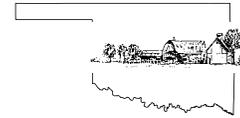




National  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service

# OKLAHOMA CROP-WEATHER

April 18, 2005



Oklahoma  
Agricultural  
Statistics

Vol. 28, No. 9  
Oklahoma Agricultural Statistics  
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

## Oklahoma In Need of Rain...

With all nine districts reporting less than a half inch of rain for the entire week, many areas of the State were in desperate need of rain by week's end. All districts were reporting that small grains and pastures were showing signs of stress due to the lack of moisture. Topsoil moisture continued to decline, and now more than half is short to very short. The same pattern was prevalent in subsoil moisture which showed an 8 point decline in subsoil moisture reported as adequate. Farmers had 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

### TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	16	41	42	1
Last Week	10	38	48	4
Last Year	6	25	68	1

### SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	7	25	66	2
Last Week	6	18	74	2
Last Year	10	27	62	1

**Small Grains:** Wheat condition continued to slowly decline, but was still in mostly fair to good condition. Ninety-two percent of the wheat was jointing compared to 96 percent this time last year. Wheat was beginning to head in southern and central areas of the State. Additional moisture will be critical during this stage of development for wheat. Oat jointing, at 42 percent, was 19 points below last year this time and 10 points below the five-year average. Rye jointing, at 94 percent, was only one point below last year at 95 percent.

### SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending April 17, 2005

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Wheat					
This Week	1	8	31	48	12
Last Week	1	5	31	50	13
Last Year	3	9	31	47	10
Rye					
This Week	2	12	32	50	4
Oats					
This Week	1	15	48	35	1

**Row Crops:** Seedbed preparation for row crops continued to make good progress last week despite the heavy winds and dry conditions. Peanuts, corn, and sorghum were ahead of the five-year average for seedbed preparation. By week's end, soybean seedbeds were 47 percent prepared, while 67 percent of the cotton seedbeds had been prepared. Sorghum producers were still in the beginning stages of planting and, by week's end, had 4 percent of the crop planted. Corn planting increased an additional 9 points to 37 percent planted by the end of the week. This was slightly ahead of the five-year average.

### HAY CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending April 17, 2005

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	1	5	31	54	9

**Pasture and Range:** Pasture and range conditions were rated mostly good to fair as wind and lack of rains continued to deplete soil moisture and slow pasture growth. Pasture conditions overall were beginning to decline due to the lack of moisture. The Southwest district reported 35 percent of all range and pasture was in poor condition while the East Central and Southeast districts reported none of the range and pasture as poor.

**Livestock:** Livestock insect activities remained none to light although cattle in some areas were starting to appear to be heavily infested with external insects. Livestock markets continue to be average. Feeder steers under 800 pounds averaged \$116.04 per cwt and feeder heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$107.79 per cwt.

### LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending April 17, 2005

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	0	3	22	66	9
Pasture & Range	2	10	34	46	8

## OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS

Week Ending April 17, 2005

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.	Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.
Wheat -					Sorghum -				
Jointing	92	85	96	85	Seedbed Prepared	41	26	34	38
Headed	18	3	22	17	Planted	4	2	3	4
Oats -					Soybeans -				
Jointing	42	29	61	52	Seedbed Prepared	47	40	53	52
Rye					Peanuts -				
Jointing	94	93	95	N/A	Seedbed Prepared	61	49	56	58
Corn -					Cotton -				
Seedbed Prepared	87	75	85	80	Seedbed Prepared	67	57	79	74
Planted	37	28	39	35					

**Weather for Week Ending April 17, 2005** - Temperatures ranged from 26 degrees at Goodwell on Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> to 83 degrees at Altus, Stillwater, and Webbers Falls on Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. Precipitation averaged 0.00 inches in Central and Southwest districts to 0.49 inches in Panhandle district. Soil temperatures averaged 48 degrees at Kenton on Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, to 71 degrees at Hugo and Waurika on Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>.

### MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA

Week Ending April 17, 2005

Districts	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	March 1, 2005 to April 17, 2005		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees			Inches			
Panhandle	70	41	55	0.49	1.70	-0.97	64
West Central	72	44	58	0.09	1.18	-2.69	31
Southwest	75	44	60	0.00	0.55	-3.22	15
North Central	71	44	58	0.06	1.37	-2.99	31
Central	73	45	60	0.00	1.18	-4.06	22
South Central	75	45	61	0.13	1.17	-4.51	21
Northeast	72	46	59	0.01	2.85	-3.09	48
East Central	73	46	60	0.14	3.74	-2.80	57
Southeast	74	46	60	0.30	4.38	-2.65	62

“OKLAHOMA CROP WEATHER SUMMARY” (ISSN 0194-4770) is issued weekly March - November, monthly January and February, no issue in December, by Oklahoma Agricultural Statistics, P.O. Box 528804, Oklahoma City, OK 73152. Periodicals postage paid at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and additional Mailing Offices.