



# Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office

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## Hail, Thunderstorms and Tornadoes

Last week brought severe thunderstorms with large hail and at least eight tornadoes to the State. Strong storms began Thursday night and lasted through Friday morning. Large hail, the size of baseballs, fell around the Strong City area on Thursday. Thursday evening, the Oklahoma Mesonet recorded approximately 1.5 inches of rain within an hour in Putnam. Tornadoes touched down in Kingfisher, Garfield, and Noble counties on Saturday afternoon and evening. Damage to several sheds and small buildings was reported, and several structures located near Lacey were completely destroyed. No injuries from Saturday's twisters were reported. Light to heavy hail damage to crops was reported in various locations. For the week, the State averaged 0.54 inches of rainfall and the high temperature was 102 degrees. There were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork.

### Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent

Week Ending Sunday, May 25, 2008

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Very Short	11	11	1	12	12	1
Short	24	14	7	18	13	8
Adequate	56	62	78	62	67	85
Surplus	9	13	14	8	8	6

**Small Grains:** Where wheat harvest has begun, some kernels were reported shrunken due to lack of moisture and extreme heat. County offices received mixed reports regarding the severity of recent storms to area fields. Some wheat producers were concerned with disease infestation. Seventy-two percent of the State's **winter wheat** crop was in the soft dough stage. Seventy-six percent of **rye** was in the soft dough stage. **Oats** jointing was at 94 percent, three percentage points behind the five-year average. Oats headed increased 14 points from the previous week to 70 percent, 15 points behind normal, while 32 percent of oats were in the soft dough stage, 22 points behind normal.

**Row Crops:** **Corn** planted was at 97 percent, one percentage point behind the five-year average. Corn emerged increased five points from the previous week to 88 percent, one point ahead of normal. **Sorghum** seedbed prepared was at 85 percent, 11 points ahead of the five-year average. Sorghum planted was at 26 percent, 10 points behind normal, while sorghum emerged was at 17 percent, four points behind normal. **Soybean** seedbed preparations were at 78 percent, one point behind normal. Soybeans planted was at 40 percent, eight points behind normal, and soybeans emerged was at 17 percent, 14 points behind normal. **Peanuts** planted increased 28 points to reach 80 percent, six points ahead of normal, and peanuts emerged increased 22 points to reach 48 percent, five points behind normal. **Cotton** planted reached 65 percent, four points ahead of the five-year average, while cotton emerged increased to 35 percent, four points behind the five-year average.

**Hay:** In isolated areas, operators were trying to bale hay between rain showers. Alfalfa hay first cutting was at 82 percent, eight points behind the five-year average, while other hay first cutting was at 30 percent, 15 points behind the five-year average.

**Miscellaneous Crops:** Peaches were rated mostly in good to fair condition and had an average fruit set. Pecans were also rated mostly in the good to fair range and were reported having an average nut set. Watermelons planted were at 76 percent, 16 points behind normal, and watermelons running were at 13 percent, 24 points behind normal.

**Pasture and Range:** Grasses were beginning to thicken and pastures were continuing to green in areas that received adequate moisture and sunny weather. Pasture and range conditions were rated mostly in the good to fair range.

**Livestock:** Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$111 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$104 per cwt. Livestock conditions were rated mostly in the good to fair range. Mostly light to moderate insect activity was reported. The hazardous weather has been stressful for cattle in areas where tornadoes and thunderstorms have occurred.

### Conditions by Percent

Week Ending Sunday, May 25, 2008

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<b>Small Grain -</b>					
Wheat					
This Week	8	9	28	45	10
Last Week	8	10	26	48	8
Last Year	2	7	22	48	21
Rye	3	8	27	55	7
Oats	5	10	39	42	4
<b>Hay</b>					
Alfalfa	2	4	38	45	11
Other Hay	3	6	37	46	8
<b>Livestock, Pasture and Range -</b>					
Livestock	1	5	27	58	9
Pasture and Range	3	7	26	54	10
<b>Row Crops -</b>					
Corn	0	1	12	80	7

### Crop Progress by Percent

Week Ending Sunday, May 25, 2008

Crop and Event	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Average	Crop and Event	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Average
<b>Wheat -</b>					<b>Soybeans -</b>				
Soft Dough	72	40	81	83	Seedbed Prepared	78	76	71	79
<b>Rye -</b>					Planted				
Soft Dough	76	65	94	94	Emerged	17	11	13	31
<b>Oats -</b>					<b>Peanuts -</b>				
Jointing	94	92	99	97	Planted	80	52	70	74
Headed	70	56	81	85	Emerged	48	26	42	53
Soft Dough	32	15	50	54	<b>Cotton -</b>				
<b>Corn</b>					Planted				
Planted	97	94	100	98	Emerged	35	6	24	39
Emerged	88	83	95	87	<b>Watermelon -</b>				
<b>Sorghum -</b>					Planted				
Seedbed Prepared	85	83	65	74	Running	13	7	65	37
Planted	26	24	41	36	<b>Alfalfa Hay</b>				
Emerged	17	15	18	21	1st cutting	82	68	78	90
					<b>Other Hay</b>				
					1st cutting	30	25	47	45

**Weather for Week Ending May 25, 2008:** Temperatures ranged from 44 degrees at Boise City on Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup> to 102 degrees at Walters on Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. Precipitation ranged from 0.02 in the East Central district to 2.18 inches in the North Central district. Soil temperatures averaged 66 degrees at Wilburton on Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> to 86 degrees at Tipton on Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup> and Hugo on Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup>.

### Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

Week Ending Sunday, May 25, 2008

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	March 1, 2008 to May 25, 2008		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Panhandle	88	57	73	0.18	2.50	-3.70	40
West Central	89	63	76	1.05	7.29	-1.66	81
Southwest	92	65	79	0.11	8.12	-0.82	91
North Central	85	62	74	2.18	9.54	0.09	101
Central	86	65	76	0.32	13.11	1.80	116
South Central	88	65	77	0.10	11.74	-0.09	99
Northeast	83	63	74	0.84	18.21	6.12	151
East Central	85	64	75	0.02	18.42	5.25	140
Southeast	86	64	75	0.04	21.87	7.77	155