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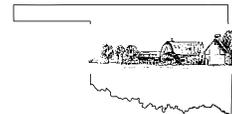
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OKLAHOMA CROP-WEATHER

March 21, 2005



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

Oklahoma Wheat In Good Condition

March 21 - - Warm temperatures with good soil moisture continued to promote growth and development of wheat and other small grains. Wheat jointing advanced ahead of normal for the first time this year. Row crop field preparation made favorable progress due to dry weather prior to the late-weekend showers. Yesterday was the warmest day of the week with high temperatures in the 70's across Oklahoma. Altus was the warmest station at 78 degrees. The coldest weekly temperature was at Boise City at 11 degrees last Wednesday. There were 5.4 days suitable for field work.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	1	16	80	3
Last Week	1	11	83	5
Last Year	0	3	85	12

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	2	5	88	5
Last Week	1	7	85	7
Last Year	5	18	71	6

Small Grains: Wheat condition dipped slightly because of drying weather but continued to be rated mostly good. Wheat jointing advanced 27 percentage points to stand at 45 percent. Jointing ranged from 15 percent in the Panhandle district to near 65 percent in the East Central and Southeast districts. Russian wheat aphid was reported in some Panhandle localities. Spring planting of oats was nearing completion and jointing was running less than 10 percent across all of Oklahoma's nine districts.

SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending March 20, 2005

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Wheat	1	3	22	57	17
Rye	0	3	15	65	17
Oats	1	5	35	54	5

Row Crops: Row crop activity centered on preparing soils for spring planting. Peanuts were the only crop running behind the 5-year seedbed prepared average. Six percent of the State's corn acreage was planted. Corn planting ranged from none in the Panhandle and West Central districts to 43 percent in the Southeast district. Many cotton producers in the Southwest district were busy fertilizing and putting down herbicide. Late harvest of some 2004 cotton was nearing completion in the North Central district.

Pasture and Range: Warm temperatures and good moisture supplies have caused grasses to "green up." Late-weekend rain should help producers in drier areas who were trying to burn pastures. Hay supplies remained in good shape with 95 percent rated either average or above average. The Southwest district was the only area reporting any sizeable amount of below average hay supplies. They were at 31 percent below average.

Livestock: Cattle remained in mostly good condition. Cattle were doing well on graze-out wheat pasture but some bloat was detected in areas of southwest Oklahoma. Lice infestations were noticed on cattle in areas of the Panhandle. Cattle auctions reported active trade last week with the highest bids since mid-January 2005. Feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged just over \$111 per cwt. and feeder heifers less than 800 pounds averaged just over \$105 per cwt.

LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending March 20, 2005

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	0	2	20	66	12
Pasture & Range	2	10	36	46	6



OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS

Week Ending March 20, 2005

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.	Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.
Wheat -					Sorghum				
Jointing	45	18	41	37	Seedbed Prepared	21	10	11	14
Oats -					Soybeans				
Planted	92	80	86	84	Seedbed Prepared	20	5	19	20
Jointing	2	N/A	7	10	Peanuts				
Rye					Seedbed Prepared	9	8	19	14
Jointing	65	N/A	55	N/A	Cotton				
Corn -					Seedbed Prepared	38	N/A	35	36
Seedbed Prepared	48	30	29	30					
Planted	6	N/A	N/A	N/A					

Weather for Week Ending March 20, 2005 - Temperatures ranged from 11 degrees at Boise City on Wednesday, March 16th to 78 degrees at Altus on Sunday, March 20th. Precipitation averaged 0.04 inches in South Central district to 0.70 inches in West Central district. Soil temperatures averaged 38 degrees at Kenton on Wednesday, March 16th, to 62 degrees at Waurika on Sunday, March 20th.

MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA

Week Ending March 20, 2005

Districts	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	March 1, 2005 to March 20, 2005		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
Degrees			Inches				
Panhandle	55	28	41	0.24	0.25	-0.81	23
West Central	57	33	45	0.70	0.72	-0.83	46
Southwest	59	36	48	0.26	0.29	-1.17	20
North Central	58	32	45	0.20	0.21	-1.52	12
Central	59	36	48	0.24	0.24	-1.85	12
South Central	61	37	50	0.04	0.08	-2.21	4
Northeast	59	34	47	0.08	0.12	-2.25	5
East Central	60	35	48	0.05	0.13	-2.51	5
Southeast	61	35	48	0.14	0.19	-2.70	7

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