



Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office

Cooperating with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

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Weekly Summary for May 21-May 27

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Dry Conditions Persist

The Drought Monitor as of May 22nd showed a significant increase in the area rated as abnormally dry. Over two thirds of the state is now rated as abnormally dry or worse and almost 14 percent of the state is considered to be in a drought, with moderate to extreme conditions. Warm temperatures combined with wind and lack of rainfall to produce the dry conditions. Very little rain was recorded over the past week; however some rain fell in isolated areas of the Panhandle and Southwest districts, with 1.2 inches recorded in Boise City for the week ending Sunday. Wind gusts as strong as 75 mph were recorded at Woodward on Friday, and sustained winds over 40 mph were recorded through northwestern Oklahoma and the Panhandle. The warm and dry conditions continued to aid an early and rapidly progressing harvest of wheat and canola. Row crop planting also made progress and emergence was ahead of normal. Soil moisture conditions declined over the last week: 60 percent of topsoil and 62 percent of subsoil was rated short to very short. None was rated surplus. There were 6.6 days suitable for field work, due to the lack of rainfall.

Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent

Week Ending Sunday, May 27, 2012

Moisture Rating	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago
Topsoil			
Very Short	14	10	27
Short	46	38	26
Adequate	40	50	42
Surplus	0	2	5
Subsoil			
Very Short	19	13	38
Short	43	39	29
Adequate	38	47	30
Surplus	0	1	3

Small Grains: Harvest of all small grains and canola continued significantly ahead of normal, facilitated by warm and dry conditions. The **wheat** harvest was 41 percent complete by Sunday, 31 points ahead of the previous year. The **canola** harvest was 85 percent complete by week's end, more than 70 points ahead of last year. **Rye** harvesting was 31 percent complete. **Oat** heading was 94 percent complete and 76 percent was in the soft dough stage by Sunday. The oat harvest was also well ahead of normal, with 28 percent harvested by week's end.

Row Crops: Planting progress continued on single-cropped acreage. Ninety percent of **corn** had emerged by the end of the week. **Sorghum** seedbed preparation was 93 percent complete by Sunday. Sorghum planting was 52 percent complete, and 25 percent had emerged by the end of the week. **Soybean** seedbed preparation was 89 percent complete by week's end. Soybean planting was 57 percent complete, and 42 percent had emerged by Sunday. **Peanut** planting was 85 percent complete, and 50 percent of the peanut crop had emerged by Sunday. **Cotton** seedbed preparation was 90 percent complete. Half of the cotton crop was planted by Sunday and 32 percent had emerged.

Watermelon planting was virtually complete by the end of the week and 60 percent of the crop was running vines, 29 points ahead of the five-year average. A small portion was already setting fruit.

Hay: Conditions for both alfalfa and other hay declined slightly, but continued to be rated mostly good. The lack of rainfall has limited production in some areas, but cutting continued ahead of normal overall. A first cutting of **alfalfa** hay was virtually complete by the end of the week, and a second cutting has 24 percent complete. A first cutting of **other hay** was 72 percent complete, 35 points ahead of the five-year average.

Pasture and Livestock: Pasture and range conditions were rated mostly good, but worsened slightly from the previous week. Ranchers in the Panhandle were reporting a lack of available pasture, and other areas of the state reported slowed growth of grasses. Livestock conditions continued to be rated mostly good. Prices for feeder steers and heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$157 and \$145 per cwt, respectively.

Conditions by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, May 27, 2012

Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	2	6	19	55	18
Rye	2	3	15	62	18
Oats	1	4	20	56	19
Corn	0	0	20	74	6
Alfalfa Hay	1	3	34	50	12
Other Hay	1	3	31	52	13
Livestock	1	4	26	59	10
Pasture and Range	4	9	32	51	4

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Crop Progress by Percent					
<i>For Week Ending Sunday, May 27, 2012</i>					
Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago	Five Year Average
Wheat	Harvested	41	14	10	N/A
Canola	Harvested	85	56	14	N/A
Rye	Harvested	31	6	N/A	N/A
Oats	Headed	94	89	85	79
	Soft Dough	76	58	51	45
	Harvested	28	8	N/A	N/A
Corn	Emerged	90	78	79	88
Sorghum	Seedbed Prepared	93	89	90	81
	Planted	52	41	49	40
	Emerged	25	18	14	N/A
Soybeans	Seedbed Prepared	89	84	79	77
	Planted	57	46	36	39
	Emerged	42	29	19	N/A
Peanuts	Planted	85	69	72	72
	Emerged	50	36	36	43
Cotton	Seedbed Prepared	90	88	100	97
	Planted	50	36	28	44
	Emerged	32	20	N/A	N/A
Alfalfa Hay	1st Cutting	97	94	77	79
	2nd Cutting	24	14	N/A	6
Other Hay	1st Cutting	72	62	30	37
	Planted	100	88	95	84
Watermelons	Running	60	58	27	31
	Setting Fruit	5	N/A	N/A	N/A

Weather for Week Ending May 27, 2012:

Temperatures ranged from 43 degrees at Bristow on Tuesday, May 22nd, to 103 degrees at Beaver on Friday, May 25th. Precipitation ranged from less than one hundredth of an inch in the East Central and Northeast districts to 0.21 of an inch in the Southwest district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 69 degrees at Boise City on Monday, May 21st, to 89 degrees at Burneyville on Friday, May 25th.

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data							
<i>Week Ending Sunday, May 27, 2012</i>							
District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	Current Week	March 1, 2012 to May 27, 2012		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Inches	Inches	Inches	Percent
Panhandle	92	61	77	0.20	4.98	-1.44	78
West Central	90	67	78	0.18	7.05	-2.22	76
Southwest	92	68	79	0.21	9.20	-0.06	99
North Central	90	66	78	0.04	9.28	-0.47	95
Central	88	67	77	0.17	10.45	-1.22	90
South Central	89	66	78	0.01	10.08	-2.11	83
Northeast	86	64	76	0.00	12.75	0.31	102
East Central	87	64	76	0.00	10.05	-3.50	74
Southeast	88	63	76	0.01	11.86	-2.65	82

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