



Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office

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Volume 31, Number 12

Issued May 5, 2008

Fast and Furious Thunderstorms

Late Thursday night and Friday morning, strong storms blew fast and furiously across the State. The National Weather Service confirmed Friday morning that separate tornadoes touched down Thursday night near Choctaw and Glencoe. Hail the size of golf balls broke the windshields of numerous vehicles in Midwest City. On Friday, wind gusts of 74 miles per hour were recorded at Will Rogers Airport. Seven percent of Oklahoma's crops received hail damage this past week. Again, temperatures fell below freezing in isolated areas, but no freeze damage to crops was reported. The State averaged 0.23 inches of rainfall, with the majority of it falling in the East Central District. The Panhandle District, experiencing the 10th driest season since 1921, is in desperate need of moisture. There were 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork.

Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent

Week Ending Sunday, May 4, 2008

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Very Short	14	11	0	12	11	2
Short	25	10	5	17	14	23
Adequate	55	63	74	65	64	67
Surplus	6	16	21	6	11	8

Small Grains: Dryland wheat producers in the Panhandle District are concerned that they may not have a crop to harvest due to severe drought conditions and high winds. Some Panhandle irrigators are beginning to question if there will be enough water to produce an adequate wheat crop. **Winter wheat** jointing was at 98 percent, only one percentage point behind the five-year average. Wheat heading took a 38 point jump from the previous week to 75 percent. A small percent of the State's wheat crop was in the soft dough stage. **Rye** heading was at 95 percent, up 19 points from the previous week; 14 percent of the crop was in the soft dough stage. Eighty-six percent of the State's **oats** were jointing, seven points ahead of normal. Twenty-five percent were headed, 12 points behind normal. A few oat fields were reported to be in the soft dough stage.

Row Crops: Due to high winds and warm temperatures, fieldwork was not halted for long after Thursday's thunderstorms. **Corn** seedbed prepared was at 96 percent, two percentage points behind the five-year average. Corn planted was at 81 percent, up 19 points from the previous week, and 14 points ahead of normal. Fifty-five percent of corn had emerged by week's end. **Sorghum** seedbed prepared was at 61 percent and sorghum planted was at 13 percent, six points behind the five-year average. **Soybeans** seedbed prepared was at 62 percent, and 16 percent of the State's soybeans had been planted. Seedbed prepared for **peanuts** was at 89 percent, and 23 percent had been planted. **Cotton** seedbed prepared was at 94 percent, eight points ahead of normal, and a small percentage had been planted.

Miscellaneous Crops: Light freeze damage was reported for pecans and fruit trees in several areas. **Peaches** had an average fruit set, and **pecans** were reported having an average nut set. **Watermelons** planted were at 46 percent, doubling from the previous week's 23 percent planted, but still eight points behind normal.

Pasture and Range: Grass conditions were continuing to improve, but development was behind normal in some areas due to cool overnight temperatures. Pasture and range conditions were rated mostly in the good to fair range.

Livestock: Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$107 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$97 per cwt. Livestock conditions were rated mostly in the good to fair range. Cattle producers in dry areas were being forced to reduce or liquidate their herds.

Conditions by Percent

Week Ending Sunday, May 4, 2008

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Small Grain -					
Wheat	7	11	30	44	8
Rye	4	9	21	59	7
Oats	7	10	41	39	3
Livestock, Pasture and Range -					
Livestock	2	7	40	45	6
Pasture and Range	2	8	39	43	8

Crop Progress by Percent
Week Ending Sunday, May 4, 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
Wheat -					Sorghum -				
Jointing	98	94	100	99	Seedbed Prepared	61	51	51	52
Headed	75	37	84	89	Planted	13	5	31	19
Soft Dough	11	1	19	23	Soybeans -				
Rye -					Seedbed Prepared	62	48	56	66
Headed	95	76	96	95	Planted	16	5	20	24
Soft Dough	14	3	44	43	Peanuts -				
Oats -					Seedbed Prepared	89	79	87	85
Jointing	86	67	85	79	Planted	23	11	12	19
Headed	25	12	31	37	Cotton -				
Corn					Seedbed Prepared	94	88	80	86
Seedbed Prepared	96	91	100	98	Watermelon -				
Planted	81	62	89	67	Planted	46	23	75	54
Emerged	55	32	65	46	Alfalfa Hay				
					1st cutting	41	16	38	45

Weather for Week Ending May 4, 2008: Temperatures ranged from 27 degrees at Boise City on Monday, April 28th to 96 degrees at Buffalo on Wednesday, April 30th. Precipitation ranged from none in the Panhandle, Southwest and West Central districts to 0.57 inches in the East Central district. Soil temperatures averaged 54 degrees at Cookson on Monday, April 28th to 77 degrees at Chickasha on Thursday, May 1st.

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data
Week Ending Sunday, May 4, 2008

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	March 1, 2008 to May 4, 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	79	38	59	0.00	1.14	-2.78	29
West Central	79	44	63	0.00	4.66	-0.97	83
Southwest	81	46	64	0.00	5.75	0.18	103
North Central	76	44	61	0.12	4.86	-1.39	78
Central	77	46	62	0.34	9.13	1.64	122
South Central	77	48	63	0.17	9.58	1.55	119
Northeast	74	47	61	0.47	13.84	5.46	165
East Central	74	47	61	0.57	15.65	6.47	170
Southeast	75	47	62	0.40	19.00	9.21	194