

### Recent Moisture Eases Drought Fears

(KAIR)--The local area has received a good deal of moisture in the past few days, and all of that water is doing quite a bit to ensure that drought conditions are held at bay.

Atchison County Research and Extension Agent Ray Ladd says that the area has not had to worry about a possible drought in recent months, although this cannot be said for areas in central or western Kansas which have continued to be dry over the past couple of years. He adds that while the area did not get an excessive amount of moisture this past winter, most would deem it an adequate amount to maintain current conditions.

Ladd says that area cattle farmers are also reaping the benefits of the increased moisture, but need to have those levels maintained. Those with grass pastures for cattle are going to need timely moisture to keep those fields growing through the summer months

Grass is not the only vegetation taking advantage of the wet weather. Ladd says area wheat crops are looking good as well. Current crops are coming in normal, and is starting to grow taller and thicker as well.

Ladd says that the recent rain has also delayed planting of crops such as corn and soybeans, but farmers hope to have them in the ground as soon as possible.

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