

# Oklahoma Crop Weather



USDA - National Agricultural Statistics Service  
Oklahoma Field Office

cooperating with Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry  
P.O. Box 528804 Oklahoma City, OK 73152

405-522-6190 • 1-888-525-9226 • FAX 405-528-2296 • [nass-ok@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-ok@nass.usda.gov)

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## State Welcomed Spring Showers

Most of the state received slow soaking showers over the weekend with the Southeast district reporting nearly five inches of rain. Growers indicated that this weekend's rainfall was a wonderful start, but in no means a solution to the drought conditions experienced for the past six months across the state. The rainfall largely affected topsoil moisture with 26 percent of the state currently at adequate to surplus moisture compared to a mere 2 percent in the same two categories for the week prior. Some of the weekly reports were received prior to the weekend rains which may influence the soil moisture categories in the table below. There were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork.

### TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	58	16	24	2
Last Week	85	13	2	0
Last Year	1	16	80	3

### SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	64	30	6	0
Last Week	75	23	2	0
Last Year	2	5	88	5

**Small Grains:** Wheat and rye conditions improved slightly following the recent rains, however oats continued to struggle as 90 percent of the crop remained in very poor to poor condition. Wheat jointing made significant strides over the week. By week's end, 28 percent of the wheat crop was jointing. Even though many wheat producing areas of the State received soaking rains over the weekend, many growers were concerned that the rains were too late to enhance grain production. Oats planted, at 75 percent, remained below last year and the five-year average. Twenty percent of rye in the State was jointing by week's end, 44 points below this time last year.

### SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Month Ending March 19, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Wheat	37	33	24	6	0
Rye	36	40	22	2	0
Oats	74	16	10	0	0

**Row Crops:** With high percentage chances of rain being forecast over the weekend, many producers were in the fields early in the week preparing seedbeds for planting. Seedbed preparations for corn made the most significant increase recording a 19 point jump from last week's report. Although the seedbed preparations for all crops remained below normal, the additional moisture in the soil will aide preparations for the remaining acreage.

**Pasture and Range:** Pastures were still in mostly very poor to poor condition. 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 with 77 percent of the state reporting below average supplies.

**Livestock:** Livestock conditions were mostly poor to fair as forage supplies remained short. Growers in several districts received some relief as ponds began to refill following the weekend rains. The death loss of cattle was mostly light to average. Livestock insect activities were mostly none to light.

### LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending March 19, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	15	42	31	12	0
Pasture & Range	43	31	21	5	0

**OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS**

Week Ending March 19, 2006

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.	Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.
<b>Wheat -</b>					<b>Sorghum -</b>				
Jointing	28	8	41	31	Seedbed Prepared	11	4	19	16
<b>Rye -</b>					<b>Soybeans</b>				
Jointing	20	9	64	23	Seedbed Prepared	14	3	18	16
<b>Oats -</b>					<b>Peanuts -</b>				
Planted	75	73	90	82	Seedbed Prepared	6	3	10	15
<b>Corn -</b>					<b>Cotton -</b>				
Seedbed Prepared	28	9	45	32	Seedbed Prepared	29	N/A	37	32

**Weather for Week Ending March 19, 2006:** Temperatures ranged from 14 degrees at Boise City on Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, to 78 degrees at Idabel on Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. Precipitation averaged 0.23 inches in the Panhandle district to 4.93 inches in the Southeast district. Soil temperatures averaged 44 degrees at Red Rock on Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, to 65 degrees at Sulphur and Idabel on Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup>.

**MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA**

Week Ending March 19, 2006

Districts	Temperature			This Week	Precipitation		
	High	Low	Average		March 1, 2006 to March 19, 2006		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
<i>Degrees</i>				<i>Inches</i>			
Panhandle	54	31	43	0.23	0.24	-0.76	24
West Central	56	37	47	0.97	1.11	-0.36	76
Southwest	58	39	49	1.68	1.68	0.29	121
North Central	56	34	46	0.76	0.99	-0.65	60
Central	58	37	48	1.63	1.80	-0.18	91
South Central	61	41	51	2.44	3.88	1.71	178
Northeast	58	35	48	1.29	1.85	-0.40	82
East Central	61	38	50	1.62	3.02	0.51	120
Southeast	63	41	52	4.93	5.97	3.23	217

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OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73152  
 PO BOX 528804  
 OKLAHOMA STATISTICAL OFFICE  
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