



## Much Needed Rain Finally Arrives

**September 2** - Oklahoma farmers and ranchers finally got the statewide rains and cooler temperatures to give them a break from the drought conditions experienced the past few weeks. All districts received an inch or more of rain with the Northeast district topping out at 5.72 inches. Even with the rain, precipitation amounts were still behind normal but did make a big improvement in soil moisture supplies. Subsoil moisture was 1 percent surplus, 18 percent adequate, 46 percent short and 35 percent very short. Topsoil moisture conditions improved with 4 percent surplus, 22 percent adequate, 33 percent short, and 41 percent very short. Temperatures were also moderated with the highs in the early 90's replacing the one hundred degree temperatures that have been prevalent in previous weeks. Corn, sorghum, and soybean harvest progressed in most portions of the State. Crop insects were light to moderate. Farmers had 6.0 days suitable for fieldwork during the week. Some of the reports for this week's crop weather arrived before the weekend rains, therefore soil moisture supplies and crop conditions may understate actual conditions.

Thirty seven percent of the peanuts were mature, up from the 5 year average of 16 percent. The cotton crop condition ranged from mostly fair to good condition with 23 percent of the crop opening bolls.

### ROW CROPS CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending August 31, 2003

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	0	4	17	34	45
Sorghum	5	35	34	26	0
Soybeans	7	21	40	32	0
Peanuts	0	7	48	40	5
Cotton	6	12	52	25	5

**Hay:** Both alfalfa and other hay conditions ranged from poor to good condition. The fourth cutting of alfalfa advanced to 51 percent cut. The second cutting of other hay was at 68 percent cut

### TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	41	33	22	4
Last Week	54	35	11	0
Last Year	10	29	58	3

### SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	35	46	18	1
Last Week	45	40	15	0
Last Year	18	35	47	0

**Small Grains:** The state wide rains were a welcome relief for wheat and small grain farmers who needed moisture in order to begin fall planting. Planting activities will be picking up in many areas. At week's end, seedbed preparations for wheat, rye and oats were still slightly behind the normal pace for this time of year.

**Row Crops:** The rain will also be beneficial to Oklahoma's row crops but some dryland row crops may still be damaged due to the summer heat. Corn harvest jumped to 32 percent complete while sorghum and soybeans were 8 and 5 percent harvested, respectively. Twenty-three percent of the sorghum acreage had reached maturity, ahead of the normal five-year average. Soybeans blooming and setting pods were slightly ahead of the 5 year average.

### HAY CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending August 31, 2003

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	8	19	43	26	4
Other Hay	8	27	41	21	3

**Pasture:** Pasture and range conditions stayed in mostly fair to poor condition although the weekend rains, combined with some warm weather, may allow some pastures to be revitalized.

**Livestock:** Livestock conditions were rated mostly good to fair. Livestock insect activities were rated as moderate to light. Cattle auctions continued to report high prices. The price for feeder steers less than 800 pounds increased from last week and averaged \$99.66 per cwt. The average price for feeder heifers less than 800 pounds also increased from last week and averaged \$93.36 per cwt.

### LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending August 31, 2003

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	1	7	30	50	12
Pasture & Range	10	33	36	19	2

Oklahoma Crop-Weather Summary  
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**OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS**

Week Ending August 31, 2003

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr. Avg.	Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr. Avg.
Wheat - Seedbed Prepared	52	42	64	58	Soybeans - Blooming	93	88	94	92
Planted	1	N/A	5	3	Setting Pods	82	73	90	79
Rye - Seedbed Prepared	46	40	69	56	Mature	18	11	24	22
Planted	2	N/A	7	2	Harvested	5	4	8	6
Oats - Seedbed Prepared	40	30	56	50	Peanuts - Mature	37	20	28	16
Corn - Mature	47	41	69	47	Cotton - Setting Bolls	95	91	96	99
Harvested	32	16	37	23	Bolls Opening	23	17	23	19
Sorghum - Headed	85	79	84	86	Alfalfa - 4 <sup>th</sup> Cutting	51	41	71	51
Coloring	51	41	59	49	Other Hay - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cutting	68	67	79	54
Mature	23	13	32	20					
Harvested	8	6	15	7					

**WEATHER FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 31, 2003** -Temperatures ranged from 104 degrees at Marshall on Monday, August 25<sup>th</sup> to 55 degrees at Boise City on Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup>. Precipitation averaged 1.11 in. Southeast district to 5.72 in. Northeast district. Soil temperatures averaged 63 degrees at Woodward on Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup> to 92 degrees at Waurika, Chickasha, Breckinridge and Tipton on Monday, August, 25<sup>th</sup> and Erick on Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup>.

**MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA**

Week Ending August 31, 2003

Districts	Temperature			This Week	Precipitation		
	High	Low	Average		March 1, 2003 to August 31, 2003		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
Degrees			Inches				
Panhandle	86	64	74	3.00	14.42	-0.45	97
West Central	90	69	79	1.71	13.84	-4.87	74
Southwest	92	70	80	2.21	16.19	-2.85	85
North Central	89	70	78	3.31	16.88	-3.55	83
Central	92	71	81	3.42	18.14	-4.16	81
South Central	94	72	81	2.34	15.52	-7.26	68
Northeast	92	71	81	5.72	25.07	0.80	103
East Central	92	72	81	2.60	19.76	-5.43	78
Southeast	94	71	81	1.11	17.54	-8.93	66