



Moisture Desperately Needed

July 27- Most areas of the State last week failed once again to receive significant moisture and the extreme hot and dry weather continued to further deteriorate crops and pastures. The Southeast district received the most rainfall with 0.44 inches while the Panhandle and North Central districts received none. With only a few isolated areas receiving rainfall, additional rain is greatly needed across the State. All districts had an average high temperature of 92 degrees or greater. Some producers reported concerns about the lack of moisture coupled with the excessive heat could threaten the dryland row crops potential in production. Both topsoil and subsoil moisture continued to diminish due to the hot conditions. Grasshoppers continued to be a major problem to many crops and pastures. Farmers had 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork during the week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	38	49	13	0
Last Week	23	52	24	1
Last Year	20	37	43	0

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	25	48	27	0
Last Week	12	44	43	1
Last Year	25	34	41	0

Small Grains: Wheat stubble was plowed at least once on 90 percent of the State's acreage, 3 percentage points ahead of the normal pace. At week's end, 5 percent of the wheat ground had been prepared for seeding. Ninety-one percent of the oat fields had been plowed and seedbed preparation was underway with 4 percent completed.

Row Crops: Dryland row crops continued to be hampered from hot weather and lack of rainfall. Irrigation remained active where water supplies allowed as crops continued to stress due to the heat. Seventy-five percent of the corn was silking. Corn maturity gained another 5 percentage points from last week to 12 percent complete. At week's end, 30 percent of the sorghum had headed, slightly behind the normal pace. Sorghum changing color advanced 4 percentage points to 7 percent complete. Soybeans blooming reached 45 percent while 23 percent were setting pods. Peanuts setting pods gained 24 percentage points from last week to 55 percent complete. The heat was helping cotton's development, with 88 percent of the acreage squaring and 41 percent setting bolls. Crop insect activity was mostly light to moderate with the heaviest infestations being reported in the Southwest district.

ROW CROPS CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending July 27, 2003

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	0	1	13	39	47
Sorghum	0	4	49	46	1
Soybeans	0	3	50	44	3
Peanuts	0	5	33	50	12
Cotton	4	17	40	34	5

Hay: Both alfalfa and other hay remained rated in mostly fair to good condition. The third cutting of alfalfa advanced to 86 percent complete. Other hay first cutting was nearly completed with 94 percent cut while the second cutting gained 4 percentage points to 32 percent cut.

HAY CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending July 27, 2003

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	2	12	40	40	6
Other Hay	2	13	41	38	6

Miscellaneous Crops: Watermelons were rated in mostly fair to good condition. Harvest advanced 17 percentage points to 63 percent complete.

Pasture: Pasture and range conditions continued to decline in most areas from last week but still were rated as mostly fair to good.

Livestock: Livestock conditions were rated as mostly fair to good. Some producers were feeding supplements in drier areas that lacked adequate pasture availability. Livestock insect activities were rated as mostly light to heavy. Cattle auctions reported an average increase in marketings for the week. The price for feeder steers less than 800 pounds increased from last week and averaged \$93.18 per cwt. The average price for feeder heifers less than 800 pounds also increased from last week and averaged \$88.22 per cwt..

LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending July 27, 2003

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	1	3	27	52	17
Pasture & Range	3	17	43	32	5

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL

OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS

Week Ending July 27, 2003

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr. Avg.	Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr. Avg.
Wheat -					Peanuts -				
Plowed	90	86	90	87	Pegging	96	94	90	88
Seedbed Prepared	5	2	17	9	Setting Pods	55	31	67	50
Oats -					Cotton -				
Plowed	91	75	89	86	Squaring	88	85	89	84
Seedbed Prepared	4	n/a	5	7	Setting Bolls	41	18	44	46
Corn -					Alfalfa -				
Silking	75	60	94	90	3 rd Cutting	86	76	78	69
Dough	41	30	64	38	Other Hay -				
Mature	12	7	24	11	1 st Cutting	94	91	95	93
Sorghum -					2 nd Cutting	32	28	51	33
Headed	30	14	48	31	Watermelons -				
Coloring	7	3	10	8	Harvested	63	46	57	51
Soybeans -									
Blooming	45	26	63	56					
Setting Pods	23	14	37	27					

WEATHER FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 27, 2003 - Temperatures ranged from 54 degrees at Nowata on Thursday, July 24th to 108 degrees at Cherokee on Monday, July 21st. Precipitation averaged 0.00 in. Panhandle and North Central districts to 0.44 in. Southeast district. Soil temperatures averaged 76 degrees at Nowata on Thursday, July 24th to 95 degrees at Chickasha on Saturday, July 26th.

MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA

Week Ending July 27, 2003

Districts	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	March 1, 2003 to July 27, 2003		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
Degrees			Inches				
Panhandle	98	69	84	0.00	9.94	- 2.03	83
West Central	98	71	85	0.07	10.64	- 4.98	68
Southwest	98	72	85	0.01	12.81	- 3.15	80
North Central	99	71	85	0.00	12.45	- 4.45	74
Central	97	71	84	0.01	12.75	- 6.46	66
South Central	96	71	84	0.01	12.11	- 7.65	61
Northeast	92	67	80	0.33	17.80	- 2.72	87
East Central	94	69	81	0.22	14.72	- 7.04	68
Southeast	92	68	80	0.44	14.45	- 8.70	62