



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

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Weekly Summary for Jul 23-Jul 29

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Crop and Pasture Conditions Worsen

Temperatures continued to soar across Oklahoma: the average temperature for each of the nine climate districts ranged from 85 to 90 degrees, with average highs from 99 to 104 degrees. Inola recorded 110 degrees on Sunday, which was the warmest day of the year statewide, per Mesonet data. The heat continued to damage pasture land and combined with the lack of rain has further depleted livestock water sources. Row crop conditions continued to decline with only peanuts rated mostly good. Substantial rains fell in northwest and southeast Oklahoma this week. The Idabel Mesonet site measured 4.17 inches of rain. Close to half of the Mesonet stations received no rainfall this week and according to OCS there are three Oklahoma stations that have received no measurable rainfall for the month of July to date. The US Drought Monitor for July 24th showed half of the state in an extreme to exceptional drought. Most of Ellis County is rated with exceptional (D4) drought, the worst rating available. More burn bans have been issued due to the rising fire danger, and fires burned thousands of acres in Kiowa and Pottawatomie Counties, among others. Topsoil and subsoil moisture conditions declined further, despite rain in some areas. There were 6.5 days suitable for field work.

Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent			
<i>Week Ending Sunday, July 29, 2012</i>			
Moisture Rating	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago
Topsoil			
Very Short	71	62	87
Short	25	34	13
Adequate	4	4	0
Surplus	0	0	0
Subsoil			
Very Short	64	53	83
Short	32	40	16
Adequate	4	7	1
Surplus	0	0	0

Small Grains: Plowing of small grain fields was still ahead of normal progress this year. Plowing of **wheat** ground was 88 percent complete, 10 points ahead of the five-year average. **Rye** ground plowed was 82 percent complete, and plowing of **oats** was 88 percent complete.

Row Crops: Condition ratings continued to fall for all row crops except peanuts. **Corn** silking reached 90 percent complete and 72 percent had reached the dough stage by Sunday. Corn dent was reported in 49 percent of the crop while 24 percent was mature, ahead of normal progress. **Sorghum** headed reached 48 percent complete and 26 percent was coloring, 16 points ahead of the five-year average. **Soybeans** blooming reached 55 percent complete and 19 percent of the crop was setting pods by week's end, 10 points ahead of last year. **Peanuts** pegging was 92 percent complete and 41 percent of peanuts were setting pods, just under normal, but 14 points ahead of the year prior. **Cotton** squaring was 71 percent complete by the end of the week and 26 percent of the crop was setting bolls, on track with the five-year average.

The **watermelon** harvest progressed rapidly and was 80 percent complete by week's end, 27 points ahead of normal.

Hay: Conditions ratings for hay continued to decline, mostly rated fair to poor, with 16 percent rated very poor. Production is uncertain and the demand for hay is high, due to the limited grazing available. The third cutting of **alfalfa** was 77 percent complete, still ahead of the five-year average. A fourth cutting of alfalfa has begun in limited areas and was eight percent complete by Sunday. The second cutting of **other hay** reached 39 percent complete, 21 points ahead of normal and 28 points ahead of the previous year.

Pasture and Livestock: Pasture and range conditions continued to worsen with 64 percent rated poor to very poor and only eight percent of the state rated as good. The lack of grasses and forage led to more supplemental feeding and haying among livestock producers. Stock pond levels continued to decline adding to livestock producer woes. Livestock condition ratings declined slightly and were still rated mostly good to fair. There were reports of increased culling and liquidating herds due to the deteriorating conditions. Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$136 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$127 per cwt.

Conditions by Percent					
<i>For Week Ending Sunday, July 29, 2012</i>					
Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	14	21	30	34	1
Sorghum	15	27	38	20	0
Soybeans	19	35	32	14	0
Peanuts	1	4	24	66	5
Cotton	5	25	51	19	0
Alfalfa Hay	16	40	30	13	1
Other Hay	16	42	31	9	2
Livestock	2	11	46	38	3
Pasture and Range	24	40	28	8	0

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Crop Progress by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, July 29, 2012

Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago	Five Year Average
Wheat	Plowed	88	83	79	78
Rye	Plowed	82	80	80	79
Oats	Plowed	88	85	79	80
Corn	Silking	90	87	99	94
	Dough	72	67	83	68
	Dent	49	26	32	21
Sorghum	Mature	24	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Headed	48	46	47	37
	Coloring	26	18	20	10
Soybeans	Blooming	55	42	54	51
	Setting Pods	19	8	9	14
Peanuts	Pegging	92	76	90	88
	Setting Pods	41	13	27	45
Cotton	Squaring	71	60	46	70
	Setting Bolls	26	16	6	26
Alfalfa Hay	3rd Cutting	77	76	21	66
	4th Cutting	8	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Hay	2nd Cutting	39	37	11	18
Watermelons	Harvested	80	46	66	53

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

Week Ending Sunday, July 29, 2012

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	Current Week	March 1, 2012 to July 29, 2012		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Inches	Inches	Inches	Percent
Panhandle	100	70	86	0.33	8.48	-3.66	70
West Central	102	75	89	0.01	9.58	-6.18	61
Southwest	102	75	89	0.02	13.35	-2.75	83
North Central	104	76	90	0.16	12.63	-4.46	74
Central	103	77	90	0.03	14.49	-4.88	75
South Central	101	75	88	0.17	14.93	-5.00	75
Northeast	103	75	89	0.04	17.81	-2.92	86
East Central	102	75	88	0.58	14.73	-7.23	67
Southeast	99	73	85	1.77	18.33	-5.05	78

Weather for Week Ending July 29, 2012:

Temperatures ranged from 61 degrees at Boise City on Friday, July 27th, to 110 degrees at Inola on Sunday, July 29th. Precipitation ranged from 0.01 of an inch in the West Central district to 1.77 inches in the Southeast district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 84 degrees at May Ranch on Thursday, July 26th, and at Boise City, Mt Herman, and Tahlequah, on Friday, July 27th, to 98 degrees at Oklahoma City on Sunday, July 29th.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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