



Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office

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Weekly Summary for Feb 25 - Mar 3, 2013

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Blizzard Brought Needed Moisture

A much anticipated storm system rolled through Oklahoma February 24-26. It brought blizzard conditions and snow totals from 12-18 inches in northwestern Oklahoma. Thousands of people were without power and highways were closed due to blowing snow. Most of the state received some snow, but southern and eastern Oklahoma received mostly rainfall, without the hazardous conditions and freezing temperatures. The U.S. Drought Monitor showed significant improvements from the snow cover and rain received the last two weeks. The entire state is still in a severe to exceptional drought, but the portion of the state rated with exceptional drought fell from 41.6 percent the week prior, down to 11.8 percent as of February 26th. The drought actually worsened in Cimarron County, however, which missed the moisture from the last storm. Precipitation totals from the week ending Sunday averaged just under an inch for the state and as high as 1.41 inches in the North Central district. The cooler temperatures in northwestern Oklahoma have allowed the snow to melt slowly, so all moisture has not yet been recorded. Small grain and canola conditions showed improvements from the recent moisture. However, these improvements may be short-lived without reinforcing precipitation. This February ended as the 13th wettest February on record according to the Oklahoma Mesonet. However, precipitation since September 1st was still below normal in all districts. Topsoil moisture conditions continued to improve and were rated 60 percent adequate, up from 43 percent adequate the previous week. Subsoil moisture conditions also improved, but were still rated mostly short to very short with just 12 percent of the state rated as adequate. There were only 3.5 days suitable for fieldwork on average across the state, due to the heavy snow.

Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent			
Week Ending Sunday, March 3, 2013			
Moisture Rating	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago
Topsoil			
Very Short	15	24	11
Short	20	31	42
Adequate	60	43	44
Surplus	5	2	3
Subsoil			
Very Short	49	66	32
Short	39	25	35
Adequate	12	9	31
Surplus	0	0	2

Small Grains: Conditions for all small grains and canola improved from the previous week. Wheat, canola and oats were rated mostly fair to poor, while rye was rated mostly good to fair. The **wheat** crop has begun jointing, with 11 percent complete by Sunday, compared to 22 percent complete this time last year. **Oat** planting continued with spring oats and was 70 percent complete by the end of the week.

Row Crops: Seedbed preparation has begun for row crops in some areas, though progress has been limited by multiple snow storms over several weeks. **Corn** seedbed preparation was complete on one quarter of the acres and **sorghum** seedbed preparation was 15 percent complete by Sunday. **Soybean** seedbed preparation was only five percent complete by week's end, six points below the previous year. Seedbed preparation of **cotton** was 24 percent complete by the end of the week.

Pasture and Livestock: Conditions of pasture and range improved only slightly and continued to be rated mostly poor to very poor. Though topsoil moisture had improved, low temperatures for most of the week did not allow for much growth. Livestock conditions were still rated mostly good to fair as operators continued to supplement and feed hay to herds. Stock pond and creek levels benefitted from the storms, but run-off was limited in some areas and remains a concern for livestock operators.

Conditions by Percent					
For Week Ending Sunday, March 3, 2013					
Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Wheat	18	29	37	15	1
Canola	27	29	32	12	0
Rye	21	21	34	22	2
Oats	23	24	35	16	2
Livestock	5	18	45	28	4
Pasture and Range	45	32	19	4	0

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Crop Progress by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, March 3, 2013

Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago	Five Year Average
Wheat	Jointing	11	N/A	22	N/A
Oats	Planted	70	N/A	76	N/A
Corn	Seedbed Prepared	25	N/A	26	N/A
Sorghum	Seedbed Prepared	15	N/A	17	N/A
Soybeans	Seedbed Prepared	5	N/A	11	N/A
Cotton	Seedbed Prepared	24	N/A	19	N/A

Weather for Week Ending March 3, 2013:

Temperatures ranged from 14 degrees at Goodwell on Tuesday, February 26th, and at Cherokee on Saturday, March 2nd, to 82 degrees at Hollis on Sunday, March 3rd.

Precipitation ranged from 0.2 of an inch in the Panhandle district to 1.41 inches in the North Central district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 33 degrees at Beaver on Wednesday, February 27th, at Weatherford on Saturday, March 2nd, and at Freedom on Sunday, March 3rd, to 50 degrees at Waurika on Sunday, March 3rd.

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

Week Ending Sunday, March 3, 2013

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	Current Week	September 1, 2012 to March 3, 2013		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Inches	Inches	Inches	Percent
Panhandle	49	24	36	0.20	4.95	-1.49	77
West Central	48	26	37	1.37	9.21	-1.50	86
Southwest	53	28	39	0.93	8.36	-3.73	69
North Central	43	24	33	1.41	7.58	-4.00	65
Central	50	28	38	1.33	10.92	-5.22	68
South Central	54	30	41	0.49	11.29	-7.39	60
Northeast	44	29	36	1.23	12.24	-5.97	67
East Central	48	30	38	0.98	13.97	-7.49	65
Southeast	53	30	41	0.58	14.88	-10.17	59