

WESTERN KANSAS WEATHER MODIFICATION PROGRAM

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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For the period August 22 – August 28, 2015

General Interest: County rainfall averages for August

County precipitation averages for August indicate a mixed bag across the target area. For the month, the driest quadrant in Kansas was the northwest where totals averaged around 2.00 inches for large portions of the area. The wettest location was found over a significant portion of southeast Kansas with totals well into the 5.00+ inches range. Rain reports from the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS), www.cocorahs.org, indicate the highest 2015 August county precipitation average was in Kearny County with 4.08 inches or 49% above normal for Kearny. Following Kearny, Lane County reported 2.70 inches (1% below normal for Lane) while Scott County came in at only 2.47 or 6% below normal for Scott. Regarding Lane, the reports may have underestimated the actual county average. Based upon the radar estimate for the month, the county likely averaged somewhere in the 3.00 inch range.

According to the Weather Prediction Center, the southwest and west-central Kansas forecast total precipitation out to September 6th, shows a very dry 7-day period with accumulation estimates up to perhaps only 0.10 inches for southwest Kansas and only 0.25 inches for northwest Kansas. The current weather models are fairly conservative on significant rainfall over most of western Kansas until the weekend when an upper level trough may help to push a cold front and associated showers into the area. Also, a surface trough in eastern Colorado may provide for a weak shower or storm near the CO/KS border areas late Monday and Tuesday. Aside from the lack of precipitation, the area will experience a very warm week with temperatures in the middle to upper 90's.

Weather: The week started out rather warm on Saturday with temperatures reaching into the lower 90's by the afternoon. A cold front passed through Saturday evening providing for windy conditions and little to no rainfall for most locations. Cool conditions along with sunny skies prevailed Sunday behind the front. High pressure dominated the region Monday through Wednesday providing for Sunny skies and warm temperatures. A surface boundary was located over southwest Kansas arching northeast into central Kansas by Thursday evening. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms formed along this boundary during the evening. While most of the thunderstorms had faded by nightfall, weak but numerous light showers continued into the early night hours. Mostly sunny but hazy conditions prevailed Friday.

Operations: No seeding days this week.

**Walter Geiger, Meteorologist
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