

Oklahoma Climatological Survey Decision Support for Agriculture – AgWeather



Using the expertise of faculty, researchers, and extension agents from Oklahoma State University (OSU), the Oklahoma Climatological Survey (OCS) has teamed with OSU to provide a decision-support system for Oklahoma's agriculture industry. This support system, called AgWeather (agweather.mesonet.org), is founded upon data from the Oklahoma Mesonet – another joint partnership between OCS at the University of Oklahoma and its colleagues at OSU.

To aid Oklahoma's agricultural professionals in their daily decisions, the AgWeather web site provides the latest weather and soil information, custom products that tie weather to agriculture, links to commodity markets, access to OSU production publications, and links to producer associations.

Capabilities

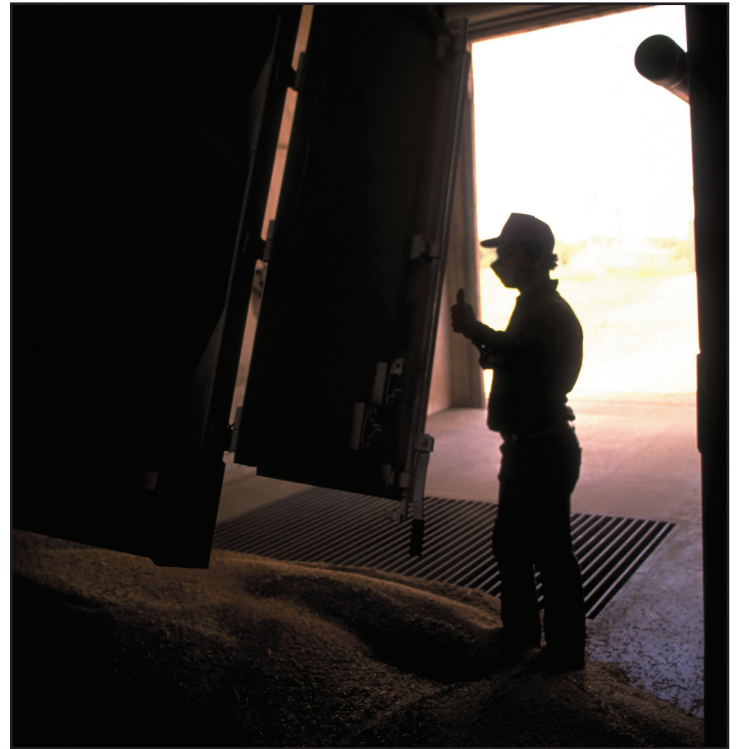
The AgWeather web site provides the following key capabilities:

- A comprehensive suite of environmental data products designed specifically for agricultural producers, agricultural service industry professionals, and natural resource managers;
- Real-time data from NEXRAD radars and surface observations from the Oklahoma Mesonet and the National Weather Service (NWS);
- Agricultural models, including custom products for evapotranspiration, peanut leafspot, pecan scab, watermelon anthracnose, alfalfa weevil, and pecan casebearer;
- Natural resource management tools, including the Oklahoma Fire Danger Model, the Oklahoma Dispersion Model, and weather forecasts for every 3 hours up to 60 hours;
- Consumer-grade display software that allows decision-makers to focus their attention on their own region-of-interest; and
- Customer support from OSU's Mesonet Assistant Extension Specialist.

Applications

Climate and weather strongly influence agriculture operations throughout Oklahoma. Information provided on the AgWeather web site is useful for decision-making before, during, and after any weather-related event. The most common applications for this information include the following:

- Track crop water usage and schedule irrigation;
- Maximize pest control and pesticide effectiveness using insect pest models;
- Manage wildfire suppression and prescribed burning using products from the Oklahoma Fire Danger Model;
- Schedule pesticide application, animal waste application, and prescribed burning using dispersion products;
- Maximize disease control and fungicide application using disease models; and
- Plan for storms as a normal part of agricultural operations.



Customer Support

OSU and the Oklahoma Mesonet provide technical support and education for AgWeather customers. For more information about the services available, please contact Mr. Albert Sutherland, OSU Mesonet Assistant Extension Specialist at 405-224-2216 or ajsuth@okstate.edu.

AgWeather was developed in partnership with Oklahoma State University.



For more information, contact:

Oklahoma Climatological Survey
The University of Oklahoma
100 East Boyd Street, Suite 1210
Norman, OK 73019-1012

tel 405.325.2541
fax 405.325.2550

e-mail: ocs@ou.edu
<http://www.ocs.ou.edu>

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