



# Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office

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Monthly Summary for Dec 1 - Dec 29

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## Cold and Icy December

Multiple winter storms kept temperatures below normal for the month of December and brought winter precipitation of all types. December 5-6 a storm moved through in two waves, bringing freezing rain to southern Oklahoma and sleet changing to snow as it traveled northeast, with additional snowfall falling into Friday. Temperatures remained below freezing for the next few days in most of the state. Camargo recorded a low of five degrees below zero on the 10th. The third weekend of the month another winter storm brought snow to northwestern Oklahoma, rain to southeastern Oklahoma and ice to the rest of the state, with close to an inch of ice observed in Canadian County. Damage to some winter forage was reported, but overall the storms brought slow melting moisture across the state. The East Central and Southeast districts averaged more than three inches of precipitation for the month, while the Panhandle and West Central districts averaged less than half an inch. All nine districts were still below normal precipitation for the period since September 1st. Drought conditions remained in the western half of the state, with the worst conditions in far southwestern Oklahoma. Small grain and pasture conditions were rated mostly good to fair for December. This is a big improvement over the previous year, and allowed more grazing opportunities for livestock. Topsoil moisture conditions were rated mostly adequate with 43 percent rated as short to very short. Subsoil moisture conditions were rated 50 percent adequate to surplus and 50 percent short to very short.

<b>Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent</b>		
<i>For Month Ending December 29, 2013</i>		
Moisture Rating	Subsoil	Topsoil
Very Short	18	27
Short	25	23
Adequate	54	48
Surplus	3	2

**Small Grains:** Conditions of small grains and canola declined over the past month. Just over half of the wheat crop was rated in good condition, and canola, oats and rye were rated mostly good to fair. Thirty-two percent of the **wheat** crop was being grazed, even with the five-year average, and ten points more than during December 2012. Sixty-eight percent of **rye** was reported as grazed, 38 points more than the previous year and 11 points higher than normal. Twenty-eight percent of **oats** were being grazed, compared to a five-year average of 15 percent.

**Pasture and Range:** Pasture and range conditions continued to be rated mostly good to fair for the month of December. Cover from snow and ice temporarily prevented grazing of pasture, but the moisture received was beneficial.

<b>Conditions by Percent</b>					
<i>For Month Ending December 29, 2013</i>					
Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	1	7	29	52	11
Canola	2	8	31	44	15
Rye	2	9	32	48	9
Oats	5	5	36	45	9
Livestock	1	4	27	62	6
Pasture and Range	8	14	45	30	3

**Livestock:** Grazing of small grains increased this year with improved conditions. Producers were also providing hay and supplementary feed to herds as needed. Livestock conditions continued to be rated mostly good, despite below normal temperatures.

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**Crop Progress by Percent**  
For Month Ending December 29, 2013

Crop and Event	2013	2012	5 Year Average
<b>Wheat -</b> Grazed	32	22	32
<b>Rye -</b> Grazed	68	30	57
<b>Oats -</b> Grazed	28	N/A	15

**Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data**

For Month Ending December 29, 2013

**Weather for Month Ending December 29, 2013:**

Temperatures ranged from -5 degrees at Camargo on Tuesday, December 10th, to 79 degrees at Hollis on Tuesday, December 3rd. Precipitation ranged from 0.31 of an inch in the Panhandle district to 3.69 inches in the Southeast district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 29 degrees at Buffalo on Tuesday, December 10th, to 56 degrees at Mt Herman on Friday, December 20th.

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Month Dec 1 to	Sep. 1, 2013 to Dec. 29, 2013		
					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	46	19	31	0.31	4.66	-0.42	92
West Central	46	23	34	0.39	5.46	-2.12	75
Southwest	47	24	35	1.03	6.13	-3.27	65
North Central	45	21	32	0.49	6.05	-3.04	67
Central	46	24	34	1.14	7.98	-4.48	64
South Central	49	27	37	2.52	10.22	-3.84	73
Northeast	45	24	34	1.22	10.43	-3.73	74
East Central	47	26	36	3.21	12.42	-3.90	76
Southeast	50	29	39	3.69	17.08	-1.32	93