



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 36, Number 5

Weekly Summary for Mar 11-Mar 17

Issued March 18, 2013

Crop Conditions Improving

Wheat was rated mostly good to fair, with 37 percent rated poor to very poor. Canola condition ratings also improved, but were still rated mostly fair to poor. Only a few showers fell in Oklahoma over the past week, mainly in eastern Oklahoma. March is off to a dry start, and six of the nine districts have received less than half of normal precipitation for the period since March 1st. Temperatures warmed up the second half of the week to springtime highs averaging in the 70's. Warmer weather encouraged growth of grasses and pasture. However, higher temperatures and winds in western Oklahoma resulted in losing some topsoil moisture. The March 12th Drought Monitor showed improvements to drought conditions, although the entire state was still rated moderate drought or higher. Parts of eastern Oklahoma were downgraded from severe to moderate drought. Topsoil moisture conditions continued to be rated mostly adequate, but the percentage rated short increased to 32 percent. Subsoil moisture conditions were still rated mostly short to very short with 14 percent of the state rated as adequate. There were six days suitable for fieldwork on average across the state.

Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent			
<i>Week Ending Sunday, March 17, 2013</i>			
Moisture Rating	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago
Topsoil			
Very Short	14	14	7
Short	32	27	26
Adequate	53	57	63
Surplus	1	2	4
Subsoil			
Very Short	44	46	28
Short	42	42	31
Adequate	14	12	40
Surplus	0	0	1

Small Grains: Condition ratings for all small grains and canola continued to improve. Wheat, rye and oats were rated mostly good to fair, while canola was rated mostly fair to poor. **Wheat** jointing was 31 percent complete by Sunday, on track with the five-year average. **Rye** jointing was 35 percent complete eight points behind of normal progress. **Oat** planting continued with spring oats and was 76 percent complete by the end of the week, seven points behind the five-year average.

Row Crops: Seedbed preparation was behind normal for most crops, as many producers are still waiting to make planting decisions. **Corn** seedbed preparation was 42 percent complete by the end of the week. **Sorghum** seedbed preparation was 23 percent complete by Sunday, six points ahead of the five-year average. **Soybean** seedbed preparation was 13 percent complete by week's end, and **cotton** seedbed preparation was 26 percent complete, both behind normal. **Peanut** seedbed preparation was five percent complete, 18 points behind the five-year average.

Pasture and Livestock: Conditions of pasture and range improved slightly, but continued to be rated mostly poor to very poor. The recent moisture and warm temperatures have allowed for some recovery, but the availability of pasture was still limited. Stock pond levels have improved somewhat but water is still a major issue as summer approaches. Livestock conditions were still rated mostly good to fair.

Conditions by Percent					
<i>For Week Ending Sunday, March 17, 2013</i>					
Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Wheat	15	22	39	23	1
Canola	22	29	27	21	1
Rye	18	16	32	31	3
Oats	11	19	41	27	2
Livestock	4	16	43	33	4
Pasture and Range	39	34	22	5	0

-over-

Crop Progress by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, March 17, 2013

Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago	Five Year Average
Wheat	Jointing	31	21	51	30
Rye	Jointing	35	27	63	43
Oats	Planted	76	72	90	83
Corn	Seedbed Prepared	42	28	52	44
Sorghum	Seedbed Prepared	23	16	28	17
Soybeans	Seedbed Prepared	13	10	23	17
Peanuts	Seedbed Prepared	5	N/A	16	23
Cotton	Seedbed Prepared	26	25	40	32

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

Week Ending Sunday, March 17, 2013

Weather for Week Ending March 17, 2013:

Temperatures ranged from 18 degrees at Hooker on Monday, March 11th, to 88 degrees at Alva, Beaver and Hollis on Friday, March 15th. Precipitation ranged from less than one hundredth of an inch in the Central, Panhandle, South Central, Southwest and West Central districts to 0.11 of an inch in the East Central district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 40 degrees at Foraker and May Ranch on Monday, March 11th, to 65 degrees at Sulphur on Saturday, March 16th.

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	Current Week	March 1, 2013 to March 17, 2013		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Inches	Inches	Inches	Percent
Panhandle	67	32	49	0.00	0.41	-0.48	46
West Central	66	35	50	0.00	0.26	-1.06	20
Southwest	68	37	52	0.00	0.26	-0.98	21
North Central	64	35	49	0.01	0.83	-0.64	56
Central	66	38	52	0.00	0.36	-1.42	20
South Central	69	41	55	0.00	0.79	-1.15	41
Northeast	62	36	49	0.06	0.66	-1.36	33
East Central	65	39	52	0.11	1.51	-0.74	67
Southeast	69	38	54	0.03	1.91	-0.54	78