



# Oklahoma Crop Weather

**Oklahoma Field Office**

**Cooperating with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry**

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Weekly Summary for Apr 30-May 6

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## Wheat Harvest Begins

There were a few reports of wheat and canola being harvested over the weekend in southwestern Oklahoma. The extent of the damage to wheat from hail and high winds the past few weeks will be seen as the crop is harvested over the next month. Storms Monday continued from the past Sunday dumping an additional 3.67 inches at Blackwell in Kay County, giving them over 10 inches in two days. A few other storms throughout the week resulted in a statewide average precipitation of 0.74 inches. Although the rainfall the last two months has been close to or above normal, areas of western Oklahoma and the Panhandle have still not recovered adequate soil moisture to overcome the drought. Friday night a severe storm in Tillman and Cotton counties was reported with hail up to baseball size, damaging vehicles, properties, and wheat almost ready for harvest. The Mesonet station at Grandfield recorded a wind gust of 89 mph during that storm. Temperatures were above normal for April, and a high of 106 was recorded at Altus on Sunday. The warm temperatures and windy conditions continued to dry out soil. Topsoil and subsoil moisture conditions were rated mostly adequate, although the amount rated short to very short increased from the previous week. There were 5.7 days suitable for field work.

<b>Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent</b>			
<i>Week Ending Sunday, May 6, 2012</i>			
Moisture Rating	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago
<b>Topsoil</b>			
Very Short	8	5	48
Short	28	17	23
Adequate	57	65	26
Surplus	7	13	3
<b>Subsoil</b>			
Very Short	12	10	55
Short	32	27	24
Adequate	54	62	18
Surplus	2	1	3

**Small Grains:** Conditions continued to be rated mostly good for all small grains, and all stages were ahead of normal with a few reports of wheat harvested over the weekend in far southwestern Oklahoma. **Wheat** heading was virtually complete by the end of the week, and 60 percent of the crop had reached the soft dough stage of development, 41 points ahead of the five-year average. The **canola** crop was 59 percent mature by Sunday, nine points ahead of the previous year. **Rye** in the soft dough stage was 71 percent complete by the end of the week. **Oat** jointing was virtually complete, 65 percent was headed and 16 percent was in the soft dough stage by Sunday.

**Row Crops:** Corn conditions were reported for the first time this season and the crop was rated mostly good. **Corn** planting was 92 percent complete by the end of the week, and 53 percent had emerged. **Sorghum** seedbed preparation was 77 percent complete, and 20 percent was planted by Sunday. **Soybean** seedbed preparation was 68 percent complete by week's end, with 22 percent planted. **Peanut** seedbed preparation was 85 percent complete, and 34 percent of the crop was planted by week's end, 13 points ahead of normal. **Cotton** seedbed preparation was 83 percent complete, and 12 percent was planted by Sunday.

**Watermelon** planting was 73 percent complete by the end of the week, 18 points ahead of the five-year average. Twenty-one percent of the crop was putting out vines by Sunday.

**Hay:** Conditions for both alfalfa and other hay were rated mostly good. Some areas are in need of moisture to improve warm season forage production. Insects continued to be a problem after a mild winter. A first cutting of **alfalfa** hay was 80 percent complete by the end of the week; a first cutting of **other hay** was 41 percent complete, both well ahead of normal.

**Pasture and Livestock:** Pasture and range conditions continued to be rated mostly good to fair. Livestock conditions continued to be rated mostly good. Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$152 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$140 per cwt.

<b>Conditions by Percent</b>					
<i>For Week Ending Sunday, May 6, 2012</i>					
Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	1	3	20	56	20
Canola	1	2	22	54	21
Rye	1	3	18	58	20
Oats	1	2	18	61	18
Corn	0	0	18	71	11
Alfalfa Hay	1	3	27	55	14
Other Hay	1	4	27	54	14
Livestock	0	5	25	56	14
Pasture and Range	2	9	30	49	10

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### Crop Progress by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, May 6, 2012

Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago	Five Year Average
<b>Wheat</b>	Headed	98	97	91	83
	Soft Dough	60	41	27	19
<b>Canola</b>	Mature	59	41	50	N/A
<b>Rye</b>	Soft Dough	71	44	44	N/A
<b>Oats</b>	Jointing	98	89	79	84
	Headed	65	41	33	30
	Soft Dough	16	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Corn</b>	Planted	92	68	87	81
	Emerged	53	40	36	49
<b>Sorghum</b>	Seedbed Prepared	77	68	79	65
	Planted	20	12	12	17
<b>Soybeans</b>	Seedbed Prepared	68	62	62	61
	Planted	22	11	13	17
<b>Peanuts</b>	Seedbed Prepared	85	72	86	87
	Planted	34	14	25	21
<b>Cotton</b>	Seedbed Prepared	83	82	73	82
	Planted	12	N/A	10	7
<b>Alfalfa Hay</b>	1st Cutting	80	59	41	39
<b>Other Hay</b>	1st Cutting	41	29	18	16
<b>Watermelons</b>	Planted	73	57	77	55
	Running	21	N/A	N/A	N/A

### Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

Week Ending Sunday, May 6, 2012

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	Current Week	March 1, 2012 to May 6, 2012		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Inches	Inches	Inches	Percent
Panhandle	88	55	71	0.23	4.56	0.43	110
West Central	91	64	77	0.38	5.54	-0.41	93
Southwest	93	65	79	0.51	7.25	1.36	123
North Central	87	65	75	1.11	9.15	2.59	140
Central	86	67	76	0.67	8.92	1.06	113
South Central	87	67	77	0.38	8.55	0.16	102
Northeast	84	66	75	1.77	12.50	3.77	143
East Central	84	66	75	1.19	9.34	-0.22	98
Southeast	85	66	75	0.45	10.28	0.08	101

#### Weather for Week Ending May 6, 2012:

Temperatures ranged from 43 degrees at Boise City on Tuesday, May 1st, to 106 degrees at Altus on Saturday, May 5th. Precipitation ranged from 0.23 of an inch in the Panhandle district to 1.77 inches in the Northeast district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 63 degrees at Boise City on Monday, April 30th, to 86 degrees at Durant on Sunday, May 6th.

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