



# Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office

Cooperating with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

P.O. Box 528804 · Oklahoma City, OK 73152-8804

(405) 522-6190 · FAX (405) 528-2296 · [www.nass.usda.gov/ok](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ok)

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Weekly Summary for May 23-May 29

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## Tornados Result in Ten Deaths and Untold Destruction

A dangerous storm system came through Oklahoma Tuesday afternoon and evening bringing severe winds, at least three inch hail, and deadly tornados. Preliminary reports by the National Weather Service list 12 separate tornados throughout the state, including three with EF-4 ratings. In addition to the tragic deaths of 10 Oklahomans, numerous houses were destroyed along with barns and farm equipment. Livestock deaths and hailed out wheat fields are adding to the list of woes for Oklahoma farmers and ranchers during this tough year. The panhandle and parts of far western Oklahoma are in a D4 or "exceptional" drought as of the May 24th U.S. Drought Monitor. As a result of the continuing drought, emergency grazing of CRP acres has been authorized for 22 counties, including the Panhandle district, where the last 180 days have been the driest period on record since 1921. Topsoil moisture conditions remained mostly adequate to short and subsoil moisture conditions were mostly very short to short. There were 4.8 days suitable for field work.

### Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent

Week Ending Sunday, May 29, 2011

| Moisture Rating | Current Week | Previous Week | One Year Ago |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>Topsoil</b>  |              |               |              |
| Very Short      | 26           | 28            | 4            |
| Short           | 27           | 22            | 20           |
| Adequate        | 43           | 40            | 71           |
| Surplus         | 4            | 10            | 5            |
| <b>Subsoil</b>  |              |               |              |
| Very Short      | 37           | 43            | 4            |
| Short           | 30           | 27            | 17           |
| Adequate        | 31           | 26            | 74           |
| Surplus         | 2            | 4             | 5            |

**Small Grains:** Harvest is underway for wheat and canola. This week's storms brought additional concerns for the wheat harvest with debris in wheat fields and five percent of the state reporting moderate to heavy crop damage from hail. **Wheat** in the soft dough stage reached 96 percent by Sunday, 11 points ahead of normal, and 13 percent was harvested. **Rye** in the soft dough stage of development reached 93 percent complete by week's end. **Oats** jointing was 95 percent complete, 89 percent of the crop was heading and 55 percent of the crop reached the soft dough stage by week's end. **Canola** in the mature stage reached 91 percent complete by week's end, up 14 points from the previous week and 18 percent of the crop had been harvested.

**Row Crops:** Corn conditions continued to be rated mostly in the good category and planting of other row crops continued where weather allowed. Eighty-eight percent of the **corn** crop had emerged by Sunday. **Sorghum** seedbed preparation reached 91 percent complete, 54 percent was planted and 16 percent of the crop had emerged by week's end. **Soybean** seedbed preparation was 81 percent complete while 39 percent of the crop was planted and 22 percent had emerged by Sunday. **Peanut** planting was 74 complete by week's end while 42 percent of the crop had emerged. **Cotton** planted was 33 percent complete by Sunday, 24 points behind normal.

**Miscellaneous Crops:** The **watermelon** crop was 95 percent planted by week's end and 29 percent of the plants were running vines.

**Hay:** Conditions continued to be rated mostly in the fair to poor range. First cuttings of alfalfa reached 82 percent complete and first cuttings of other hay reached 31 percent complete by Sunday, both behind the five-year average.

**Pasture and Range:** Conditions improved slightly as pasture and range were rated mostly fair to good with 33 percent rated very poor to very poor.

**Livestock:** Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$127 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$118 per cwt. Livestock conditions were rated mostly in the good to fair range. The lack of good grazing land has caused some producers to sell off livestock in western Oklahoma.

### Conditions by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, May 29, 2011

| Commodity         | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-------------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Wheat             | 39        | 40   | 18   | 3    | 0         |
| Rye               | 42        | 44   | 11   | 3    | 0         |
| Oats              | 47        | 32   | 17   | 3    | 1         |
| Corn              | 1         | 6    | 25   | 60   | 8         |
| Alfalfa           | 19        | 23   | 40   | 18   | 0         |
| Other Hay         | 22        | 26   | 33   | 18   | 1         |
| Livestock         | 2         | 8    | 43   | 42   | 5         |
| Pasture and Range | 13        | 20   | 41   | 22   | 4         |

### Crop Progress by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, May 29, 2011

| Crop        | Stage            | Current Week | Previous Week | One Year Ago | Five Year Average |
|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Wheat       | Soft Dough       | 96           | 81            | 81           | 85                |
|             | Harvested        | 13           | N/A           | N/A          | N/A               |
| Rye         | Soft Dough       | 93           | 82            | 85           | 92                |
|             | Jointing         | 95           | 93            | 94           | 97                |
| Oats        | Headed           | 89           | 75            | 76           | 83                |
|             | Soft Dough       | 55           | 42            | 47           | 53                |
| Corn        | Emerged          | 88           | 58            | 86           | 90                |
|             | Seedbed Prepared | 91           | 86            | 91           | 81                |
| Sorghum     | Planted          | 54           | 35            | 60           | 44                |
|             | Emerged          | 16           | 8             | 27           | 24                |
| Soybeans    | Seedbed Prepared | 81           | 73            | 84           | 79                |
|             | Planted          | 39           | 29            | 52           | 47                |
| Peanuts     | Emerged          | 22           | 10            | 25           | 27                |
|             | Planted          | 74           | 66            | 75           | 76                |
| Cotton      | Emerged          | 42           | 22            | 43           | 50                |
| Cotton      | Planted          | 33           | 15            | 59           | 57                |
| Alfalfa     | 1st Cutting      | 82           | 65            | 91           | 86                |
| Other Hay   | 1st Cutting      | 31           | 27            | 43           | 42                |
| Watermelons | Planted          | 95           | 94            | 86           | 87                |
|             | Running          | 29           | 22            | 30           | 36                |

### Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

Week Ending Sunday, May 29, 2011

#### Weather for Week Ending May 29, 2011:

Temperatures ranged from 37 degrees at Kenton on Thursday, May 26th, to 107 degrees at Grandfield on Friday, May 27th and at Beaver on Sunday, May 29th. Precipitation ranged from 0.02 of an inch in the Panhandle district to 3.33 inches in the Northeast district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 63 degrees at Weatherford on Wednesday, May 25th, to 86 degrees at Erick and Waurika on Sunday, May 29th.

| District      | Temperature |         |         | Precipitation |                             |                       |                   |
|---------------|-------------|---------|---------|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
|               | High        | Low     | Average | Current Week  | Mar 1, 2011 to May 29, 2011 |                       |                   |
|               |             |         |         |               | Total                       | Departure From Normal | Percent of Normal |
|               | Degrees     | Degrees | Degrees | Inches        | Inches                      | Inches                | Percent           |
| Panhandle     | 86          | 54      | 70      | 0.02          | 1.47                        | -5.16                 | 22                |
| West Central  | 90          | 60      | 75      | 0.27          | 3.06                        | -6.52                 | 32                |
| Southwest     | 92          | 64      | 78      | 0.15          | 4.51                        | -5.07                 | 47                |
| North Central | 85          | 59      | 72      | 0.72          | 4.53                        | -5.52                 | 45                |
| Central       | 84          | 63      | 74      | 0.82          | 7.67                        | -4.36                 | 64                |
| South Central | 85          | 66      | 75      | 0.41          | 8.19                        | -4.36                 | 65                |
| Northeast     | 79          | 61      | 70      | 3.33          | 13.64                       | 0.84                  | 107               |
| East Central  | 82          | 63      | 72      | 1.74          | 17.28                       | 3.35                  | 124               |
| Southeast     | 84          | 64      | 74      | 0.76          | 16.96                       | 2.04                  | 114               |

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Oklahoma City, OK 73152-8804

PO Box 528804

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