



## Beneficial Rains Welcomed

**August 3** - Scattered thunderstorms and cooler temperatures passed over Oklahoma during the week providing much needed moisture, particularly in the eastern part of the State. However, the moisture received from those storms varied greatly from one location to the next. The East Central district received the most precipitation with 2.41 inches while the Southwest district received the least with 0.16 inches. Recent rainfall will be beneficial to crops and pasture but more statewide moisture is desperately needed to replenish soil moisture levels and to reduce stress. All districts are still below normal in rainfall. Soil moisture supplies were rated as very short to short. Grasshopper populations remained active in many areas but were dwindling in others. Some of the weekly reports arrived before weekend rains which influenced the soil moisture categories in the tables below. Farmers had 6.4 days suitable for fieldwork during the week.

was starting to wilt and suffer from the heat stress as they try to conserve irrigation water to make it last for the season. Crop insect activity remained mostly light to moderate throughout the State.

### ROW CROPS CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending August 3, 2003

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	0	1	16	38	45
Sorghum	1	6	46	46	1
Soybeans	1	8	49	41	1
Peanuts	0	5	39	48	8
Cotton	7	14	41	33	5

### TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	50	33	17	0
Last Week	38	49	13	0
Last Year	14	38	48	0

### SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	32	44	24	0
Last Week	25	48	27	0
Last Year	25	33	42	0

**Small Grains:** Producers made limited progress plowing wheat and oat ground and preparing seedbeds for fall planting. Momentum should pick up with the recent moisture. Wheat stubble was plowed at least once on 93 percent of the State's acreage, 3 percentage points ahead of the normal pace. Eight percent of the wheat seedbeds had been prepared. Ninety-four percent of the oat fields have been plowed while the seedbeds have been prepared on 9 percent of the acreage.

**Row Crops:** With most of the State receiving some moisture last week, the further decline of row crop conditions was limited and conditions should benefit from the moisture. Despite the moisture, yield potential still remained a concern for dryland row crops and more rain is greatly needed. Corn silking reached 81 percent complete while corn maturing gained another 8 percentage points from last week to 20 percent complete. Corn conditions continued to be rated as mostly good to excellent. At week's end, 51 percent of the sorghum had headed, 10 percentage points ahead of the normal pace. Eighteen percent of the sorghum acreage was coloring, ahead of normal for this time of year. Soybeans blooming progressed 15 percentage points to 60 percent complete while 37 percent of the crop was setting pods. Peanuts pegging advanced 2 percentage points and reached 98 percent and 64 percent of the crop was setting pods. The majority of the cotton crop was rated in fair to excellent condition with 90 percent of the acreage squaring and 52 percent setting bolls. Jackson county reported that cotton

**Hay:** Both alfalfa and other hay conditions were rated as mostly fair to good. Producers made minimal progress in most areas due to rainfall during the week. The third cutting of alfalfa advanced to 93 percent cut and a fourth cutting of alfalfa was underway in isolated areas with 7 percent being cut. Other hay first cutting was slowly moving toward completion with 97 percent cut while the second cutting was at 37 percent cut.

### HAY CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending August 3, 2003

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	5	15	39	37	4
Other Hay	5	13	43	34	5

**Pasture:** Pasture and range conditions were rated as mostly fair to good. The recent moisture should stimulate pasture growth but additional rain is needed.

**Livestock:** Livestock conditions were rated as mostly fair to good. Supplemental feeding continued in drier areas that lacked adequate pasture availability. Livestock insect activities were rated as mostly light to moderate.

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 \$93.89 per cwt. The average price for feeder heifers less than 800 pounds also increased from last week and averaged \$89.29 per cwt.

### LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending August 3, 2003

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	1	3	28	53	15
Pasture & Range	6	24	40	27	3

Oklahoma Crop-Weather Summary  
 2800 N. Lincoln Blvd.  
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**OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS**

Week Ending August 3, 2003

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr. Avg.	Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr. Avg.
Wheat -					Peanuts -				
Plowed	93	90	93	90	Pegging	98	96	93	92
Seedbed Prepared	8	5	28	16	Setting Pods	64	55	79	65
Oats -					Cotton -				
Plowed	94	91	95	90	Squaring	90	88	90	90
Seedbed Prepared	9	4	15	12	Setting Bolls	52	41	66	65
Corn -					Alfalfa -				
Silking	81	75	96	97	3 <sup>rd</sup> Cutting	93	86	86	78
Dough	50	41	69	62	4 <sup>th</sup> Cutting	7	n/a	28	15
Mature	20	12	34	17	Other Hay -				
Sorghum -					1 <sup>st</sup> Cutting	97	94	96	95
Headed	51	30	53	41	2 <sup>nd</sup> Cutting	37	32	60	37
Coloring	18	7	26	16	Watermelons -				
Soybeans -					Harvested	77	63	70	64
Blooming	60	45	65	64					
Setting Pods	37	23	45	38					

**WEATHER FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 3, 2003** - Temperatures ranged from 60 degrees at Boise City on Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> to 106 degrees at Breckinridge and Marshall on Monday, July 28<sup>th</sup> and at Butler, Mangum, and Waurika on Friday, August 1<sup>st</sup>. Precipitation averaged 0.16 in. Southwest district to 2.41 in. East Central district. Soil temperatures averaged 75 degrees at Shawnee and Stuart on Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> to 95 degrees at Chickasha on Monday, July 28<sup>th</sup>.

**MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA**

Week Ending August 3, 2003

Districts	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	March 1, 2003 to August 3, 2003		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
Degrees			Inches				
Panhandle	96	67	81	0.63	10.57	- 1.98	84
West Central	99	71	85	0.32	10.96	- 5.19	68
Southwest	99	72	85	0.16	12.97	- 3.53	79
North Central	97	72	84	0.57	13.02	- 4.56	74
Central	96	71	83	1.18	13.92	- 5.87	70
South Central	97	72	84	0.28	12.56	- 7.77	62
Northeast	94	69	81	1.49	19.29	- 1.95	91
East Central	95	70	82	2.41	17.14	- 5.29	76
Southeast	95	70	81	1.28	15.73	- 8.14	66