



Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office

Cooperating with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

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Weekly Summary for Mar 26-Apr 1

Issued April 2, 2012

Warm Conditions Aided Growth

March ended this past week as the warmest March on record with an average temperature of 59.4 degrees, over nine degrees above normal, according to the Oklahoma Climatological Survey. Tulsa and Oklahoma City also broke records for the month of March, with average temperatures of 61.5 and 60.8 degrees, respectively. April began even warmer with a high of 98 degrees recorded at Altus on Sunday. McAlester set two new daily high records for their location this week at 84 degrees Monday and 85 degrees on Sunday the first. High temperatures for the week averaged in the low 80's across the state. Above normal temperatures coupled with the heavy rain from the week prior meant rapid development for crops and pasture in Oklahoma. Pasture and range conditions continued to improve, providing relief to livestock producers. Very little rain fell over the past week with a state average of only six hundredths of an inch. The highest rainfall total was 1.78 inches in Arnett from an isolated storm in northwestern Oklahoma. The majority of Mesonet stations recorded no rainfall. The warm and dry weather allowed for substantial progress in corn planting. Unfortunately the warm conditions were also good for weeds and insects, with minor issues reported. Both topsoil and subsoil moisture conditions were rated mostly adequate. There were 5.4 days suitable for field work.

Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent

Week Ending Sunday, April 1, 2012

Moisture Rating	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago
Topsoil			
Very Short	5	5	57
Short	12	8	29
Adequate	78	64	14
Surplus	5	23	0
Subsoil			
Very Short	15	16	54
Short	29	28	33
Adequate	53	52	13
Surplus	3	4	0

Small Grains: Wheat and canola conditions continued to improve and progress was ahead of normal for most stages. All small grains and canola were rated mostly good, with 22 percent of wheat and 19 percent of canola rated excellent. **Wheat** jointing reached 85 percent complete by Sunday, 20 points ahead of the five-year average. **Canola** blooming was 87 percent complete by week's end, up 18 points from the previous week and 46 points ahead of last year. **Rye** jointing was 86 percent complete by Sunday, six points ahead of normal. **Oat** planting was near completion with 96 percent complete by the end of the week. Oats emerged was 79 percent complete and 26 percent was jointing.

Row Crops: Field preparation for spring crops continued ahead of normal for most crops. **Corn** seedbed preparation was 84 percent complete by the end of the week, 19 points ahead of normal. Corn planting was 28 percent complete, up 19 points from the previous week. **Sorghum** seedbed preparation was 48 percent complete, 20 points ahead of the five-year average. Preparation of **soybean** seedbeds was 26 percent complete by Sunday, just behind normal progress. **Peanut** seedbed preparation was 40 percent complete, and **cotton** seedbed preparation reached 47 percent complete.

Pasture and Livestock: Pasture and range conditions were rated mostly in the good to fair range, with 31 percent rated good. This improvement was the result of recent rainfall and warm and sunny conditions this week. Improvements to stock pond levels were also reported. Improved grazing and water availability benefitted cattle producers. Livestock conditions continued to be rated mostly good to fair. The cattle market continued to be strong: prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$167 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$155 per cwt.

Conditions by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, April 1, 2012

Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	1	5	19	53	22
Canola	1	4	23	53	19
Rye	1	2	19	61	17
Oats	1	2	16	64	17
Livestock	2	13	36	44	5
Pasture and Range	9	19	38	31	3

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Crop Progress by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, April 1, 2012

Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago	Five Year Average
Wheat	Jointing	85	73	70	65
	Headed	9	N/A	N/A	N/A
Canola	Blooming	87	69	41	N/A
Rye	Jointing	86	81	83	80
	Headed	36	16	N/A	N/A
Oats	Planted	96	94	89	96
	Emerged	79	74	N/A	N/A
	Jointing	26	16	20	20
Corn	Seedbed Prepared	84	66	72	65
	Planted	28	9	N/A	N/A
Sorghum	Seedbed Prepared	48	31	45	28
Soybeans	Seedbed Prepared	26	25	27	29
Peanuts	Seedbed Prepared	40	20	51	45
Cotton	Seedbed Prepared	47	45	37	46

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

Week Ending Sunday, April 1, 2012

Weather for Week Ending April 1, 2012:

Temperatures ranged from 38 degrees at Kenton on Friday, March 30th, to 98 degrees at Altus on Sunday, April 1st. Precipitation ranged from less than one hundredth of an inch in the Northeast, Central, East Central and Southeast districts to 0.22 of an inch in the Panhandle district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 58 degrees at Boise City on Wednesday, March 28th, to 75 degrees at Oklahoma City and Ketchum Ranch on Sunday, April 1st.

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	Current Week	March 1, 2012 to April 1, 2012		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Inches	Inches	Inches	Percent
Panhandle	83	50	67	0.22	1.95	0.26	115
West Central	80	58	68	0.03	2.42	-0.07	97
Southwest	81	58	69	0.01	3.49	1.14	149
North Central	82	56	69	0.19	3.11	0.33	112
Central	82	59	70	0.00	4.74	1.39	141
South Central	80	59	69	0.10	5.51	1.83	150
Northeast	83	58	70	0.00	6.24	2.44	164
East Central	81	58	70	0.00	5.98	1.75	141
Southeast	81	56	68	0.00	7.38	2.75	159

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