



# Oklahoma Crop Weather

**Oklahoma Field Office**

**Cooperating with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry**

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Weekly Summary for Mar 18-Mar 24

Issued March 25, 2013

## Cool Temperatures Slow Progress

Temperatures were below normal for the week, averaging in the low 40s. Although there were a few warm days early in the week, with a high of 81 degrees in Altus, a cold front the second half of the week resulted in lows into the 20s, to as low as 12 degrees at Kenton. The cold front even brought snow to parts of northern Oklahoma early Sunday morning, but with totals of an inch or less. Precipitation for the week was below normal for March, averaging only two tenths of an inch for the state. A few heavier showers fell in eastern Oklahoma, as high as 1.02 inches recorded at Mt. Herman in McCurtain County. Precipitation for the period since March 1st was only 39 percent of normal for the state. In addition to the lack of moisture, the freezing temperatures put small grains and canola at a risk, as two fifths of wheat and rye were already jointing by the end of the week. Forage and grasses also showed little growth due to the cold temperatures. Topsoil moisture conditions were rated mostly adequate to short. Subsoil moisture conditions were still rated mostly short to very short with 12 percent of the state rated as adequate. There were 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork on average across the state.

### Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent

*Week Ending Sunday, March 24, 2013*

Moisture Rating	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago
<b>Topsoil</b>			
Very Short	18	14	5
Short	33	32	11
Adequate	48	53	64
Surplus	1	1	20
<b>Subsoil</b>			
Very Short	45	44	18
Short	43	42	28
Adequate	12	14	50
Surplus	0	0	4

**Small Grains:** Condition ratings for all small grains and canola continued to improve slightly. Wheat, rye and oats were rated mostly good to fair, while canola was rated mostly fair to poor. Progress of small grains was behind normal for all crops. **Wheat** jointing was 41 percent complete by Sunday, nine points behind the five-year average. **Rye** jointing was 40 percent complete, 27 points behind normal progress. **Oat** planting continued with spring oats and was 86 percent complete by the end of the week, five points behind the five-year average. A small portion of **canola** was blooming by the end of the week.

**Row Crops:** Seedbed preparation continued, and a small portion of **corn** was planted by the end of the week. Corn seedbed preparation was 53 percent complete by the end of the week. **Sorghum** seedbed preparation was 26 percent complete, and **soybean** seedbed preparation was 20 percent complete by week's end. **Peanut** seedbed preparation was 14 percent complete, and **cotton** seedbed preparation was 27 percent complete, both well behind normal.

**Pasture and Livestock:** Conditions of pasture and range improved slightly, but continued to be rated mostly poor to very poor. The recent moisture has allowed for some recovery, but the cooler temperatures have limited growth. Stock pond levels have improved where run-off was received, but most of the state is still waiting for heavier rains. Livestock conditions were still rated mostly good to fair.

### Conditions by Percent

*For Week Ending Sunday, March 24, 2013*

Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Wheat	10	23	41	25	1
Canola	15	27	32	24	2
Rye	19	15	32	32	2
Oats	10	18	44	25	3
Livestock	4	17	43	32	4
Pasture and Range	36	34	25	5	0

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### Crop Progress by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, March 24, 2013

Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago	Five Year Average
Wheat	Jointing	41	31	70	50
Rye	Jointing	40	35	79	67
Oats	Planted	86	76	94	91
Corn	Seedbed Prepared	53	42	64	56
Sorghum	Seedbed Prepared	26	23	31	23
Soybeans	Seedbed Prepared	20	13	25	23
Peanuts	Seedbed Prepared	14	5	20	32
Cotton	Seedbed Prepared	27	26	45	40

### Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

Week Ending Sunday, March 24, 2013

#### Weather for Week Ending March 24, 2013:

Temperatures ranged from 12 degrees at Kenton on Sunday, March 24th, to 81 degrees at Altus on Thursday, March 21st. Precipitation ranged from one hundredth of an inch in the Southwest district to 0.57 of an inch in the Southeast district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 39 degrees at Vinita on Sunday, March 24th, to 60 degrees at Burneyville on Monday, March 18th.

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	Current Week	March 1, 2013 to March 24, 2013		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Percent</i>	
Panhandle	53	26	39	0.10	0.52	-0.74	41
West Central	53	33	43	0.05	0.31	-1.55	17
Southwest	57	35	46	0.01	0.27	-1.48	15
North Central	50	31	40	0.17	0.99	-1.08	48
Central	52	34	43	0.10	0.46	-2.05	18
South Central	56	38	47	0.18	0.97	-1.78	35
Northeast	48	32	40	0.32	0.98	-1.86	34
East Central	50	35	43	0.34	1.84	-1.32	58
Southeast	53	37	45	0.57	2.48	-0.99	71