

Oklahoma Crop Weather



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Additional Rainfall Needed

Spotty rains across the State provided minimum growth for wheat crops. Growers indicated more rain was needed soon to sustain hope for a productive wheat crop. Very little rain was received in the major wheat producing areas of the State, and wheat conditions were still deteriorating. The Southeast and East Central districts received over an inch of rain last week, but soil moisture was still critically low Statewide. Ninety-eight percent of both topsoil and subsoil were in very short to short supply. There were 6.2 days suitable for field work.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	85	13	2	0
Last Week	87	12	1	0
Last Year	1	10	81	8

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	75	23	2	0
Last Week	73	25	2	0
Last Year	1	6	84	8

Small Grains: Limited rainfall since October was still a major concern for small grain producers. Wheat and rye were showing little improvement in growth from the spotty rains received. Wheat jointing was at 8 percent which was behind last year's 17 percent and the five-year average of 15 percent. Growers were still nervous about the impact on the small grain crops if no rain was received soon. Seventy-two percent of the wheat was in very poor to poor condition while seventy-seven percent of rye was rated in very poor to poor condition. Oat conditions also continued to decline from last week with 98 percent of the crop in very poor to poor condition. Oats planted last fall, at 73 percent, was down from 79 percent last year but up from the five-year average of 72 percent. Crop insect activity was mostly light, however, in some areas green bug activity was still increasing in the wheat fields.

SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Month Ending March 12, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Wheat	38	34	26	2	0
Rye	40	37	23	0	0
Oats	71	27	2	0	0

Row Crops: Seedbed preparations for the summer row crops were underway with limited activity due to the dry conditions. Additional rainfall will be necessary to make good progress with seedbed preparations.

Pasture and Range: Pastures were in mostly very poor to poor condition due to the lack of rainfall. Recent rains have helped in greening up cool and warm season grasses, but more rain will still be needed for stem growth. Hay supplies continued to decline as producers were having to supplement cattle. Many growers were having to purchase additional hay as their supplies ran short. Pasture and range conditions were at 5 percent good, 23 percent fair, 32 percent poor and 40 percent very poor.

Livestock: Livestock conditions were not improving any as forage supplies remained short and ponds continued to dry out across the State. Some producers were still selling cattle as feed supplies were depleted. Livestock conditions were 15 percent good, 36 percent fair, 37 percent poor, and 12 percent very poor. The death loss of cattle was mostly light to average. Hay supplies were rated as mostly below average.

LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending March 12, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	12	37	36	15	0
Pasture & Range	40	32	23	5	0

OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS

Week Ending March 12, 2006

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.	Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.
Wheat -					Sorghum				
Jointing	8	N/A	17	15	Seedbed Prepared	4	N/A	10	9
Oats -					Soybeans				
Planted	73	N/A	79	72	Seedbed Prepared	3	N/A	5	9
Corn -					Peanuts				
Seedbed Prepared	9	N/A	29	22	Seedbed Prepared	3	N/A	8	9

Weather for Week Ending March 12, 2006: Temperatures ranged from 21 degrees at Boise City on Saturday, March 11th, to 91 degrees at Walters on Sunday, March 12th. Precipitation averaged 0.02 inches in the Panhandle and West Central districts to 1.35 inches in the East Central district. Soil temperatures averaged 48 degrees at Lahoma on Friday March 10th and Boise City on Sunday, March 12th, to 71 degrees at Durant on Sunday, March 12th.

MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA

Week Ending March 12, 2006

Districts	Temperature			This Week	Precipitation		
	High	Low	Average		September 1, 2005 to March 12, 2006		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
<i>Degrees</i>				<i>Inches</i>			
Panhandle	71	35	53	0.02	2.85	-4.07	41
West Central	76	47	61	0.02	4.66	-6.75	41
Southwest	80	49	64	0.04	6.22	-6.52	49
North Central	74	42	58	0.17	5.08	-7.28	41
Central	78	50	63	0.17	5.63	-11.44	33
South Central	78	53	66	0.89	8.68	-11.03	44
Northeast	75	47	61	0.55	6.74	-12.55	35
East Central	75	50	63	1.35	7.43	-15.22	33
Southeast	77	51	65	1.34	11.74	-14.62	45

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