



Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office
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Weekly Summary for Feb 27-Mar 4

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Wheat Conditions Varied Across State

A storm system early in the week brought high winds, but little precipitation to Oklahoma. Severe wind gusts over 60 mph were recorded in multiple locations across northern Oklahoma, depleting the limited topsoil moisture. A gust of 67 mph was recorded at the Woodward Mesonet station Tuesday evening. Wheat was rated mostly in good condition this past week, with 91 percent rated fair to excellent. However, the conditions varied across the state. Wheat in the panhandle, already stressed from the ongoing drought, was further damaged by the high winds. Most of the state's wheat crop is in good condition, but with the caveat that more rain is needed to continue normal development.

Temperatures were warm mid-week with highs above 80 degrees in multiple locations. Overall temperatures averaged in the 50s, with average highs mostly in the high 60s. Topsoil moisture conditions worsened over the past week and were rated mostly short to adequate. Subsoil moisture conditions were also rated lower this week. Sixty eight percent was rated short to very short, up from 61 percent the week prior. There were 6.3 days suitable for field work.

Small Grains: Conditions of wheat and other fall planted crops continued to be rated mostly good, with 11 percent of wheat and 17 percent of rye rated excellent, respectively. **Wheat** jointing was 22 percent complete, while 31 percent of **rye** was jointing by Sunday. **Oat** planting was 76 percent complete by week's end.

Row Crops: Seedbed preparation began for row crops, though planting is still dependent on how much moisture is received in the coming months. **Corn** seedbed preparation was 26 percent complete by the end of the week. **Sorghum** seedbed preparation was 17 percent complete, and preparation of **soybean** seedbeds was 11 percent complete by Sunday. **Cotton** seedbed preparation was 19 percent complete by week's end, nine points ahead of last year.

Pasture and Livestock: Pasture and range continued to be rated mostly in poor to very poor condition. The mild winter resulted in some improvements to pasture and grass, however. Livestock conditions continued to be rated mostly good to fair. Along with the poor condition of pasture and grasses, low pond levels continued to concern livestock producers. Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$164 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$150 per cwt.

Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent			
Week Ending Sunday, March 4, 2012			
Moisture Rating	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago
Topsoil			
Very Short	11	8	47
Short	44	33	33
Adequate	42	54	20
Surplus	3	5	0
Subsoil			
Very Short	32	29	48
Short	36	32	34
Adequate	30	38	18
Surplus	2	1	0

Conditions by Percent					
For Week Ending Sunday, March 4, 2012					
Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	1	8	29	51	11
Canola	1	7	27	60	5
Rye	2	7	20	54	17
Oats	1	8	21	60	10
Livestock	8	18	35	35	4
Pasture and Range	36	32	22	8	2

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Crop Progress by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, March 4, 2012

Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago	Five Year Average
Wheat	Jointing	22	N/A	13	N/A
Rye	Jointing	31	N/A	6	N/A
Oats	Planted	76	N/A	N/A	N/A
Corn	Seedbed Prepared	26	N/A	25	N/A
Sorghum	Seedbed Prepared	17	N/A	N/A	N/A
Soybeans	Seedbed Prepared	11	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cotton	Seedbed Prepared	19	N/A	10	N/A

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

Week Ending Sunday, March 4, 2012

Weather for Week Ending March 4, 2012:

Temperatures ranged from 17 degrees at Boise City on Saturday, March 3rd, to 82 degrees at Ardmore on Thursday, March 1st. Precipitation ranged from less than one hundredth of an inch in the Southeast district to 0.23 of an inch in the Northeast district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 39 degrees at Boise City on Monday, February 27th, to 60 degrees at Broken Bow on Wednesday, February 29th and at Ardmore on Friday, March 2nd.

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	Current Week	Sep 1, 2011 to Mar 4, 2012		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Inches	Inches	Inches	Percent
Panhandle	61	30	46	0.03	6.00	-0.50	92
West Central	65	38	51	0.02	10.77	-0.02	100
Southwest	67	38	53	0.01	11.37	-0.79	94
North Central	64	35	50	0.05	13.85	2.18	119
Central	66	39	53	0.04	14.17	-2.07	87
South Central	68	42	56	0.01	17.43	-1.35	93
Northeast	66	37	52	0.23	14.85	-3.48	81
East Central	68	40	55	0.12	19.61	-1.99	91
Southeast	70	40	57	0.00	24.82	-0.38	98

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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