



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

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

Volume 35, Number 26

Weekly Summary for Jul 30-Aug 5

Issued August 6, 2012

Devastating Wildfires and Brutal Heat

A statewide burn ban was issued by Governor Fallin on Friday, due to the severity of the dry conditions in the state. Wildfires burned throughout the weekend across Oklahoma including fires in Creek, Cleveland, Grady and Oklahoma counties. The extent of the damage is still being counted but many acres, homes and other structures were destroyed, and at least one life was lost. A few showers across the northern third of Oklahoma Saturday alleviated fires in some counties, but most of the state was without precipitation. Records were set across the state as brutally hot temperatures were recorded last week. Oklahoma City recorded a high of 113 on Friday, tying the all-time maximum temperature for Oklahoma City. The high for the week was 115 degrees in Kingfisher, and highs averaged 100 degrees or more in all districts. The most recent Drought Monitor shows 71.6 percent of the state is in an extreme to exceptional drought, the worst since last November. Livestock producers were selling cattle, as the unabated heat dried up grasses and water sources. Crop conditions continued to decline. Ninety-eight percent of topsoil and subsoil moisture conditions were rated as short to very short. There were 6.5 days suitable for field work.

Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent			
<i>Week Ending Sunday, August 5, 2012</i>			
Moisture Rating	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago
Topsoil			
Very Short	81	71	89
Short	17	25	11
Adequate	2	4	0
Surplus	0	0	0
Subsoil			
Very Short	74	64	87
Short	24	32	13
Adequate	2	4	0
Surplus	0	0	0

Small Grains: Little to no progress was made in small grain fields, which were too dry to plow. Plowing of **wheat** ground was 89 percent complete, six points ahead of the five-year average. **Rye** ground plowed was 83 percent complete, and plowing of **oats** was 89 percent complete.

Row Crops: A very early corn harvest began, but problems with aflatoxin were reported. **Corn** silking was virtually complete and 79 percent had reached the dough stage by Sunday. Corn dent was reported in 56 percent of the crop while 36 percent was mature, 24 points ahead of normal progress. The corn harvest was 15 percent complete by the end of the week. **Sorghum** headed reached 58 percent complete and 31 percent was coloring, 16 points ahead of the five-year average. **Soybeans** blooming reached 62 percent complete and 26 percent of the crop was setting pods by week's end. **Peanuts** pegging was 95 percent complete and 54 percent of peanut plants were setting pods. **Cotton** squaring was 84 percent complete by the end of the week and 38 percent of the crop was setting bolls.

The **watermelon** harvest was 82 percent complete by week's end, 17 points ahead of normal.

Hay: Progress in hay cuttings was made, despite the drought conditions, and some row crops were reported as cut for hay. Condition ratings for hay continued to decline, with 66 percent of alfalfa and 67 percent of other hay rated poor to very poor. The third cutting of **alfalfa** was 85 percent complete, still ahead of the five-year average. A fourth cutting of alfalfa was 13 percent complete by Sunday, eight points behind normal. The second cutting of **other hay** reached 46 percent complete, 23 points ahead of normal.

Conditions by Percent					
<i>For Week Ending Sunday, August 5, 2012</i>					
Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	14	22	33	30	1
Sorghum	20	31	32	17	0
Soybeans	20	32	37	11	0
Peanuts	2	5	26	64	3
Cotton	10	35	41	14	0
Alfalfa Hay	22	44	23	10	1
Other Hay	28	39	26	6	1
Livestock	3	15	47	33	2
Pasture and Range	38	38	20	4	0

Pasture and Livestock: Over three fourths of pasture and range land were rated as poor to very poor. Heat, drought and grasshoppers all contributed to more cattle being sold and more supplemental feeding and haying among livestock producers. Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$137 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$129 per cwt.

-over-

Crop Progress by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, August 5, 2012

Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago	Five Year Average
Wheat	Plowed	89	88	81	83
Rye	Plowed	83	82	82	82
Oats	Plowed	89	88	81	85
Corn	Silking	98	90	100	97
	Dough	79	72	91	81
	Dent	56	49	51	N/A
	Mature	36	24	24	12
	Harvested	15	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sorghum	Headed	58	48	53	47
	Coloring	31	26	28	15
Soybeans	Blooming	62	55	61	61
	Setting Pods	26	19	21	25
Peanuts	Pegging	95	92	93	92
	Setting Pods	54	41	37	52
Cotton	Squaring	84	71	58	81
	Setting Bolls	38	26	11	34
Alfalfa Hay	3rd Cutting	85	77	28	75
	4th Cutting	13	8	N/A	21
Other Hay	2nd Cutting	46	39	13	23
Watermelons	Harvested	82	80	82	65

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

Week Ending Sunday, August 5, 2012

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	Current Week	March 1, 2012 to August 5, 2012		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Inches	Inches	Inches	Percent
Panhandle	100	70	85	0.19	8.66	-4.04	68
West Central	108	76	93	0.00	9.58	-6.75	59
Southwest	108	76	93	0.00	13.36	-3.31	80
North Central	106	76	91	0.41	13.04	-4.73	73
Central	108	80	94	0.01	14.50	-5.46	73
South Central	106	77	92	0.00	14.93	-5.57	73
Northeast	107	77	92	0.42	18.23	-3.21	85
East Central	106	79	93	0.00	14.73	-7.88	65
Southeast	102	74	88	0.06	18.39	-5.66	76

Weather for Week Ending August 5, 2012:

Temperatures ranged from 57 degrees at Boise City on Sunday, August 5th, to 115 degrees at Kingfisher on Wednesday, August 1st. Precipitation ranged from less than one hundredth of an inch in the East Central, South Central, Southwest, and West Central districts to 0.42 of an inch in the Northeast district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 80 degrees at Boise City Sunday, August 5th, to 102 degrees at Oklahoma City on Thursday, August 2nd.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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

