



Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office
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A combined contribution with Cooperative Extension Service, USDA Farm Service Agency and Oklahoma Mesonet

Volume 35, Number 9

Weekly Summary for Apr 2-Apr 8

Issued April 9, 2012

Wheat Heading Ahead of Normal

Favorable growing conditions this spring have resulted in crop progress that is significantly ahead of normal. Over 40 percent of the wheat crop and almost three-fourths of the rye crop were heading by the end of the week. Virtually the entire canola crop was blooming and corn planting was ahead of normal with a small portion already emerged by Sunday. Additional moisture fell last week and every Mesonet station recorded rainfall. The average rainfall for the state was 0.93 inches. Isolated areas received upwards of two inches, including Hooker in the Panhandle. Two and three inches of rain fell in South Central Oklahoma over the week, resulting in flash flooding at Turner Falls on Sunday. Minor damage from a thunderstorm in southeast Oklahoma on Tuesday was reported and a 51 mph wind gust was recorded by Mesonet at Wilburton during that storm. The additional rainfall continued to lessen the effects of the lingering drought. The April 3rd *Drought Monitor* showed continued improvements with D4 conditions all but gone. The panhandle and far western Oklahoma make up the 18.57 percent of the state still rated moderate to extreme in drought intensity. Subsoil moisture condition ratings showed very little change, with 54 percent rated adequate and 74 percent of topsoil moisture conditions were rated adequate. There were 4.5 days suitable for field work, due to multiple storms and showers during the week.

Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent			
<i>Week Ending Sunday, April 8, 2012</i>			
Moisture Rating	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago
Topsoil			
Very Short	3	5	62
Short	16	12	27
Adequate	74	78	11
Surplus	7	5	0
Subsoil			
Very Short	13	15	58
Short	29	29	32
Adequate	54	53	10
Surplus	4	3	0

Small Grains: Heading of wheat and rye progressed well ahead of normal, due to the favorable spring conditions. Wheat and canola conditions continued to improve; 27 percent of wheat and 23 percent of canola were rated excellent. All small grains were rated mostly good. **Wheat** jointing reached 92 percent complete by Sunday, 12 points ahead of the five-year average. Forty-one percent of wheat was heading by the end of the week, 35 points ahead of last year and the five-year average. **Canola** blooming was virtually complete by week's end, 30 points ahead of last year's crop. **Rye** jointing was 94 percent complete and 73 percent was heading by Sunday, over 60 points ahead of the five-year average. **Oat** emergence was near completion at 96 percent by the end of the week. Oat jointing was 43 percent complete, 12 points ahead of normal.

Row Crops: Field preparation for spring crops continued between rain showers, as did corn planting. **Corn** seedbed preparation was 88 percent complete by the end of the week, 12 points ahead of normal. Corn planting was 31 percent complete, 10 points ahead of last year's crop, and a small portion had emerged by the end of the week. **Sorghum** seedbed preparation was 55 percent complete, 21 points ahead of the five-year average. Preparation of **soybean** seedbeds was 33 percent complete by Sunday, on-track with normal progress. **Peanut** seedbed preparation was slightly behind normal with 47 percent complete. **Cotton** seedbed preparation reached 73 percent complete, ahead of the five-year average.

Pasture and Livestock: Conditions of pasture and range improved from recent rainfall, and new growth was reported. Only 20 percent was rated poor to very poor, down from 28 percent the previous week. Additional moisture and warm temperatures fostered continued growth. Improved grazing availability benefitted cattle producers. Livestock conditions continued to be rated mostly good to fair. Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$161 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$145 per cwt.

Conditions by Percent					
<i>For Week Ending Sunday, April 8, 2012</i>					
Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	0	4	19	50	27
Canola	1	4	19	53	23
Rye	1	2	16	59	22
Oats	1	2	19	60	18
Livestock	2	12	33	45	8
Pasture and Range	6	14	36	38	6

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Crop Progress by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, April 8, 2012

Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago	Five Year Average
Wheat	Jointing	92	85	82	80
	Headed	41	9	6	6
Canola	Blooming	99	87	69	N/A
Rye	Jointing	94	86	92	90
	Headed	73	36	12	11
Oats	Emerging	96	79	N/A	N/A
	Jointing	43	26	25	31
Corn	Seedbed Prepared	88	84	81	76
	Planted	31	28	21	N/A
Sorghum	Seedbed Prepared	55	48	50	34
Soybeans	Seedbed Prepared	33	26	31	33
Peanuts	Seedbed Prepared	47	40	57	53
Cotton	Seedbed Prepared	73	47	43	56

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

Week Ending Sunday, April 8, 2012

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	Current Week	March 1, 2012 to April 8, 2012		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Inches	Inches	Inches	Percent
Panhandle	65	42	53	0.80	2.75	0.63	130
West Central	68	48	58	0.50	2.92	-0.17	94
Southwest	70	51	60	1.01	4.57	1.60	154
North Central	68	49	59	0.55	3.66	0.19	105
Central	69	52	60	0.74	5.48	1.30	131
South Central	72	54	62	2.07	7.58	3.02	166
Northeast	71	52	62	0.66	6.89	2.16	146
East Central	72	53	62	0.63	6.61	1.37	126
Southeast	74	53	64	1.45	8.83	3.15	155

Weather for Week Ending April 8, 2012:

Temperatures ranged from 32 degrees at Beaver on Sunday, April 8th, to 86 degrees at Altus Foraker, Sallisaw, and Stillwater on Monday, April 2nd. Precipitation ranged from 0.5 of an inch in the West Central district to 2.07 inches in the South Central district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 47 degrees at Boise City on Wednesday, April 4th, to 76 degrees at Oklahoma City on Monday, April 2nd.

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