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**Kansas Wheat Better than a Year Ago but Needs Rain**  
WICHITA, Kan. (AP) - A new report says the winter wheat crop in Kansas continues to look better than last year's crop due to mild winter temperatures.

But in its report Monday, Kansas Agricultural Statistics Service also says the crop needs rain during the first weeks of emerging from dormancy.

Some wheat has begun joining in south-central and southeast Kansas.

Crop conditions declined slightly in the past week throughout the state. The latest ratings are 12 percent poor to very poor, 38 percent fair, 43 percent good 7 percent excellent.

At this time a year ago, the Kansas wheat crop was faring so badly that 40 percent was rated in poor to very poor condition.

Associated Press