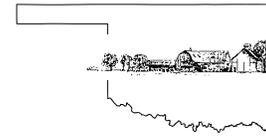


# OKLAHOMA CROP-WEATHER

January 5, 2004



Vol. 27, No. 1

ISSN-0194-4770)

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

Oklahoma Agricultural Statistics Service, P.O. Box 528804,  
Oklahoma City, OK 73152, Phone (405) 522-6190

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

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

## Rain is Needed Despite Mild Weather

**December 31** - Cold temperatures with light snow brought much needed moisture to many areas of the State however all districts were below average rainfall for the month except for the Northeast district which was slightly above normal. Many areas are in need of rain with ponds and lakes becoming low. Moisture that was received has been depleted by recent windy conditions. Topsoil and subsoil moisture is considerably lower than last year. Topsoil moisture is at 30 percent very short, 29 percent short, 30 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus compared to last year at 0 percent very short, 4 percent short, 78 percent adequate, and 18 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture is at 28 percent very short, 34 percent short, 38 percent adequate, and no surplus compared to last year at 1 percent very short, 13 percent short, 77 percent adequate, and 9 percent surplus. The major wheat producing areas are still behind normal for moisture. Farmers had 5.9 days suitable for fieldwork during the last week of December.

### TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
30	39	30	1

### SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
28	34	38	0

**Small Grains:** Wheat, rye, and oat conditions were rated as mostly good to fair. All crop conditions are down compared to last year. Winter wheat being grazed was at 35 percent which is lower than last years 48 percent but equal to the five year average. Rye grazing was at 50 percent down from last year's 60 percent. The five year average is 29 percent. Oats grazing is down at 25 percent from last year at 35 and the five year average of 30. The dry conditions and cattle prices have reduced the acres being grazed. Spraying was active in many areas for greenbugs and army cut worms.

### SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

December 31, 2003

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Wheat	11	15	29	38	7
Rye	10	12	22	50	6
Oats	16	24	29	26	5

**Pasture:** Pasture and range conditions ranged from mostly fair to poor. At the end of December, pasture and range condition was rated at 9 percent very poor, 26 percent poor, 45 percent fair, 17 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Last year it was at 4 percent very poor, 13 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 43 percent good and 2 percent excellent. Some pastures have not recovered from the dry year and most pastures need rain.

**Livestock:** Livestock ranged from mostly good to fair condition. The milder weather has helped livestock conditions. The death loss of cattle has been light. Hay supplies are rated as mostly average.

### LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

December 31, 2003

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	3	5	31	56	5
Pasture & Range	9	26	45	17	3

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

Item	2003	2002	5 - Year Avg.
Wheat -			
Grazed	35	48	35
Rye -			
Grazed	50	60	29
Oats -			
Grazed	25	35	30

**WEATHER FOR MONTH ENDING DECEMBER, 2003** - Temperatures ranged from 3 degrees at Cherokee on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> to 78 degrees at Waurika on Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. Precipitation averaged 0.28 in. Panhandle district to 2.36 in. Northeast district. Soil temperatures averaged 24 degrees at Woodward on Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup> to 56 degrees at Clayton on Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> and Waurika on Saturday, December 27<sup>th</sup>.

**MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA**

Districts	Temperature			Precipitation			
	Month of December, 2003			Current Month 12/01 - 12/31	September 1 to December 31, 2003		
	High	Low	Average		Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees			Inches			
Panhandle	53	24	37	0.28	3.54	-1.59	69
West Central	55	29	41	0.56	3.85	-4.61	46
Southwest	57	30	43	0.30	2.66	-6.82	28
North Central	50	28	39	1.09	5.70	-3.47	62
Central	54	31	43	1.12	7.53	-5.06	60
South Central	57	33	45	1.07	8.30	-5.92	58
Northeast	51	31	41	2.36	10.77	-3.54	75
East Central	54	33	44	1.52	10.74	-5.77	65
Southeast	57	32	45	1.56	11.75	-6.92	63