



# Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office  
Cooperating with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry  
P.O. Box 528804 · Oklahoma City, OK 73152-8804  
(405) 522-6190 · FAX (405) 528-2296 · [www.nass.usda.gov/ok](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ok)

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

Volume 35, Number 24

Weekly Summary for Jul 16-Jul 22

Issued July 23, 2012

## Record Heat and Parched Conditions

Four Oklahoma cities broke temperature records this past week and another four tied temperature records. The increasingly dry conditions prompted state officials to extend a burn ban to 31 counties. Scattered storms brought some limited relief to areas in the North Central and Eastern parts of the state, but the rest of the state remained mostly dry. Crop condition ratings dropped faster this week with the intense heat than the previous week. Reports of pastures going dormant, stock water supplies drying up, and early cattle sales were common last week. A report of irrigation not being able to keep up in the Southwest, and another of weakening wells was also reported. Positive reports on early planted corn and milo prospects were received, however there was an increasing concern about the condition of double crops and anything planted late. Topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies dropped rapidly, with 62 percent of topsoil and 53 percent of subsoil being rated very short by week's end. There were 6.7 days suitable for field work.

<b>Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent</b>			
<i>Week Ending Sunday, July 22, 2012</i>			
Moisture Rating	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago
<b>Topsoil</b>			
Very Short	62	46	87
Short	34	45	12
Adequate	4	9	1
Surplus	0	0	0
<b>Subsoil</b>			
Very Short	53	45	82
Short	40	44	16
Adequate	7	11	2
Surplus	0	0	0

**Small Grains:** Plowing of small grain fields slowed down last week with **wheat** plowed only increasing one point to 83 percent complete. **Rye** plowed was 80 percent complete, up three points from the previous week. **Oats** plowed was 85 percent complete, up five points from the previous week.

**Row Crops:** Conditions of all row crops continued to decline over the past week under the parched conditions. **Corn** silking reached 87 percent complete by week's end. Sixty-seven percent of corn reached the dough stage, an increase of 28 points. Corn dented was rated at 26 percent complete, well ahead of normal for this week of the year. **Sorghum** headed reached 46 percent complete compared to 32 percent last week, and the five-year average of 28 percent. Sorghum coloring reached 18 percent, up 11 points from the previous week. **Soybean** blooming was 42 percent complete, close to the five-year average of 41 percent, and setting pods were rated at eight percent complete. **Peanuts** development continued to progress with 76 percent pegging, up 15 points from the previous week. Peanuts setting pods reached 13 percent complete by Sunday. **Cotton** squaring was rated at 60 percent by week's end, and 16 percent of the crop was setting bolls.

**Miscellaneous crops:** Watermelon's harvested was nearing the halfway mark with 46 percent of the crop reported harvested by week's end.

**Hay:** Conditions ratings for all hay continued to worsen with the majority of alfalfa and other hay now rated fair to poor. The third cutting of **alfalfa** was 76 percent complete, advancing six points from the previous week. The second cutting of **other hay** increased 16 points to 37 percent complete.

**Pasture and livestock:** Pasture and range conditions continued to slide with several reports of pastures going dormant and early selling of livestock. Stock water supplies were becoming a concern. Eighteen percent of Oklahoma's range and pasture were rated in very poor condition, with 90 percent of the state rated less than good. Despite the deteriorating conditions the majority of livestock were rated in the fair to good condition. Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$136 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$128 per cwt.

<b>Conditions by Percent</b>					
<i>For Week Ending Sunday, July 22, 2012</i>					
Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	9	19	36	35	1
Sorghum	8	24	45	23	0
Soybeans	10	28	44	18	0
Peanuts	0	5	26	69	0
Cotton	2	17	56	25	0
Alfalfa Hay	9	29	41	21	0
Other Hay	8	33	43	14	2
Livestock	2	9	45	40	4
Pasture and Range	18	34	38	10	0

-over-

### Crop Progress by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, July 22, 2012

Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago	Five Year Average
Wheat	Plowed	83	82	77	69
Rye	Plowed	80	77	76	70
Oats	Plowed	85	80	76	70
Corn	Silking	87	76	95	85
	Dough	67	39	59	48
	Dent	26	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sorghum	Headed	46	32	41	28
	Coloring	18	7	N/A	N/A
Soybeans	Blooming	42	29	48	41
	Setting Pods	8	N/A	5	5
Peanuts	Pegging	76	61	84	81
	Setting Pods	13	N/A	14	37
Cotton	Squaring	60	52	40	64
	Setting Bolls	16	9	N/A	17
Alfalfa Hay	3rd Cutting	76	70	16	54
Other Hay	2nd Cutting	37	21	8	11
Watermelons	Harvested	46	36	53	42

### Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

Week Ending Sunday, July 22, 2012

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	Current Week	March 1, 2012 to July 22, 2012		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Inches	Inches	Inches	Percent
Panhandle	101	69	86	0.08	8.14	-3.43	70
West Central	103	72	88	0.01	9.57	-5.70	63
Southwest	102	73	88	0.00	13.33	-2.27	85
North Central	104	72	88	0.12	12.46	-3.95	76
Central	102	74	88	0.01	14.46	-4.33	77
South Central	100	73	87	0.01	14.76	-4.60	76
Northeast	102	72	87	0.09	17.77	-2.25	89
East Central	101	73	87	0.11	14.15	-7.13	66
Southeast	99	72	86	0.00	16.55	-6.02	73

#### Weather for Week Ending July 22, 2012:

Temperatures ranged from 61 degrees at Oilton on Saturday, July 21st, to 111 degrees at Grandfield on Saturday, July 21st. Precipitation ranged from none reported in the Southeast and Southwest districts to 0.12 of an inch in the North Central district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 81 degrees at Tahlequah on Monday, July 16th, to 98 degrees at Oklahoma City on Friday, July 20th.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

USDA-NASS  
Oklahoma Field Office  
PO Box 528804  
Oklahoma City, OK 73152-8804

