



Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office

Cooperating with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

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Weekly Summary for Jul 9-Jul 15

Issued July 16, 2012

Drought Conditions Expanding

Another week of hot and dry weather with a few localized showers did little to slow expanding drought conditions. The highest rainfall amount recorded during the week was 4.46 inches at Minco. Altus, Oklahoma recorded its 26 day over the century mark. The July 10th Drought Monitor showed 28 percent of the land in the state now categorized in severe drought compared with 11 percent the previous week, and the percentage of land moving into extreme drought increased by three points to 11 percent of the state. Despite the increasingly dry conditions, most crops were rated in fair to good condition, but continue to decline. In some parts of the state producers began to feed hay or were selling cattle early as pastures were grazed off. The North Central part of the state reported high grasshopper and tick levels. Topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies were rated mostly short to very short. There were 6.3 days suitable for field work.

Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent			
<i>Week Ending Sunday, July 15, 2012</i>			
Moisture Rating	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago
Topsoil			
Very Short	46	48	82
Short	45	46	16
Adequate	9	6	2
Surplus	0	0	0
Subsoil			
Very Short	45	41	75
Short	44	45	22
Adequate	11	14	3
Surplus	0	0	0

Small Grains: Farmers continued to plow small grain fields with **wheat** and **oats** passing the 80 percent complete mark, and **rye** reaching 77 percent complete.

Row Crops: All row crops were rated in mostly fair to good condition, but continued to slip with increasingly dry conditions. Isolated showers provided only limited relief and reporters were noticing some variation in their counties as a result. Crop development was slowing with the dry conditions. The North Central district reported that grain **sorghum** and **soybeans** have a high degree of variation in stand appearance, and that the later planted stands may still do well if rain is received in the next week.

Corn silking reached 76 percent complete by week's end and 39 percent of the crop had reached the dough stage. **Sorghum** headed reached 32 percent and seven percent was beginning to color. **Soybean** blooming was 29 percent complete by Sunday, four points behind last year, but two points ahead of average. **Peanut** pegging progressed rapidly with 61 percent completed by week's end, a 22 percent gain during the week, but lagging the five-year average pace of 72 percent. **Cotton** squaring increased 12 points to 52 percent complete, and was slightly behind the five-year average of 55 percent. Cotton setting bolls was on the normal pace at nine percent.

Miscellaneous crops: The pace of the **watermelon** harvest was increasing with 36 percent of the crop reported harvested compared with 18 percent the previous week and the five-year average of 27 percent by this date.

Hay: **Alfalfa** condition ratings slipped another two points this week with 77 percent of the crop rated in fair to good condition. **Other hay** condition ratings were unchanged at 70 percent in fair to good condition. The third cutting of alfalfa increased 19 points to 70 percent completed and outpaced the five-year average of 40 percent completed. The second cutting of other hay reached 21 percent complete, and was ahead of the normal pace of seven percent.

Pasture and Livestock: Pasture and range condition ratings were down slightly with 62 percent rated in fair to good condition compared with 63 percent the previous week. Some areas were beginning to supplement hay or sell cattle early as pastures were grazed off. Livestock condition ratings were holding steady with 89 percent rated fair to good compared to 90 percent the previous week, and much better than the 71 percent rating last year at this time. Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$142 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$134 per cwt.

Conditions by Percent					
<i>For Week Ending Sunday, July 15, 2012</i>					
Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	4	16	42	37	1
Sorghum	2	21	44	33	0
Soybeans	5	24	50	21	0
Peanuts	0	2	19	74	5
Cotton	2	10	44	43	1
Alfalfa Hay	3	21	50	25	1
Other Hay	4	24	45	25	2
Livestock	0	6	38	51	5
Pasture and Range	10	28	47	15	0

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Crop Progress by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, July 15, 2012

Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago	Five Year Average
Wheat	Plowed	82	75	74	60
Rye	Plowed	77	74	67	59
Oats	Plowed	80	77	71	60
Corn	Silking	76	64	92	77
	Dough	39	32	37	30
Sorghum	Headed	32	21	27	17
	Coloring	7	N/A	N/A	N/A
Soybeans	Blooming	29	17	33	27
Peanuts	Pegging	61	39	68	72
Cotton	Squaring	52	40	27	55
	Setting Bolls	9	6	N/A	9
Alfalfa Hay	3rd Cutting	70	51	13	40
Other Hay	1st Cutting	95	92	79	78
	2nd Cutting	21	18	N/A	7
Watermelons	Harvested	36	18	38	27

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

Week Ending Sunday, July 15, 2012

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	Current Week	March 1, 2012 to July 15, 2012		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Inches	Inches	Inches	Percent
Panhandle	92	66	79	0.56	8.06	-2.94	73
West Central	96	69	82	0.38	9.56	-5.23	65
Southwest	96	70	82	0.73	13.33	-1.78	88
North Central	97	69	83	0.23	12.34	-3.40	78
Central	96	69	82	0.52	14.46	-3.76	79
South Central	94	69	80	0.37	14.75	-4.03	79
Northeast	97	68	81	0.20	17.68	-1.62	92
East Central	95	68	80	0.36	14.04	-6.57	68
Southeast	92	69	78	1.46	16.55	-5.21	76

Weather for Week Ending July 15, 2012:

Temperatures ranged from 57 degrees at Camargo on Thursday, July 12th, to 103 degrees at Fairview on Saturday, July 14th. Precipitation ranged from 0.2 of an inch in the Northeast district to 1.46 inches in the Southeast district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 75 degrees at Boise City on Monday, July 9th, to 94 degrees at Burneyville and Fort Cobb on Saturday, July 14th.

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