



Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office

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Strong Storms Delay Field Work

Oklahoma received its second straight week of heavy rainfall. Eight of the nine districts received over an inch of rain last week. The major wheat producing North Central district received slightly above 4.75 inches of rain which delayed small grain seedbed preparation and planting. Row crop conditions remained in the mostly good to fair range despite the heavy moisture and reported insect activity. Hurricane Ike did not cause as much damage as originally predicted but still caused flooding in southeast Oklahoma. North Central and Northeast districts received rain from a strong storm front that caused rivers to crest and the evacuation of some 800 people. The State averaged 2.54 inches of rain for the week. Weekly temperatures ranged from 48 to 92 degrees. A few areas of the State's cropland reported having light to heavy flood damage. Topsoil moisture was rated 81 percent surplus to adequate and subsoil moisture was rated 73 percent surplus to adequate. There were 3.3 days suitable for fieldwork.

Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent

Week Ending Sunday, September 14, 2008

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Very Short	4	10	9	9	16	7
Short	15	32	25	18	30	23
Adequate	60	55	63	63	52	68
Surplus	21	3	3	10	2	2

Small Grains: Small grain seedbed preparation and planting almost came to a complete halt last week due to the heavy rain and saturated fields. **Winter wheat** seedbed preparation increased one percentage point from the previous week to reach 71 percent complete. Eleven percent of wheat had been planted by week's end. **Rye** seedbed preparation also increased one percentage point to reach 73 percent complete. Rye planted reached 19 percent complete by week's end, 13 percentage points behind the five-year average. The seedbed preparation for **oats** was just over half complete, seven points behind normal.

Row Crops: Rains delayed row crop harvest in some areas for the second week but conditions still were rated mostly good to fair with double-cropped corn and soybeans expected to benefit from the recent rains. About half of the State's crops were reporting light insect activity with some isolated areas reporting moderate to heavy activity. Virtually all of the State's **corn** had reached the dough stage, up four points from the previous week but two points behind normal. Over half of the State's corn had reached maturity by week's end, 20 points behind the five-year average. Twenty-nine percent of the State's corn had been harvested by week's end, up three points from the previous week but 18 points behind normal. **Sorghum** headed increased nine points from the previous week to reach 89 percent complete but was still five points behind normal. Fifty-nine percent of the sorghum was coloring by the end of the week, an increase of 14 points from the previous week but nine points behind normal. A quarter of the State's sorghum had reached maturity, five points behind the five-year average. Eleven percent of the State's sorghum had been harvested. **Soybeans** setting pods increased four points from the previous week to reach 88 percent, equal to the five-year average. Sixteen percent of the soybeans were mature, up three points from the previous week but 17 points behind the five-year average. **Peanuts** mature reached 28 percent, up one point from last week but 26 points behind normal. **Cotton** bolls were opening on 41 percent of the State's cotton by week's end, up 12 points from the previous week but three points below the five-year average.

Hay: Hay cutting and baling activities continued at a slow pace due to wet conditions. Hay conditions remained mostly in the good to fair range. Eighty-seven percent of the State's **alfalfa** had been cut for the fourth time, a three point increase from the previous week. Alfalfa fifth cutting reached 35 percent complete by week's end. **Other hay** second cutting reached 60 percent, an increase of two points from the previous week but 12 points behind normal.

Pasture and Range: Pasture and grasses improved last week with the heavy rainfall. Pasture and range conditions remained 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 \$105 per cwt. Livestock conditions were rated mostly in the good to fair range with mostly light to moderate insect activity reported.

Conditions by Percent

Week Ending Sunday, September 14, 2008

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Hay -					
Alfalfa	1	10	41	41	7
Other Hay	2	7	38	44	9
Livestock, Pasture and Range -					
Livestock	0	3	23	59	15
Pasture and Range	2	7	32	50	9
Row Crops -					
Corn	0	5	23	65	7
Soybeans	1	6	47	39	7
Peanuts	0	2	22	70	6
Cotton	4	12	39	35	10
Sorghum	1	14	31	50	4

Crop Progress by Percent

Week Ending Sunday, September 14, 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
Wheat -					Soybeans -				
Seedbed Prepared	71	70	73	79	Setting Pods	88	84	75	88
Planted	11	N/A	10	17	Mature	16	13	15	33
Rye -					Peanuts -				
Seedbed Prepared	73	72	69	81	Mature	28	27	55	54
Planted	19	13	17	32	Cotton -				
Oats -					Bolls Opening	41	29	30	44
Seedbed Prepared	53	52	54	60	Alfalfa Hay -				
Corn -					4th cutting	87	84	90	85
Dough	98	94	100	100	5th cutting	35	26	37	32
Mature	53	48	88	73	Other Hay -				
Harvested	29	26	58	47	2nd cutting	60	58	68	72
Sorghum -									
Headed	89	80	95	94					
Coloring	59	45	67	68					
Mature	25	20	17	30					
Harvested	11	N/A	N/A	13					

Weather for Week Ending September 14, 2008: Temperatures ranged from 48 degrees at Kenton on Sunday, September 14, 2008 to 92 degrees at Ketchum Ranch on Friday, September 12, 2008. Precipitation ranged from 0.88 in the Panhandle district to 4.76 inches in the North Central district. Soil temperatures averaged 65 degrees at Beaver on Tuesday, September 9, 2008 to 83 degrees at Durant on Monday, September 8, 2008.

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

Week Ending Sunday, September 14, 2008

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	September 1, 2008 to September 14, 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	77	57	65	0.88	1.16	0.28	132
West Central	76	61	68	4.54	4.68	3.27	331
Southwest	78	64	71	1.54	1.58	0.00	100
North Central	77	62	69	4.76	6.47	5.01	443
Central	78	64	71	1.41	1.78	-0.14	93
South Central	81	67	73	1.37	1.78	-0.24	88
Northeast	78	63	70	2.92	5.00	2.77	224
East Central	80	65	73	2.27	5.08	2.77	220
Southeast	82	67	74	3.20	5.58	3.45	262