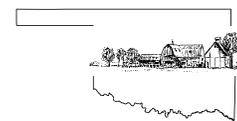




OKLAHOMA CROP-WEATHER

August 23, 2004



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Oklahoma Agricultural Statistics Service, P.O. Box 528804

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Phone (405) 522-6190

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-Cooperative Extension Service
-USDA Farm Service Agency
-The Oklahoma Mesonet

Oklahoma Stays Cool and Wet

August 22 - Cooler than normal temperatures and scattered rain showers continued across Oklahoma last week. As a result, summer crops and moisture conditions were in good shape. Although the rains were a welcome sight, they did limit the amount of field work last week. Topsoil moisture was 3 percent surplus, 83 percent adequate, 10 percent short, and 4 percent very short. Subsoil moisture was 2 percent surplus, 75 percent adequate, 17 percent short, and 6 percent very short. Days suitable for field work during the week were 4.9.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	4	10	83	3
Last Week	5	12	78	5
Last Year	54	35	11	0

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	6	17	75	2
Last Week	5	20	71	4
Last Year	45	40	15	0

Small Grains: Moisture levels look very favorable as the State prepares to plant the 2005 small grain crops. At week's end, 42 percent of the wheat ground had been prepared for seeding, which was about normal. Some reporters were projecting wheat planting may start earlier than normal. Seedbed preparations for oats was one point above five year average at 36 percent prepared.

Row Crops: Summer crops were developing well with the cool temperatures and great moisture. Corn and sorghum harvest were both getting underway at 5 and 1 percent, respectively. Corn was once again in mostly excellent condition this week. Corn in the dough stage improved 2 percentage points to 90, while 37 percent of the corn was mature. Conditions for other summer crops, including soybeans, peanuts, cotton, and sorghum were mostly good to excellent. Sorghum was at 75 percent headed and 36 percent coloring. In addition, 7 percent of sorghum was matured. Soybean blooming increased 8 percentage points to 83 percent. Peanuts setting pods slightly increased to 92 percent and 10 percent were mature. Cotton setting bolls were at 93 percent, and bolls opening increased 6 points to 9 percent.

ROW CROPS CONDITION BY PERCENT

	Very	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	-	1	10	32	57
Soybeans	1	1	21	63	14
Peanuts	-	4	16	65	15
Cotton	1	1	41	49	8
Sorghum	-	1	12	56	31

Hay: Hay supplies were abundant. Alfalfa and other hay production continues to be very good with most producers indicating both quality and yield to be above average for this time of the year. The fourth cutting of alfalfa was at 69 percent complete, 27 percentage points above the five year average. Other hay second cutting was at 72 percent cut. Other hay production has improved significantly with the second cutting.

HAY CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending August 22, 2004

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	-	2	21	58	19
Other Hay	-	2	23	56	19

Miscellaneous Commodities: Watermelon harvest was 96 percent complete, with conditions mostly fair to good. Peaches were mostly in good condition. The pecan crop has looked very promising, but there have been reports of scab disease in some orchards which could lower the prospect of the crop.

Pasture: Pasture conditions were at 30 percent excellent, 50 percent good, 17 percent fair, and 3 percent poor to very poor. With the substantial amount of rainfall, pasture conditions continue to be in good shape. One negative effect of the extended wet weather, however, was that some fields were being overcome with weeds.

Livestock: Livestock conditions were good to excellent with very strong markets. Livestock insect activity was mostly moderate and death loss of cattle was light. Feeder steers and steer calves were steady to \$2.00 higher. Feeder heifers and heifer calves were also steady to \$2.00 higher. Strong out movement from feedlots combined with expectations of light July placements could bolster demand for feeder cattle and calves. Prices for feeder steers and heifers less than 800 pounds are \$121.46 and \$115.03, respectively.

LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending August 22, 2004

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	-	1	11	57	31
Pasture & Range	1	2	17	50	30

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL

OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS

Week Ending August 22, 2004

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.	Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.
Wheat -					Peanuts -				
Seedbed Prepared	42	33	38	43	Setting Pods	92	89	97	93
Oats -					Mature	10	5	17	8
Seedbed Prepared	36	15	28	35	Cotton -				
Corn -					Setting Bolls	93	88	88	93
Dough	90	88	84	90	Bolls Opening	9	3	14	7
Mature	37	30	39	36	Alfalfa -				
Harvested	5	n/a	14	10	4 th Cutting	69	59	39	42
Sorghum -					5 th Cutting	11	2	n/a	n/a
Headed	75	71	76	77	Other Hay -				
Coloring	36	31	38	36	2 nd Cutting	72	56	66	60
Mature	7	n/a	12	10	Watermelons -				
Harvested	1	n/a	5	4	Harvested	96	93	96	93
Soybeans -									
Blooming	83	75	87	87					
Setting Pods	71	61	70	71					

Weather for Week Ending August 22, 2004 - Temperatures ranged from 51 degrees at El Reno on Saturday, August 21st, to 95 degrees at Webbers Falls on Wednesday, August 18th. Precipitation averaged 0.29 inches in West Central district, to 0.79 inches in Northeast district. Soil temperatures averaged 66 degrees at Marena on Friday, August 20th, to 86 degrees at Idabel on Wednesday, August 18th.

MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA

Week Ending August 22, 2004

Districts	Temperature			This Week	Precipitation		
	High	Low	Average		March 1, 2004 to August 22, 2004		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
Degrees			Inches				
Panhandle	84	59	70	0.39	15.75	+1.67	112
West Central	84	61	72	0.29	19.04	+1.22	107
Southwest	85	63	74	0.42	16.94	- 1.21	93
North Central	85	62	73	0.57	20.66	+1.21	106
Central	84	63	73	0.32	21.67	+0.27	101
South Central	85	65	74	0.73	21.80	-0.09	100
Northeast	84	63	73	0.79	27.73	+4.55	120
East Central	85	65	74	0.57	25.79	+1.61	107
Southeast	86	64	75	0.58	23.31	-2.22	91