



# Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office

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## A Blizzard for the Record Books

Chilly, cold weather dominated much of the month of December across the State. Although little rainfall was experienced during the first three weeks of December, precipitation came in the form of snow as a powerful blizzard swept across much of the State on the 24<sup>th</sup>. This holiday blizzard dumped a record-breaking 14 inches of snow on Oklahoma City, bringing travel to a halt. Varying amounts of snow were received across the State but the storm missed the Panhandle completely. High winds led to drifting snow and frigid temperatures slowed melting, as there is still snow and ice on the ground in many areas of the State. Soil moisture conditions are much improved from last December as both topsoil and subsoil were rated mostly in the adequate to short range, with 12 percent and 6 percent rated surplus, respectively.

### Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent

Month Ending December 31, 2009

Moisture Rating	Topsoil	Subsoil
Very Short	7	8
Short	20	16
Adequate	61	70
Surplus	12	6

**Small Grains:** Despite the heavy snowfall of late December, much of the State is still in need of additional moisture to improve conditions. Small grain conditions were rated mostly in the good to fair range. **Winter wheat** grazed was at 38 percent, seven points ahead of normal. **Rye** grazed was at 72 percent, 20 points ahead of the five-year average. **Oats** grazed was at 13 percent, six points ahead of normal.

**Pasture and Range:** Pasture and range conditions for December were rated mostly in the good to fair range. Snow covered pastures have limited forage availability and forced increased supplemental feeding of livestock.

**Livestock:** Livestock were rated in mostly good to fair condition. Livestock marketings were average. The wintry conditions have been hard on livestock across the State, as body conditions have dropped and high death loss were reported from the blizzard. Producers have had to increase hay and supplemental feeding as well as break ice due to the frigid temperatures.

### Conditions by Percent

Month Ending December 31, 2009

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<b><i>Small Grains -</i></b>					
Winter Wheat	0	3	27	56	14
Rye	3	5	19	57	16
Oats	11	12	22	40	15
<b><i>Livestock, Pasture and Range -</i></b>					
Livestock	1	7	32	53	7
Pasture and Range	4	17	41	35	3

### Crop Progress by Percent

Month Ending December 31, 2009

Crop and Event	2009	2008	5 Year Average
<b><i>Wheat -</i></b>			
Grazed	38	27	31
<b><i>Rye -</i></b>			
Grazed	72	46	52
<b><i>Oats -</i></b>			
Grazed	13	5	7

**Weather for Month Ending December 31, 2009:** Temperatures ranged from -2 degrees at Goodwell on Thursday, December 10th, to 74 degrees at Butler on Sunday, December 13th. Precipitation ranged from 0.07 in the Panhandle district to 3.99 inches in the Southeast district. Soil temperatures averaged 28 degrees at Beaver and Retrop on Thursday, December 10th, to 56 degrees at Antlers and Durant on Wednesday, December 23rd.

### Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

Month Ending December 31, 2009

District	Temperature			This Week	Precipitation		
	High	Low	Average		September 1, 2009 to January 3, 2010		
					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	44	16	29	0.07	4.27	-0.91	82
West Central	45	22	33	0.20	7.63	-0.92	89
Southwest	47	24	35	1.50	9.54	-0.05	100
North Central	43	21	31	0.21	6.95	-2.31	75
Central	45	24	34	1.17	12.55	-0.18	99
South Central	47	26	36	2.53	18.56	4.15	129
Northeast	43	23	33	1.65	16.37	1.90	113
East Central	44	26	35	1.80	20.57	3.85	123
Southeast	48	28	38	3.99	26.14	7.19	138