



Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office

Cooperating with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

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Monthly Summary for Feb 1 - Feb 26, 2012

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Small Grains in Good Condition

The conditions of small grains and canola improved over the past month with a majority now rated in good condition. The good condition of the crops made continued grazing possible on a larger portion of the small grain crop than in previous years. However, a warmer than normal winter has allowed wheat to develop ahead of normal, so producers are beginning to pull cattle off of wheat that will be harvested this

summer. Temperatures averaged in the low 40's, but extremes were felt on both ends of the scale. A low of eight degrees was recorded in Jay on February 12th and Antlers reached 79 degrees on the 23rd. Rainfall totals for the month of February averaged slightly above normal for the state with 1.72 inches. The heaviest rains fell in the North Central district with a high of 4.94 inches in Freedom. The southern half of the state had below normal precipitation for the month. The Drought Monitor changed very little over the past month, with 66 percent of the state in a moderate to exceptional drought as of February 21st. Continued rains are needed to replenish subsoil moisture as well as lakes and stock ponds. Any improvements in crop and pasture conditions are contingent on continued precipitation. Topsoil moisture conditions improved slightly with 59 percent rated adequate to surplus. Subsoil moisture conditions improved and are now rated mostly adequate to short, although 29 percent of the state was still rated very short on subsoil moisture.

Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent <i>For Month Ending February 26, 2012</i>		
Moisture Rating	Topsoil	Subsoil
Very Short	8	29
Short	33	32
Adequate	54	38
Surplus	5	1

Small Grains: Conditions of wheat and other fall planted crops were rated mostly good, with 14 percent of wheat and 12 percent of canola rated excellent, respectively. **Wheat** grazed was 45 percent of the crop, 11 points above the five-year average. Seventy percent of **rye** was reported as grazed, seven points above normal. Forty-two percent of **oats** were being grazed, 28 points above the five-year average.

Pasture and Range: Pasture and range condition ratings improved slightly from the previous month, but two thirds of the state was still rated poor to very poor. Much more rainfall is needed for grass to recover from the extended drought. The availability of pasture and grass will be crucial as producers decide whether or not to graze out small grains.

Conditions by Percent <i>For Month Ending February 26, 2012</i>					
Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	1	6	26	53	14
Canola	1	4	30	53	12
Rye	1	5	19	59	16
Oats	1	7	22	61	9
Livestock	9	17	35	35	4
Pasture and Range	37	30	25	7	1

Livestock: Conditions continued to be rated mostly in the good to fair range with 26 percent rated poor to very poor. Limited hay supplies and low pond levels were still major concerns for producers.

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Crop Progress by Percent
For Month Ending February 26, 2012

Crop and Event	2012	2011	5 Year Average
Wheat - Grazed	45	35	34
Rye - Grazed	70	62	63
Oats - Grazed	42	14	14

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

For Month Ending February 26, 2012

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Month	Sep 1, 2011 to Feb 26, 2012		
				Feb 1 to Feb 26	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	49	25	36	1.08	5.97	-0.26	96
West Central	51	30	40	1.38	10.75	0.39	104
Southwest	54	32	43	0.77	11.37	-0.36	97
North Central	50	29	40	3.36	13.80	2.61	123
Central	53	32	43	1.49	14.12	-1.51	90
South Central	56	35	46	1.43	17.42	-0.68	96
Northeast	53	32	43	1.89	14.61	-3.05	83
East Central	54	35	44	1.63	19.48	-1.33	94
Southeast	56	36	46	2.41	24.82	0.52	102

Weather for Month Ending February 26, 2012:

Temperatures ranged from 8 degrees at Jay on Sunday, February 12, 2012, to 79 degrees at Antlers on Thursday, February 23, 2012.

Precipitation ranged from 0.77 of an inch in the Southwest district to 3.36 inches in the North Central district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 31 degrees at Hinton and Kingfisher on Sunday, February 12, 2012, to 59 degrees at Durant on Friday, February 03, 2012.

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