



Cold Front Brings Back Winter Like Temperatures

March 30 - Rains and high winds brought below normal temperatures into the State at weeks end. However, the showers were light and passed through so quickly that they did not provide much precipitation to most areas. The cold front did bring freezing temperatures to parts of the State over the weekend. Damage to the State's wheat crop is expected to be none to light. The Northeast District received the most precipitation with 0.71 inches while the Panhandle District did not receive any measurable rainfall. Statewide, topsoil moisture supplies declined with 69 percent rated as adequate to surplus compared with 78 percent last week. Subsoil moisture supplies also declined with 69 percent of the State rated as adequate to surplus compared with 72 percent last week. Farmers had 5.4 days suitable for fieldwork during the week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|-----------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| This Week | 9 | 22 | 67 | 2 |
| Last Week | 6 | 16 | 70 | 8 |
| Last Year | 39 | 25 | 31 | 5 |

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|-----------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| This Week | 6 | 25 | 67 | 2 |
| Last Week | 5 | 23 | 68 | 4 |
| Last Year | 45 | 24 | 27 | 4 |

Small Grains: Winter wheat improved slightly from the previous week with 71 percent of the crop rated in good to excellent condition compared with 70 percent the previous week. Seventy-two percent of the wheat was jointing, significantly ahead of the 5-year average of 54 percent. Fifteen percent of oats were jointing, lagging behind the 5-year average of 24 percent. Statewide, crop insect activities were rated as light; however, some areas were reporting crop damage due to aphids.

Row Crops: Producers were busy preparing row crop seedbeds and planting in areas where conditions allowed. At weeks end, corn seedbeds prepared reached 58 percent while 49 percent of the cotton seedbeds had been prepared. Sorghum and peanuts seedbeds prepared were at 22 and 21 percent, respectively. Soybean seedbed preparation gained 11 points to 31 percent complete. Corn planting continued in scattered areas, with 14 complete by week's end. In some areas, high prices may cause producers to not apply or reduce the rate of fertilizer that they are going to apply to their crops.

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-----------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Wheat | | | | | |
| This Week | 0 | 4 | 25 | 58 | 13 |
| Last Week | 1 | 5 | 24 | 56 | 14 |
| Last Year | 29 | 26 | 28 | 15 | 2 |
| Rye | | | | | |
| This Week | 1 | 3 | 20 | 64 | 12 |
| Oats | | | | | |
| This Week | 0 | 5 | 40 | 52 | 3 |

Pasture: Statewide, range and pasture conditions improved from the last week, but were still rated mostly fair to good. Some areas are reporting cool season grasses are slightly behind normal due to cooler than normal temperatures.

Livestock: Livestock conditions decreased slightly from the previous week with 87 percent rated fair to good. Cattle auctions reported marketings were average. The price for feeder steers less than 800 pounds increased from last week and averaged \$82.35 per cwt. The average price for feeder heifers less than 800 pounds were unchanged from last week and averaged \$75.46 per cwt.

LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending March 30, 2003

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Livestock | 1 | 5 | 33 | 54 | 7 |
| Pasture & Range | 3 | 14 | 40 | 40 | 3 |



SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending March 30, 2003

Oklahoma Crop-Weather Summary
 2800 N. Lincoln Blvd.
 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

Periodicals Postage
 Paid at
 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
 And Additional Mailing Offices

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL

OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS
 Week Ending March 30, 2003

| Item | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5 - Yr. Avg. | Item | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5 - Yr. Avg. |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| Wheat - Jointing | 72 | 53 | 31 | 54 | Sorghum - Seedbed Prepared | 22 | 20 | 18 | 20 |
| Oats - Planted | 92 | 89 | 93 | 92 | Soybeans - Seedbed Prepared | 31 | 20 | 22 | 28 |
| Jointing | 15 | 5 | 13 | 24 | Peanuts - Seedbed Prepared | 21 | 17 | 37 | 25 |
| Corn - Seedbed Prepared | 58 | 38 | 45 | 43 | Cotton - Seedbed Prepared | 49 | 37 | 45 | 42 |
| Planted | 14 | 10 | 13 | 8 | | | | | |

WEATHER FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 30, 2003 - Temperatures ranged from 18 degrees at Boise City on Saturday, March 29th to 88 degrees at Altus on Monday, March 24th. Precipitation averaged 0.00 in. Panhandle district to 0.71 in. Northeast district. Soil temperatures averaged 41 degrees at Hooker on Saturday, March 29th to 64 degrees at Bee on Thursday, March 27th.

MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA
 Week Ending March 30, 2003

| Districts | Temperature | | | Precipitation | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-----|---------|---------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| | High | Low | Average | This Week | March 1, 2003 to March 30, 2003 | | |
| | | | | | Total | Departure from Normal | Percent of Normal |
| Degrees | | | Inches | | | | |
| Panhandle | 61 | 32 | 47 | 0.00 | 1.25 | -0.33 | 79 |
| West Central | 63 | 36 | 50 | 0.21 | 0.79 | -1.54 | 34 |
| Southwest | 66 | 37 | 52 | 0.33 | 0.83 | -1.36 | 38 |
| North Central | 62 | 37 | 50 | 0.06 | 2.32 | -0.27 | 89 |
| Central | 63 | 37 | 51 | 0.59 | 2.26 | -0.87 | 72 |
| South Central | 65 | 40 | 53 | 0.19 | 1.46 | -1.98 | 42 |
| Northeast | 63 | 38 | 51 | 0.71 | 3.44 | -0.11 | 97 |
| East Central | 63 | 39 | 52 | 0.49 | 2.66 | -1.30 | 67 |
| Southeast | 66 | 47 | 53 | 0.12 | 2.13 | -2.21 | 49 |