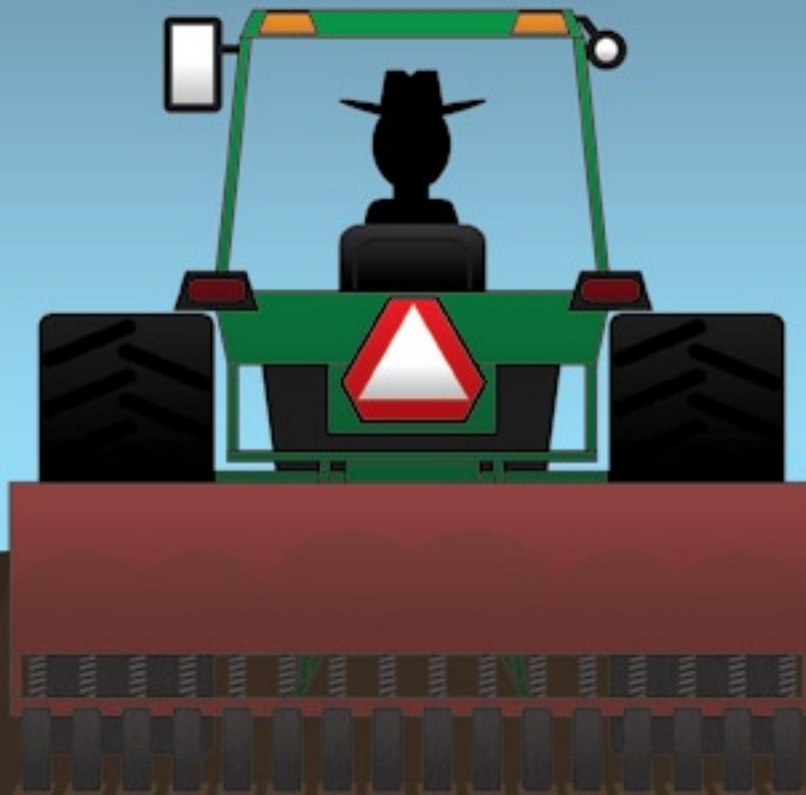


agweather connection

SEEDING AND DRILLING

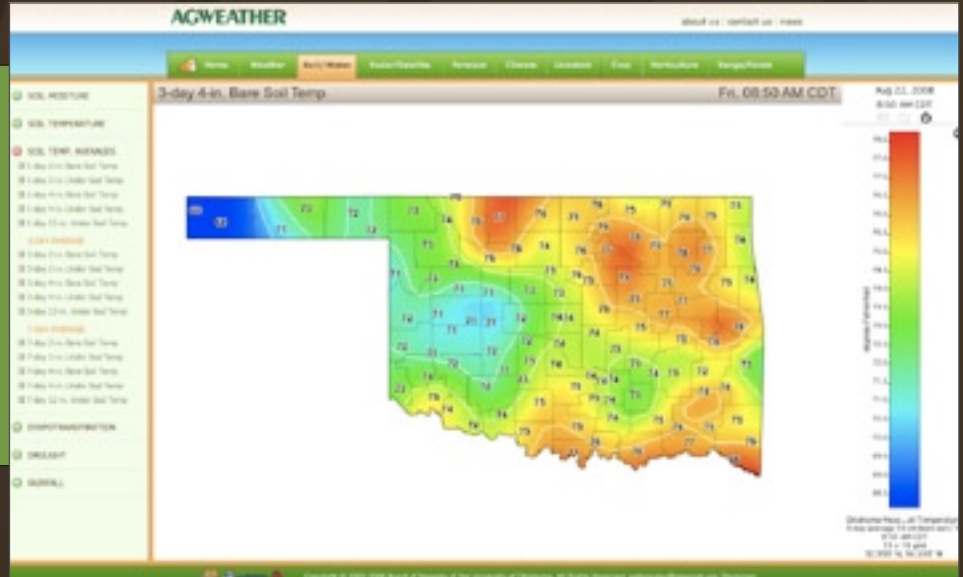


MORE THAN SIX MILLION ACRES of Oklahoma cropland are seeded annually to winter wheat and can have three purposes: as a grain-only crop, as a forage-only crop, or as a dual-purpose forage and grain crop. Wheat planting dates differ across each intended use. The following table lists the wheat target planting dates for different regions in Oklahoma.

Region	Forage only	Dual-purpose	Grain only
South of I-40	Sept. 1	Sept. 20	Oct. 10
North of I-40 and South of Hwy 60	Sept. 1	Sept. 15	Oct. 1
North of Hwy 60	Sept. 1	Sept. 10	Oct. 1
Panhandle	Aug. 20	Sept. 1	Sept. 20

Soil temperature

- Start at <http://agweather.mesonet.org>
- Click on "Soil/Water"
- Select "SOIL TEMPERATURE AVERAGES"
- Choose "3-day 4-in. Bare Soil Temp"
- This map displays the average soil temperature over the last three days. The temperature was measured 4 inches under bare soil.
- This diminishes the variability of soil temperature and gives you a more conservative estimate.



Hours below freezing

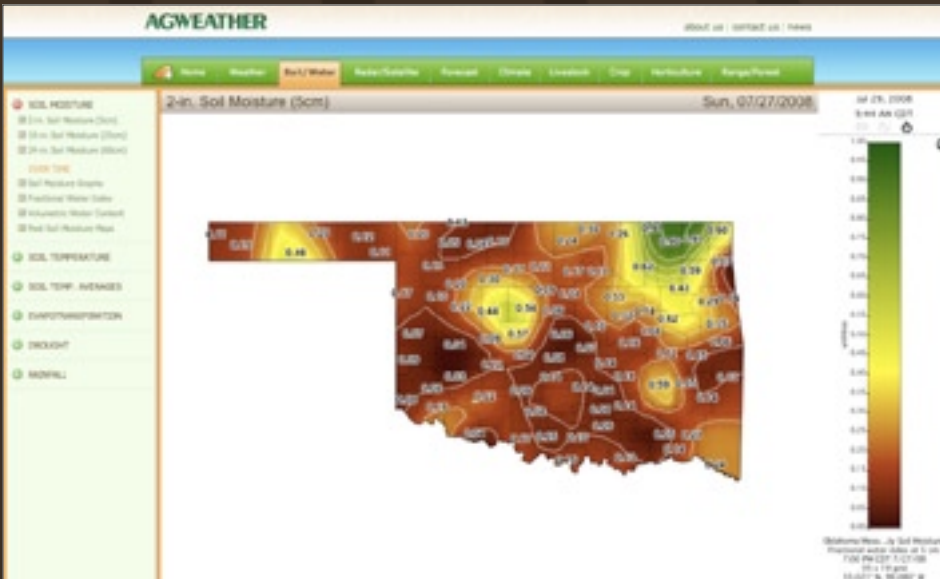
- Go to <http://agweather.mesonet.org>
- Click on "Weather"
- Then click "AIR TEMPERATURE"
- Next, click "Hours Below Freezing"
- This map will only display locations that are currently below freezing. As soon as a location goes above freezing, it is removed from the map.



Hour-by-hour forecast

- Go to <http://agweather.mesonet.org>
- In the "Current Weather at:" section toward the middle and right of the page, choose the Mesonet tower that's closest to you by clicking the up/down arrows located to the right of the town that is displayed.
- Then select the "Forecast" tab from the top green menu bar.
- Next, click "NAT. WEATHER SERVICE"
- Finally, select "Hour-by-hour Forecast." This may take a few moments to load.





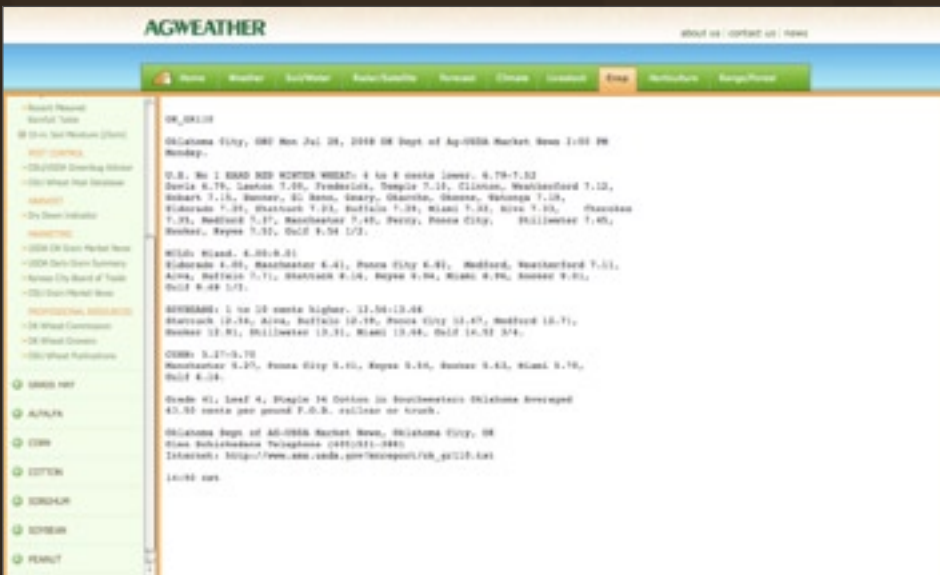
Soil moisture

- Start at <http://agweather.mesonet.org>
- Click on "Soil/Water"
- Then click "SOIL MOISTURE"
- Now choose "2-inch Soil Moisture"



High & low temperatures

- Go to <http://agweather.mesonet.org>
- Click on "Weather"
- Then click "AIR TEMPERATURE"
- Now select "Yesterday's High and Low Air Temp"
- You can also select "Today's High and Low Air Temp"



Grain markets

- Start at <http://agweather.mesonet.org>
- Click on "Crop"
- Then click "WHEAT"
- Select "USDA OK Grain Market News"

Planning for

FIRST HOLLOW STEM

Wheat first hollow stem is the growth stage when cattle should be removed from wheat pasture. Several factors affect when first hollow stem occurs, but the most important factors are planting date, location and variety.

A map with approximate "rule of thumb" dates for first hollow stem can be found at this [link](#).

Remember that first hollow stem can vary by as much as three weeks from year to year, so you should begin checking fields two to three weeks before the date on the map.

Growers should check for first hollow stem by digging up eight to 10 plants in a non-grazed area of the field. Split the stems open and look for a 0.5-inch hollow stem just below the growing point.

When approximately 0.5-inch of hollow stem is present below the developing head, the plant is at the first hollow stem growth stage and cattle should be removed from the wheat pasture.

- First hollow stem occurs when the developing head is still below the soil surface.
- Once first hollow stem stage is reached in ungrazed wheat, continuously grazed fields will suffer dramatic grain yield reduction if grazing continues.
- There is no way cattle can make enough money in two weeks after first hollow stem to recover losses from wheat incurred by grazing those two weeks.