



# Oklahoma Crop Weather

## Oklahoma Field Office

Cooperating with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

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Monthly Summary for Feb 3 - Mar 2

Issued March 3, 2014

## Drought Conditions Worsen

The month began with cold temperatures and several bouts of snow. Oklahoma welcomed the snow with hopes that the added precipitation would help to alleviate drought conditions. After the first few weeks of February, there was still no improvement. Producers in Roger Mills County were in desperate need of precipitation to bring small grain crops to harvest. During the latter part of the month, high winds

<b>Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent</b>		
<i>For Month Ending March 2, 2014</i>		
<b>Moisture Rating</b>	<b>Subsoil</b>	<b>Topsoil</b>
Very Short	49	51
Short	34	36
Adequate	17	13
Surplus	0	0

and worsening drought conditions contributed the extreme fire danger and the overall damage to crops and topsoil moisture. Toward the middle of the month, temperatures increased slightly. Most areas of the state were in the 40's to 50's while the Panhandle reached a high of 70 degrees on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Wildfires occurred in parts of the state, but were not widespread. According to the most recent drought monitor, the majority of the state was rated severe drought to abnormally dry, while the Panhandle and the far Southwest districts were rated in extreme to exceptional drought. Some canola was lost to winter kill. The Southeast district averaged just over an inch of rainfall for the month, while the Northeast district averaged less than half an inch. All nine districts were still below normal precipitation for the period since September 1st. Small grain condition ratings and pasture conditions were mostly fair to poor for the month of February. Topsoil and subsoil moisture conditions were rated 87 percent and 83 percent short to very short, respectively. Thirteen percent of topsoil moisture and 17 percent of subsoil moisture were rated adequate and none were rated surplus.

**Small Grains:** Conditions of small grains and canola continued to decline over the past month and were rated mostly fair to poor. Forty- two percent of the **wheat** crop was being grazed, six points ahead of the five-year average, and 16 points more than during February 2013. Seventy percent of **rye** was reported as grazed, 33 points more than the previous year and 10 points higher than normal. Thirty percent of **oats** were being grazed, compared to the five-year average of 21 percent.

**Pasture and Range:** Pasture and range conditions were rated mostly fair to poor for the month of February.

<b>Conditions by Percent</b>					
<i>For Month Ending March 2, 2014</i>					
<b>Commodity</b>	<b>Very Poor</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
Winter Wheat	6	25	38	28	3
Canola	15	31	34	18	2
Rye	9	28	30	30	3
Oats	11	28	34	25	2
Livestock	2	9	39	44	6
Pasture and Range	18	28	40	13	1

**Livestock:** Grazing of small grains and pasture decreased this month with limited moisture conditions. Producers continued to provide hay and supplemental feed to herds as needed. Livestock conditions continued to be rated mostly good to fair.

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### Crop Progress by Percent

For Month Ending March 2, 2014

Crop and Event	2014	2013	5 Year Average
<b>Wheat -</b> Grazed	42	26	36
<b>Rye -</b> Grazed	70	37	60
<b>Oats -</b> Grazed	30	14	21

### Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

For Month Ending March 2, 2014

**Weather for Month Ending March 2, 2014:**

Temperatures ranged from -2 degrees at Beaver on Wednesday, February 5th, to 84 degrees at Hollis on Tuesday, February 18th. Precipitation ranged from 0.28 of an inch in the Northeast district to 1.12 inches in the Southeast district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 29 degrees at Weatherford on Friday, February 7th, to 57 degrees at Idabel on Thursday, February 20th.

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Month Feb 3 to	September 1, 2013 to March 2, 2014		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Inches	Inches	Inches	Percent
Panhandle	46	18	32	0.38	5.16	-1.23	81
West Central	46	23	34	0.31	6.59	-4.04	62
Southwest	49	25	37	0.31	6.47	-5.55	54
North Central	44	20	32	0.56	6.68	-4.82	58
Central	48	24	36	0.36	8.45	-7.58	53
South Central	51	28	40	0.72	11.28	-7.28	61
Northeast	47	22	35	0.28	11.03	-7.07	61
East Central	49	25	38	0.56	13.77	-7.56	65
Southeast	53	28	41	1.12	19.68	-5.23	79

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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