

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

To access USDA-NASS reports: <http://www.nass.usda.gov> or

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/State_Crop_Progress_and_Condition/

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

Volume 30, Number 1

Issued January 3, 2007

Moisture Conditions Improve During December

The month of December brought much needed precipitation and cooler temperatures to Oklahoma. All of the districts reported at least 2 inches of precipitation, with the Northeast, Southeast, and East Central districts reporting more than 4 inches. Temperatures averaged from 35 to 45 degrees. Parts of the Panhandle received snow and ice before the holidays, which knocked out power to many in those areas. Despite the moisture condition improvements, the lack of available water, hay and wheat pasture for grazing was forcing many producers to sell some of their cattle. Topsoil moisture improved during the month with 64 percent rated as adequate or better. Subsoil moisture levels also improved some but were still nearly three-fourths in the short to very short range.

Topsoil Moisture by Percent

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
12	24	61	3

Subsoil Moisture by Percent

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
29	43	26	2

Small Grains: The condition of all small grain crops was mostly in the good to fair range. Wheat conditions improved some during the last few weeks due to the rain and snow received during the month. Grazing was still limited in many areas due to the extremely dry conditions this past fall. Thirty-six percent of the winter wheat was being grazed, 7 percent above last year, but 2 percent below the five-year average. Even very short wheat stands were being grazed in some areas out of necessity.

Small Grain Conditions by Percent

Month Ending December 31, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Wheat	3	11	35	41	10
Rye	2	9	44	42	3
Oats	10	6	50	31	3

Pasture and Range: Pasture and range conditions improved slightly but 57 percent of the pastures were still in the poor to very poor range. Adequate pastures available for grazing continues to be a concern. Even with the recent rains, pond water levels remain below normal and were critically low in many areas. Producers continued to haul water to livestock in these areas. Hay supplies were extremely short. Hay was being trucked in to supply the needs in some areas.

Livestock: Livestock remained in mostly good to fair condition. Livestock marketings were average. Drinking water for livestock remained a concern, even with the recent rains. Cattle were reported to be slightly thinner than normal, as producers ration hay and feed supplies.

Livestock Conditions by Percent

Month Ending December 31, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	0	2	50	48	0
Pasture & Range	24	33	37	6	0

Oklahoma Crop Progress
Month Ending December 31, 2006

Item	2006	2005	5 - Yr Avg.
Wheat - Grazed	36	29	38
Rye - Grazed	64	58	53
Oats - Grazed	16	4	22

Weather for Month Ending December 31, 2006: Temperatures ranged from -2 degrees at Nowata on Monday, December 4th, to 79 degrees at Erick and Hollis on Saturday, December 16th. Precipitation averaged 2.45 inches in the Southwest district to 4.88 inches in the Southeast district. Soil temperatures averaged 32 degrees at Weatherford, Walters, Bristow, Okmulgee and Wilburton on Friday, December 8th and at Vinita on Saturday, December 9th to 62 degrees at Idabel on Monday, December 18th.

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data
Month Ending December 31, 2006

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	Current Month Dec 1 – Dec 31	September 1, 2006 to January 2, 2007		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
<i>Degrees</i>				<i>Inches</i>			
Panhandle	49	24	35	3.06	5.81	0.64	112
West Central	52	29	40	3.32	7.86	-0.65	92
Southwest	53	30	41	2.45	10.81	1.26	113
North Central	52	29	39	2.93	5.02	-4.21	54
Central	53	31	42	3.27	9.66	-3.02	76
South Central	55	34	44	3.34	14.07	-0.27	98
Northeast	52	30	41	4.09	9.51	-4.90	66
East Central	54	34	44	4.70	17.23	0.59	104
Southeast	56	34	45	4.88	20.15	1.30	107

“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.

OKLAHOMA CROP WEATHER SUMMARY (USPS 399-550)
OKLAHOMA STATISTICAL OFFICE
PO BOX 528804
OKLAHOMA CITY OK 73152