



KENTUCKY WEEKLY CROP & WEATHER REPORT



Prepared in Cooperation with:
Univ. of Ky - Agr'l Weather Center
U.S. Dept. of Commerce - NOAA
Kentucky Department of Agriculture
Cooperative Extension Service

Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service
PO Box 1120
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-1120
(502) 582-5293 or 1-800-928-5277

LELAND E. BROWN, Director

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AGRICULTURAL NEWS: Highs for the week were generally at or above 70 degrees while nighttime temperatures fell into the 30s in some areas, which prompted a frost advisory for northern and eastern Kentucky, but resulted in little or no damage. A slow moving storm system brought rain to the Commonwealth through the middle of the week, but cleared in time for the weekend. Temperatures averaged 60 degrees, 4 degrees above normal and the third consecutive week for above normal temperatures. Rainfall for the period totaled 0.83 inches statewide, 0.15 inches below normal and the second consecutive week of below normal precipitation. **Topsoil moisture** as of Friday, April 15 was rated 1 percent short, 72 percent adequate and 27 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 1 percent short, 75 percent adequate, and 24 percent surplus. Days suitable for fieldwork averaged 4.0 out of a possible 7 days. Primary farming activities included planting corn, top dressing wheat, and moving cattle to pastures.

TOBACCO: Plant bed and greenhouse tobacco seeding was 85 percent complete by Sunday, April 17. This compared with 91 percent in 2004 and the five year average. Tobacco transplants had emerged on 65 percent of the seeded beds and flats, 1 percent ahead of last year, and on target with the five year average. Farmers indicate that transplants are from dime size to quarter size. As of

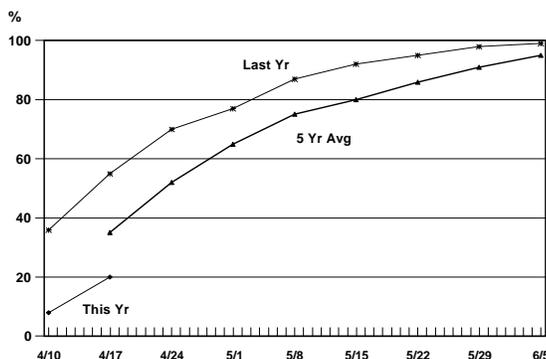
Friday, April 15, the condition of transplants was 1 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 59 percent good, and 24 percent excellent.

CORN: After two weeks of below normal rainfall, corn planting was in full swing. However, planting was still behind schedule with only 20 percent of the intended acreage planted as of Sunday, April 17 compared to 55 percent last year when ideal planting conditions were present and 35 percent for the five year average.

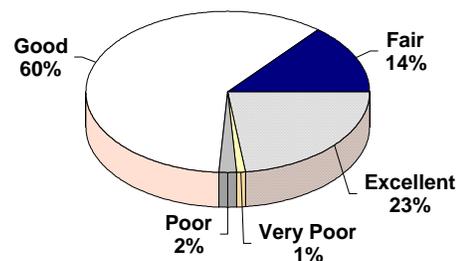
SMALL GRAINS: Winter wheat improved from last week with the drier weather and was rated 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 23 percent excellent as of Friday, April 15. Barley was rated 1 percent very poor, 1 percent poor, 5 percent fair, 79 percent good, and 14 percent excellent.

LEGUMES & PASTURE: Farmers reported the average height of alfalfa was 8 inches as of Friday, April 15. Pasture condition improved from last week with 17 percent of pastures rated excellent compared to 10 percent last week. One percent of pastures were rated very poor, 5 percent poor, 30 percent fair, and 47 percent good. Farmers were moving cattle to the improved pastures during the week.

CORN PLANTING PROGRESS



WHEAT CONDITION (April 15)



KENTUCKY CROP PROGRESS

WEEK ENDING APRIL 17, 2005
WITH COMPARISONS

Crop Stage	This Week	Previous Year	5-Yr. Avg.	Previous Week	
				KY	U.S.
Percentage					
Tobacco Transplants					
Seeded	85	91	91	70	NA
Emerging	65	64	65	42	NA
Corn Planted	20	55	35	8	NA

(NA)Data Not Available.

SOIL MOISTURE

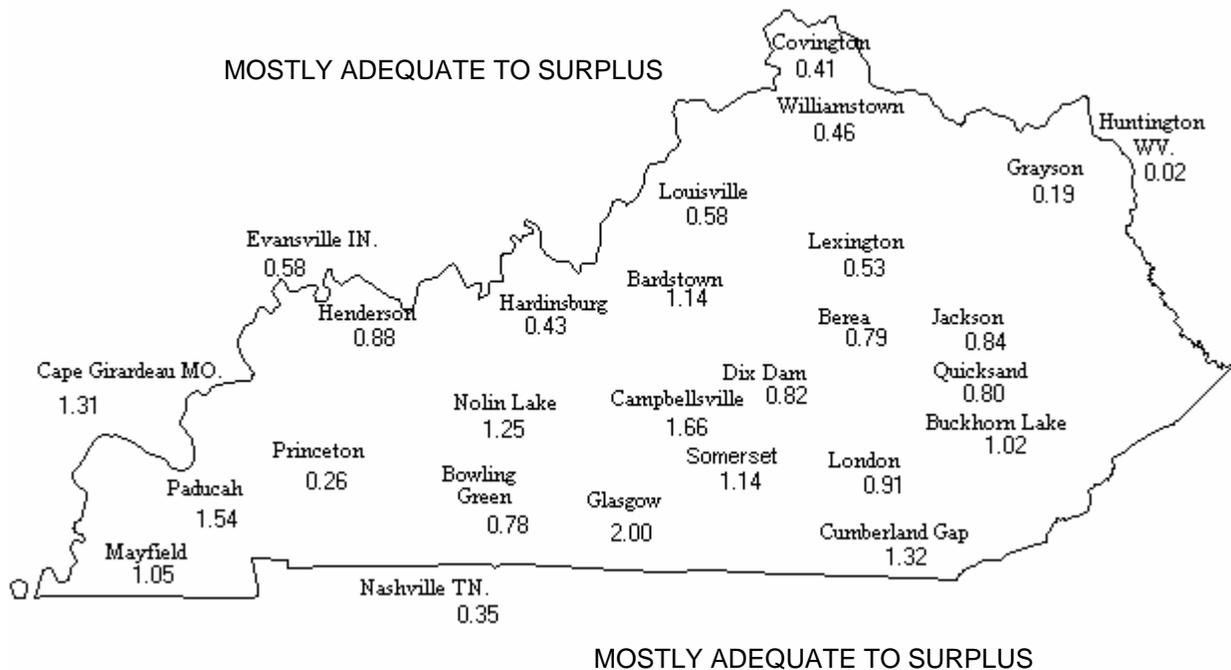
WEEK ENDING APRIL 15, 2005
WITH COMPARISONS

	This Week	Previous Week
Percentage		
TOPSOIL		
Very Short	0	0
Short	1	0
Adequate	72	63
Surplus	27	37
SUBSOIL		
Very Short	0	0
Short	1	0
Adequate	75	66
Surplus	24	34

KENTUCKY CROP CONDITIONS (Percent)

CROP	WEEK ENDING APRIL 15, 2005					WEEK ENDING APRIL 8, 2005				
	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCEL-LENT	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCEL-LENT
Wheat	1	2	14	60	23	1	3	18	61	17
Barley	1	1	5	79	14	0	1	8	76	15
Pasture	1	5	30	47	17	2	7	30	51	10
Tobacco Transplants	0	1	16	59	24	-	-	-	-	-

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 7:00 P.M. TOPSOIL MOISTURE DELINEATION FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2005



KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, APRIL 11 - 17, 2005:

Above Normal Temperatures and Below Normal Precipitation:

The week started with mild temperatures and a low pressure system moving into western Kentucky. The storm system was slow moving, so clouds, rain, and thunderstorms lingered across the area through late Wednesday. A severe thunderstorm watch box was issued on Tuesday across western Kentucky because of the inclement weather. A strong high pressure system was in control of the weather through the weekend. At night, skies were clear and winds were light allowing temperatures to fall into the 30's in some areas prompting a frost advisory for northern and eastern Kentucky. Despite the cool mornings, highs were generally at or above 70 degrees making way for another great weekend. Average precipitation has been below normal for 2 consecutive weeks. Average temperatures have been above normal for the past 3 weeks.

Temperatures for the period averaged 60 degrees across the State which was 4 degrees above normal. High temperatures averaged from 71 in the West to 72 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 0 degrees from normal in the West to 7 degrees above normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 48 degrees in the West to 48 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 2 degrees above normal in the West to 3 degrees above normal in the East. The extreme high temperature was 84 in Grayson. The extreme low temperature was 37 in Bardstown and Louisville.

Rainfall for the period totaled 0.83 inches statewide which was 0.15 inches below normal. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 0.94 inches, Central 1.03 inches, Bluegrass 0.58 inches and East 0.78 inches, which was -0.14, +0.03, -0.35 and -0.14 inches respectively from normal. By station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.19 inches at Grayson to a high of 2.00 inches at Glasgow.

Tom Priddy

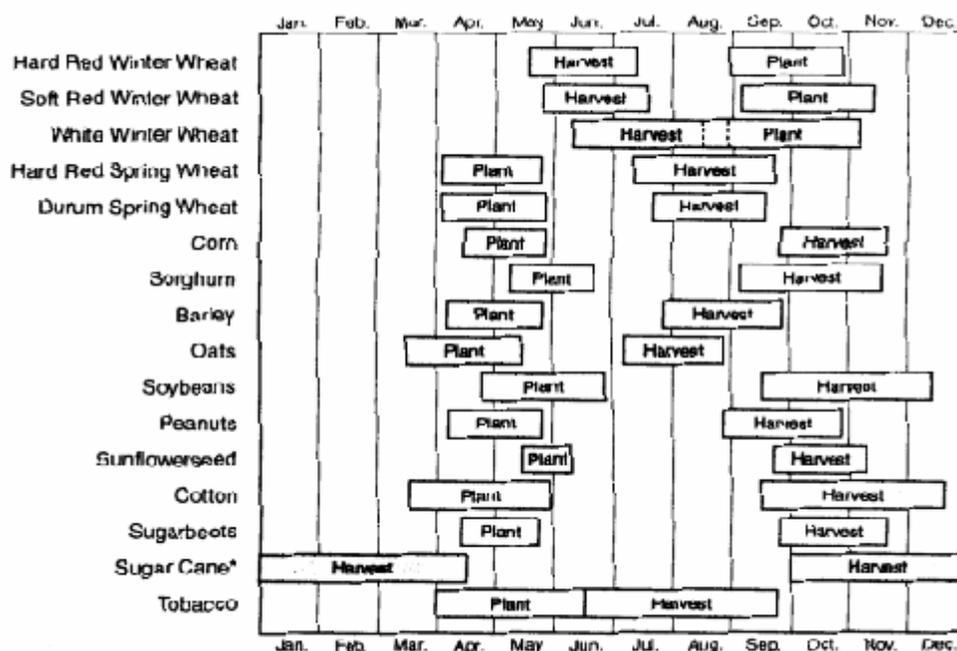
KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL

FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 7:00 P.M.

Weather Station	Precipitation		Deviation From Normal Since Jan. 1	Temperatures					Air Temp.
	Last Week	Since Jan 1		Soil 4 In. High	Grass Low	Air High	Air Low	Wkly. Avg	Deviation From Normal
	(Inches)			(Degrees Fahrenheit)					
Bardstown	1.14	13.83	+1.16	64	56	79	37	59.2	+3
Berea	0.79	12.43	-0.03	62	54	82	42	62.2	+8
Bowling Green	0.78	13.84	-1.66	--	--	78	42	60.5	+4
Bristol	1.10	10.69	-1.55	--	--	80	34	54.9	+0
Buckhorn Lake	1.02	12.65	-0.95	--	--	79	41	59.7	+5
Cape Girardeau	1.31	12.06	-1.70	--	--	79	40	58.6	+0
Campbellsville	1.66	15.17	-0.05	60	55	82	40	60.6	+5
Covington	0.41	13.40	+1.76	--	--	80	40	59.2	+5
Cumberland Gap	1.32	13.46	-2.23	62	54	79	41	59.7	+5
Dix Dam	0.82	12.22	-0.89	--	--	81	39	60.0	+5
Evansville	0.58	11.19	-1.58	--	--	79	38	58.9	+1
Glasgow	2.00	15.50	-0.19	58	54	82	40	61.8	+6
Grayson	0.19	12.18	+0.96	62	54	84	39	59.6	+5
Hardinsburg	0.43	11.15	-3.26	66	50	79	41	59.2	+3
Henderson	0.88	11.25	-2.04	62	54	79	39	58.8	+0
Huntington	0.02	12.03	+0.88	--	--	85	36	59.8	+5
Jackson	0.84	14.59	+1.04	--	--	83	42	60.6	+6
Lexington	0.53	11.31	-1.36	--	--	81	38	58.3	+4
London	0.91	12.26	-1.46	--	--	81	38	58.8	+4
Louisville	0.58	12.55	-0.67	--	--	81	37	59.0	+3
Mayfield	1.05	13.18	-3.46	62	54	79	41	59.7	+1
Nashville	0.35	15.77	+1.03	--	--	79	44	62.6	+7
Nolin Lake	1.25	13.66	-0.93	--	--	79	42	60.4	+4
Paducah	1.54	13.66	-1.27	--	54	79	40	59.8	+1
Princeton	0.26	13.91	-1.98	69	55	79	42	61.7	+3
Quicksand	0.80	12.81	-0.74	62	54	79	41	59.7	+5
Somerset	1.14	15.55	+1.00	61	55	83	38	59.8	+5
Spindletop	0.50	9.93	-2.74	63	53	78	38	57.8	+3
Williamstown	0.46	12.60	+0.24	62	54	80	40	58.9	+4

The above information is provided by Tom Priddy, Kentucky Extension Agricultural Meteorologist, University of Kentucky Agr'l Weather Center (859)257-3000 ext 245. E-mail: priddy@uky.edu Additional Ky weather data available on Internet at: <http://www.wagwx.ca.uky.edu/>

PLANTING AND HARVESTING CALENDAR FOR MOST MAJOR U.S. CROP AREAS ^{1/}



* Planting coincides with harvesting.

^{1/} Represents areas where production is concentrated, but not full spectrum of planting and harvesting periods for each crop.

This release and others can be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky/> For a free E-Mail subscription of the Kentucky Weekly Crop & Weather report, on the Internet go to <http://www.nass.usda.gov/sub-form.htm> and follow the instructions.