)

Issued weekly March - Nov.,
monthly Jan. and Feb., no issue in
December, by the

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<http://www.nass.usda.gov/weather/cpcurr/ok-crop-weather>

April 19, 2004

A combined contribution with
-Cooperative Extension Service
-USDA Farm Service Agency
-The Oklahoma Mesonet

Extreme Temperatures Hit Oklahoma

April 19 - Extreme temperatures were found in Oklahoma this week. The week began with lower than normal temperatures. Parts of the Northeast saw a morning freeze on Monday and Tuesday. The week ended with temperatures in the 80's and 90's. Moisture levels dropped throughout the state. Several areas received no precipitation the entire week. Strong winds blew throughout the state affecting soil moisture. Topsoil moisture was at 1 percent surplus, 68 percent adequate, 25 percent short and 6 percent very short. Subsoil moisture was at 1 percent surplus, 62 percent adequate, 27 percent short and 7 percent very short. There were 5.9 days suitable for fieldwork.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	6	25	68	1
Last Week	2	21	75	2
Last Year	6	36	56	2

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	10	27	62	1
Last Week	7	28	63	2
Last Year	10	33	55	2

Small Grains: It is too soon to tell if the extreme temperatures will have any affect on small grain crops. Wheat was mostly in good condition. The warmer weather towards the end of the week helped the wheat progress to ninety-seven percent jointed. Wheat headed progressed from 6 percent last week to 25 percent this week. Rye condition decreased slightly to 9 percent excellent, 59 percent good, 21 percent fair, 8 percent poor, and 3 percent very poor. Rye has completed the jointing process, and is 26 percent headed. The oat condition was also down to 4 percent excellent, 40 percent good, 45 percent fair, 8 percent poor, and 3 percent very poor. Oats jointing were up 13 points from last week to 63 percent.

SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending April 18, 2004

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Wheat					
This Week	3	9	31	47	10
Last Week	3	9	26	51	11
Last Year	2	7	23	52	16
Rye					
This Week	3	8	21	59	9
Oats					
This Week	3	8	45	40	4

Row Crops: Row crop preparations made good progress due to favorable weather. Sorghum seedbed prepared went up five points to 35 percent. Three percent of the crop has been planted. Seedbed preparations for corn, soybeans, peanuts and cotton were over halfway complete as of the end of last week. Corn seedbed prepared went up 11 points to 87 percent and planted was up to 41 percent. Soybean seedbed prepared also increased from 46 percent last week to 54 percent this week. Soybean planting was just getting underway with 2 percent of the acres planted. Seedbed preparation for peanuts caught up with the normal trend at 59 percent. Cotton seedbed preparation was slightly higher than the five year average at 81 percent.

Hay: Harvesting of alfalfa and other hay was active this week. First cutting of alfalfa was at 15 percent. Alfalfa conditions were at 14 percent excellent, 56 percent good, 24 percent fair, 5 percent poor, and 1 percent very poor. Other hay was reported as having 5 percent of the first cutting completed. Conditions for other hay were at 8 percent excellent, 47 percent good, 39 percent fair, 5 percent poor, and 1 percent very poor.

HAY CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending April 18, 2004

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	1	5	24	56	14
Other Hay	1	5	39	47	8

Pasture: The warm weather has increased pasture growth. Pasture conditions were rated as mostly fair. Conditions were at 5 percent excellent, 38 percent good, 41 percent fair, 13 percent poor and 3 percent very poor.

Livestock: Livestock conditions were mostly good this week. Conditions were at 14 percent excellent, 55 percent good, 26 percent fair, and 5 percent poor. Livestock insect activity was light. The price for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$99.99 per cwt., down from last week. The price for feeder heifers less than 800 pounds was up from last week, averaging \$93.39 per cwt.

LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending April 18, 2004

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	0	5	26	55	14
Pasture & Range	3	13	41	38	5

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL

OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS

Week Ending April 18, 2004

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.	Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.
Wheat -					Soybeans				
Jointing	97	93	95	86	Seedbed Prepared	54	46	52	52
Headed	25	6	18	18	Planted	2	n/a	7	13
Oats -					Peanuts				
Jointing	63	50	54	58	Seedbed Prepared	59	40	68	61
Rye -					Cotton				
Headed	26	n/a	n/a	n/a	Seedbed Prepared	81	68	81	75
Corn -					Alfalfa				
Seedbed Prepared	87	76	85	82	1 st Cutting	15	n/a	8	13
Planted	41	28	31	34	Other Hay				
Sorghum					1 st Cutting	5	n/a	3	4
Seedbed Prepared	35	30	44	43					
Planted	3	2	6	4					

Weather for Week Ending April 18, 2004 - Temperatures ranged from 19 degrees at Boise City on Tuesday, April 13th, to 95 degrees at Mangum on Friday, April 16th. Precipitation averaged 0.00 in. three of nine districts to 0.13 in. West Central district. Soil temperatures averaged 44 degrees at Boise City on Monday, April 12th, to 73 degrees at Ninnekah on Saturday, April 17th.

MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA

Week Ending April 18, 2004

Districts	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	March 1, 2004 to April 18, 2004		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
Degrees			Inches				
Panhandle	75	40	59	0.03	3.06	+0.32	112
West Central	74	47	60	0.13	6.02	+2.06	152
Southwest	75	48	61	0.10	4.54	+0.67	117
North Central	74	48	61	0.01	5.38	+0.93	121
Central	73	50	61	0.00	5.07	-0.29	95
South Central	73	50	61	0.00	2.62	-3.18	45
Northeast	72	50	61	0.00	6.88	+0.81	113
East Central	72	50	61	0.00	4.71	-1.97	70
Southeast	72	48	60	0.01	4.28	-2.90	60