Oklahoma Water Resources Bulletin & Summary of Current Conditions



October 7, 2010

PRECIPITATION

Statewide Precipitation									
	Cool Growing Season September 1 – October 4, 2010				Last 365 Days October 5, 2009 – October 4, 2010				
CLIMATE DIVISION	Total Rainfall (inches)	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL (INCHES)	PERCENT OF NORMAL	Rank Since 1921	Total Rainfall (inches)	Departure From Normal (inches)	PERCENT OF NORMAL	Rank Since 1921	
Panhandle	0.96"	-1.11"	46%	18th driest	21.10"	+0.00"	100%	38th wettest	
North Central	1.92"	-1.56"	55%	22nd driest	31.18"	-0.47"	99%	36th wettest	
Northeast	5.32"	+0.08"	101%	32nd wettest	43.67"	+1.70"	104%	25th wettest	
West Central	1.76"	-1.60"	52%	26th driest	25.32"	-3.77"	87%	38th driest	
Central	4.08"	-0.51"	89%	38th wettest	38.08"	+0.09"	100%	27th wettest	
East Central	8.37"	+2.86"	152%	13th wettest	46.24"	+0.15"	100%	33rd wettest	
Southwest	3.09"	-0.69''	82%	41st wettest	29.17"	-1.63"	95%	36th wettest	
South Central	5.85"	+0.96"	120%	29th wettest	41.82"	+0.86"	102%	25th wettest	
Southeast	4.38"	-0.83"	84%	43rd wettest	47.34"	-3.60"	93%	40th driest	
Statewide	4.00"	-0.25"	94%	37th wettest	36.16"	-0.53"	99%	36th wettest	



SOIL MOISTURE

Fractional Water Index¹ October 4, 2010 25 CM (~10 INCHES)



¹ The Fractional Water Index ranges from very dry soil having a value of 0 to soil at field capacity illustrated by a value of 1. Specifically, 1.0 to 0.8 equals Enhanced Growth, 0.8 to 0.5 equals Limited Growth, 0.5 to 0.3 equals Plants Wilting, 0.3 to 0.1 equals Plants Dying, and less than 0.1 equals Barren Soil.

DROUGHT INDICES										
Palmer Drought Severity Index ¹					Standardized Precipitation Index ² Through August 2010					
CLIMATE DIVISION	CURRENT STATUS	VALUE		CHANGE	2 Монти			10 Montu		
	10/2/2010	10/2	9/4	IN VALUE	3-MONIH	6-MONIH	9-MONIH			
Northwest	INCIPIENT DROUGHT	-0.98	-0.16	-0.82	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL		
North Central	UNUSUAL MOIST SPELL	2.07	2.58	-0.51	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL		
Northeast	INCIPIENT MOIST SPELL	0.76	-0.03	0.79	MODERATELY WET	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	MODERATELY WET		
West Central	MILD DROUGHT	-1.04	-0.84	-0.20	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL		
Central	MOIST SPELL	1.04	0.05	0.99	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL		
East Central	MOIST SPELL	1.30	-1.72	3.02	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL		
Southwest	INCIPIENT MOIST SPELL	0.82	0.39	0.43	MODERATELY WET	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL		
South Central	INCIPIENT MOIST SPELL	0.62	-1.47	2.09	MODERATELY DRY	VERY DRY	MODERATELY DRY	NEAR NORMAL		
Southeast	MILD DROUGHT	-1.45	-2.77	1.32	NEAR NORMAL	MODERATELY DRY	MODERATELY DRY	NEAR NORMAL		

• Two climate divisions are currently experiencing drought conditions, according to the PDSI.

• Three climate divisions have undergone PDSI moisture decreases since September 4.

• Two climate divisions are experiencing near long-term dry conditions, according to the SPI.

Keetch-Byram Drought Fire Index³

Mesonet Station	COUNTY	CLIMATE DIVISION	CURRENT VALUE 10/4/2010
Talihina	LeFlore	Southeast	674
Idabel	McCurtain	Southeast	652
Mt Herman	McCurtain	Southeast	617



¹ The Palmer Drought Severity Index, the first comprehensive drought index developed in the United States, is calculated based on precipitation, temperature, and soil moisture. Though widely used by government agencies and states to trigger drought relief programs, the PDSI may underestimate or overestimate the severity of ongoing dry periods.

² The Standardized Precipitation Index, more sensitive than the PDSI, provides a comparison of precipitation over a specified period with precipitation totals from that same period for all years included in the historical record. The 3-month SPI provides a seasonal estimation of precipitation while the 6-month SPI can be very effective in showing precipitation over distinct seasons.

³ The Keetch-Byram Drought Index measures the state of near-surface soil moisture (within the uppermost eight inches of soil) as well as the amount of fuel available for fires. KBDI values of 600 and above are often associated with more severe drought and increased wildfire occurrence.

WEATHER/DROUGHT FORECAST

8- to 14-Day Outlook October 12 – 18, 2010



Precipitation N 8-14 DAY OUTLOOK PRECIPITATION PROBABILITY MADE 4 OCT 2010 VALID OCT 12 - 18. 2010 HADED ABLAS ANT TOTAL

Regional Drought Summary & Outlook

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U.S. Drought Monitor



October 5, 2010



U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period Valid October 7, 2010 - December 2010 Released October 7, 2010

No Drought

Persistence

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Author: Laura Edwards, Western Reg onal Climate Cente Northeast.. According to the Drought Outlook (October 7), the October -December period indicates drought improvement for the Northeast, Upper Midwest, northern Wyoming and southern Oregon, with some improvement to drought conditions over

northern Nevada, parts of Utah, western Wyoming, northwest Arizona, the central Appalachians and the mid-Atlantic. Drought conditions are likely to persist and/or intensify in the southeast, the lower Ohio Valley, the southern Plains, central Nevada, eastern Colorado, with drought expected to develop across areas in the southeast not currently in moderate drought conditions.



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October 5 - The latest U.S. Drought Monitor reports that in the south, southwestern Louisiana has been lagging behind normal precipitation for several weeks. In the last 30 to 60 days, rainfall deficits have been steadily increasing. This week, extreme drought is shown in this region to reflect the impacts and low stream flow measurements of five to ten percentile for the last week and month. The western U.S. remains largely unchanged from last week. A small area of moderate drought, D1, was expanded in northeastern Colorado to reflect rainfall deficits over the last two months. Reports of poor rangeland conditions around the area were a factor as well. This area has been slowly degrading.

In the extended outlook for the next six to ten days, cooler temperatures are projected to prevail in the Atlantic states from Massachusetts to Florida. Warmer temperatures than normal will settle in California and the northern states from Washington to Wisconsin. Across the contiguous US, below average precipitation is expected for the bulk of the states, with some exceptions for northern Montana and the

CROP REPORT

October 4, 2010 – Beautiful fall weather was enjoyed across Oklahoma last week, but the lack of precipitation caused some delay in planting of wheat and other small grains. Average temperatures were mostly in the low sixties, although the highs and lows ranged considerably. Topsoil and subsoil moisture conditions were rated mostly in the adequate to short range with 14 percent and 15 percent rated very short, respectively. As a result of the limited rainfall, there were 6.7 days suitable for field work.

Small grain planting continued last week. However, in some areas the lack of moisture has postponed planting. Wheat seedbed preparation was 90 percent complete by Sunday and 50 percent of wheat was planted, a 20 point increase from the previous week; 23 percent of wheat had emerged. Rye seedbed preparation was virtually complete by the end of the week. Seventy-three percent of rye was planted by Sunday; 42 percent had emerged. Seventy-two percent of oat seedbeds were prepared by Sunday while 21 percent of oats were planted and five percent had emerged. Canola planting was 63 percent complete by Sunday, an increase of 29 points from the previous week, and 20 percent of the canola plants had emerged.

Harvest was underway for all row crops by the end of the week. Ninety-two percent of corn was harvested by week's end, 20 points ahead of the five-year average. Sorghum coloring reached 96 percent complete and 65 percent of sorghum had matured by Sunday, 17 points ahead of normal. The sorghum harvest was 34 percent complete by week's end, 12 points ahead of normal. Forty-eight percent of the soybean crop had matured by Sunday and 19 percent of the crop had been harvested. Eighty-one percent of peanut plants had matured by week's end, 15 points ahead of normal. Twenty-six percent of the peanut crop had been dug by Sunday and 11 percent were combined. Cotton bolls opening reached 95 percent complete, 16 points ahead of normal; 11 percent of cotton acres were harvested by week's end, eight points ahead of the five-year average.

The fourth cutting of alfalfa was 95 percent complete and the fifth cutting reached 54 percent complete by week's end. The second cutting of other hay was 83 percent complete by Sunday.

Pastures and grasses were rated mostly in the good to fair range with 21 percent rated poor or very poor. There continued to be some reports of fall armyworms and stinkbugs. Livestock conditions rated mostly in the good to fair range with eight percent rated excellent.



RESERVOIR **S**TORAGE

• 24 reservoirs are currently operating at less than full capacity (compared to 26 four weeks ago).

• 19 reservoirs have experienced lake level decreases.

Storage in Selected Oklahoma Lakes & Reservoirs								
Lake or Peservoir	Normal Pool Elevation	Previous Elevation	Current Elevation	Change in Elevation	Current Flood Control Storage			
	(feet)	(feet)	(feet)	(feet)	(acre-feet)			
North Central	neen	neen	neen	neen				
Fort Supply	2004.00	2003.82	2003.51	(0.31)	(835)			
Great Salt Plains	1125.00	1125.32	1125.17	(0.15)	1,427			
Kaw*	1008.00	1007.84	1007.99	0.15	(157)			
Northeast								
Birch	750.50	749.11	749.73	0.62	(872)			
Copan	710.00	709.74	709.82	0.08	(702)			
Fort Gibson	554.00	553.72	553.06	(0.66)	(17,578)			
Grand*	741.00	741.42	741.03	(0.39)	1,291			
Hudson	619.00	619.20	619.06	(0.14)	663			
Hulah	733.00	733.92	733.22	(0.70)	720			
Keystone*	723.00	723.90	723.04	(0.86)	675			
Oologah*	638.00	637.75	638.11	0.36	3,481			
Skiatook	714.00	712.49	711.53	(0.96)	(25,329)			
West Central								
Canton	1615.40	1614.93	1614.72	(0.21)	(5,316)			
Foss	1642.00	1641.28	1640.79	(0.49)	(8,041)			
Central								
Arcadia	1006.00	1005.05	1005.77	0.72	(409)			
Heyburn	761.50	760.50	760.73	0.23	(667)			
Thunderbird	1039.00	1037.78	1037.59	(0.19)	(8,378)			
East Central								
Eufaula*	585.00	583.28	584.66	1.38	(31,529)			
Tenkiller	632.00	630.61	632.52	1.91	6,812			
Southwest								
Fort Cobb	1342.00	1341.30	1341.16	(0.14)	(3,125)			
Lugert-Altus	1559.00	1540.14	1539.64	(0.50)	(88,853)			
Tom Steed	1411.00	1409.55	1409.10	(0.45)	(11,587)			
South Central								
Arbuckle	872.00	871.78	871.97	0.19	(70)			
McGee Creek**	175.90	175.66	175.65	(0.01)	(3,031)			
Texoma*	616.80	616.38	616.25	(0.13)	(42,185)			
Waurika*	951.40	950.93	951.17	0.24	(2,332)			
Southeast								
Broken Bow*	602.00	593.55	592.80	(0.75)	(128,176)			
Hugo*	404.70	401.83	401.54	(0.29)	(41,744)			
Pine Creek*	433.00	431.69	432.62	0.93	(1,037)			
Sardis	599.00	597.87	597.58	(0.29)	(18,827)			
Wister	478.00	476.89	477.03	0.14	(5,685)			

* indicates seasonal pool operation ** elevation in meters

negative numbers in red, parentheses

STREAMFLOW CONDITIONS



Water Bulletin information/data courtesy of National Weather Service, Climate Prediction Center, Oklahoma Climatological Survey, State Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry, Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Department of Agriculture/Forest Service, U.S. Geological Survey, Western Drought Coordination Council, and National Drought Mitigation Center. For more information, visit www.owrb.ok.gov and www.mesonet.org.