



# Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office

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## Temperatures Drop Below Freezing

Early Monday and Friday, some areas of the State experienced temperatures as low as 24 degrees for a period of up to five hours. According to a recent newsletter published by Oklahoma State University's Plant and Soil Sciences Extension, "The critical temperature for freeze injury to wheat in the boot stage is 28 degrees F for two hours or more." Fortunately, not much of the wheat crop has reached the boot stage. The recorded high for the week was 92 degrees in Hooker on Tuesday, April 15. Warm and windy conditions throughout the week increased the risk of wildfires. On Thursday, central and eastern Oklahoma experienced strong to severe thunderstorms that formed along a cold front and dropped heavy rain and hail. The Southeast district received 1.03 inches of rainfall and the Central district received 1.02 inches, but the State averaged only 0.38 inches for the week. There were 4.4 days suitable for fieldwork.

### Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent

Week Ending Sunday, April 20, 2008

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Very Short	10	10	1	10	10	5
Short	12	6	6	12	7	26
Adequate	57	46	83	64	62	66
Surplus	21	38	10	14	21	3

**Small Grains:** Several wheat diseases were observed across the State last week. Diseases such as leaf rust, powdery mildew, septoria, wheat streak mosaic virus, and barley yellow dwarf were spotted. **Winter wheat** jointing was up eight percentage points from the previous week to 91 percent, five points behind the five-year average. Winter wheat headed was at 11 percent, 26 points behind normal. **Rye** jointing increased four points from the previous week to 93 percent, seven points behind last year, but 24 points ahead of normal. Rye headed was at 35 percent, 29 points behind last year, and one point behind normal. Fifty-five percent of the State's **oats** were jointing, a 13 point increase from the previous week, but 10 points behind last year.

**Row Crops:** Fieldwork was halted in many counties throughout the Southeast and Central districts due to large amounts of rainfall. Seedbed preparation for most of the State's row crops was running behind normal. **Corn** seedbed prepared increased six percentage points from the previous week to 85 percent, 10 points behind last year, and six points behind normal. Corn planted was at 36 percent, up seven points from the previous week, but eight points behind the five-year average. Fifteen percent of the corn had emerged by week's end, 11 points behind normal. **Sorghum** seedbed prepared was up 15 points to 42 percent. **Soybeans** seedbed prepared was at 43 percent, 12 points behind the five-year average. Seedbed preparation for **peanuts** was at 59 percent, four points behind normal. **Cotton** seedbed prepared was up 10 points from the previous week to 79 percent, 17 points ahead of last year, and five points ahead of normal.

**Miscellaneous Crops:** Thirty-five percent of the State's fruit crop was reported having light to moderate freeze damage; however, it is too early to assess the impact. Ten percent of **watermelons** were planted by the end of last week, 29 percentage points behind last year, and seven points behind normal.

**Pasture and Range:** Pasture and range conditions were mostly in the good to fair range. Pasture and grassland were improving with summerlike conditions in areas.

**Livestock:** Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$104 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$94 per cwt. Livestock conditions were rated mostly in the good to fair range. A late frost on Monday morning and cool temperatures may have reduced insect populations in some areas.

### Conditions by Percent

Week Ending Sunday, April 20, 2008

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<b>Small Grain -</b>					
Wheat	7	10	28	46	9
Rye	3	8	23	60	6
Oats	5	10	40	42	3
<b>Livestock, Pasture and Range -</b>					
Livestock	2	7	41	44	6
Pasture and Range	3	11	37	42	7

**Crop Progress by Percent**  
Week Ending Sunday, April 20, 2008

Crop and Event	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Average	Crop and Event	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Average
<i>Wheat</i> -					<i>Sorghum</i> -				
Jointing	91	83	99	96	Seedbed Prepared	42	27	37	43
Headed	11	2	39	37	<i>Soybeans</i> -				
<i>Rye</i> -					Seedbed Prepared	43	41	49	55
Jointing	93	89	100	69	<i>Peanuts</i> -				
Headed	35	8	64	36	Seedbed Prepared	59	49	59	63
<i>Oats</i> -					<i>Cotton</i> -				
Jointing	55	42	65	55	Seedbed Prepared	79	69	62	74
<i>Corn</i>					<i>Watermelon</i> -				
Seedbed Prepared	85	79	95	91	Planted	10	7	39	17
Planted	36	29	62	44					
Emerged	15	7	37	26					

**Weather for Week Ending April 20, 2008:** Temperatures ranged from 24 degrees at Oilton on Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup> and Goodwell on Friday April 18<sup>th</sup> to 92 degrees at Hooker on Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. Precipitation ranged from 0.00 inches in the West Central and Southwest district to 1.03 inches in the Southeast district. Soil temperatures averaged 47 degrees at Cookson on Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup> to 70 degrees at Tipton on Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data**  
Week Ending Sunday, April 20, 2008

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	March 1, 2008 to April 20, 2008		
					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	77	39	58	0.01	0.80	-2.06	28
West Central	74	43	59	0.00	4.20	0.70	102
Southwest	76	43	60	0.00	5.43	1.39	134
North Central	73	42	58	0.01	4.23	-0.42	91
Central	73	44	59	0.21	8.46	2.87	151
South Central	73	45	60	0.53	9.33	3.27	154
Northeast	70	43	58	0.65	11.99	5.66	189
East Central	71	44	58	1.02	14.53	7.55	208
Southeast	72	43	58	1.03	17.88	10.40	239