



Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office

Cooperating with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

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Weekly Summary for Mar 5-Mar 11

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Rainfall Improved Conditions

The week began with warm and windy weather, but rainfall the second half of the week cooled down temperatures. Every Mesonet station had measurable rainfall for the past week, and precipitation averaged 1.34 inches for the state. The Panhandle district averaged 0.34 of an inch, while Kenton received only a tenth. The highest totals were in the South Central and Southeast districts, with Mt. Herman recording 4.08 inches for the week. While rain in every district aided in the recovery from the past year's drought, the Panhandle was still experiencing blowing topsoil and damage from heavy winds over the past few weeks. High temperatures averaged in the 60s for the week, with a significant change from the first half of the week to the second half. Oklahoma City tied the record warm minimum temperature for March 8th, at 61 degrees on Wednesday morning, then temperatures dropped for the remainder of the week. The percentage of wheat and rye rated good to excellent improved marginally, and more improvement is expected from the rainfall. The moisture not only benefitted small grains already in the ground, but also improved the seedbeds being prepared for spring planting. Topsoil moisture conditions improved significantly over the past week and were rated mostly adequate. The percent rated adequate to surplus increased 21 points to 66 percent. Subsoil moisture improved less dramatically, but 40 percent was rated adequate, up from 30 percent the previous week. There were only 4.7 days suitable for field work, due to multiple days of rain.

Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent

Week Ending Sunday, March 11, 2012

Moisture Rating	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago
Topsoil			
Very Short	7	11	39
Short	27	44	34
Adequate	60	42	26
Surplus	6	3	1
Subsoil			
Very Short	24	32	47
Short	34	36	34
Adequate	40	30	19
Surplus	2	2	0

Small Grains: Conditions of all small grains and canola continued to be rated mostly good, with 12 percent of wheat and 9 percent of canola rated excellent, respectively. **Wheat** jointing was 39 percent complete by Sunday, 17 points ahead of last year, and well ahead of the five-year average. **Canola** blooming has begun, and was seven percent complete by week's end. **Rye** jointing was 41 percent complete, 30 points ahead of the previous year. **Oat** planting continued and was 83 percent complete by the end of the week.

Row Crops: Preparation for spring planting continued, and was ahead of normal for most row crops. **Corn** seedbed preparation was 38 percent complete by the end of the week. **Sorghum** seedbed preparation was 24 percent complete, 11 points ahead of the five-year average. Preparation of **soybean** seedbeds was 21 percent complete by Sunday, 16 points ahead of the previous year. **Peanut** seedbed preparation was seven percent complete, behind normal by nine points; while **cotton** seedbed preparation was 20 percent complete by week's end.

Pasture and Livestock: Pasture and range continued to be rated mostly in poor to very poor condition, though slightly improved from the week prior. Pasture and range lands have been damaged by the continued drought, high winds, and over-grazing and will require significantly more moisture to recover over the coming months. Livestock conditions continued to be rated mostly good to fair. The rainfall of the previous week was not heavy enough in most of the state to yield adequate run-off, so concerns about low pond levels continued among ranchers. The cattle market continued to be strong: prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$164 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$151 per cwt.

Conditions by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, March 11, 2012

Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	1	7	26	54	12
Canola	1	6	31	53	9
Rye	1	5	20	56	18
Oats	0	7	29	54	10
Livestock	7	19	34	36	4
Pasture and Range	34	29	24	11	2

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Crop Progress by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, March 11, 2012

Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago	Five Year Average
Wheat	Jointing	39	22	22	15
Canola	Blooming	7	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rye	Jointing	41	31	11	N/A
Oats	Planted	83	76	N/A	N/A
Corn	Seedbed Prepared	38	26	28	35
Sorghum	Seedbed Prepared	24	17	6	13
Soybeans	Seedbed Prepared	21	11	5	13
Peanuts	Seedbed Prepared	7	N/A	5	16
Cotton	Seedbed Prepared	20	19	13	19

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

Week Ending Sunday, March 11, 2012

Weather for Week Ending March 11, 2012:

Temperatures ranged from 20 degrees at Kenton on Friday, March 9th, to 84 degrees at Beaver on Tuesday, March 6th. Precipitation ranged from 0.34 of an inch in the Panhandle District to 2.47 inches in the Southeast District. Soil temperature averages ranged from 43 degrees at Hooker on Saturday, March 10th, to 62 degrees at Marena, Tipton, and Pauls Valley on Wednesday, March 7th.

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	Current Week	Sep 1, 2011 to Mar 11, 2012		
					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	62	35	48	0.34	6.34	-0.53	92
West Central	64	41	51	0.78	11.55	0.22	102
Southwest	66	42	53	1.49	12.86	0.19	101
North Central	63	39	51	0.90	14.75	2.48	120
Central	66	42	53	1.49	15.65	-1.32	92
South Central	65	44	54	2.05	19.48	-0.11	99
Northeast	65	41	53	1.28	16.13	-3.03	84
East Central	66	42	54	1.22	20.83	-1.70	92
Southeast	66	43	55	2.47	27.29	1.08	104

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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