



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

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AGRICULTURAL NEWS: The first half of the week brought dry cooler weather, and late week storms swept across the State bringing heavy rain. Most of the State was starting to become dry, and farmers needed the rain. **Topsoil moisture** as of Friday, May 20 was rated 1 percent very short, 7 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 16 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 1 percent very short, 7 percent short, 81 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus. Days suitable for fieldwork averaged 4.7 out of a possible 7 days.

TOBACCO: As of Sunday, May 22, burley tobacco set was at 26 percent, behind both 2004 and the 5 year average at 35 and 32 percent respectively. Dark tobacco set was at 36 percent set, ahead of last year's 24 percent and the average of 32 percent. The set tobacco condition was rated at 34 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Setting of burley tobacco is about a week behind, although most of the transplants look good. Farmers hope that with the improved soil moisture a lot of tobacco will get set this week.

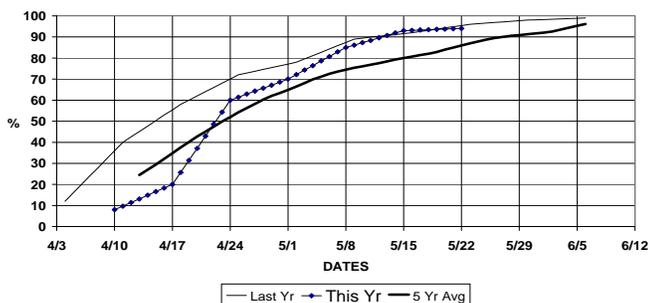
CORN: Corn planting varies, from ahead of schedule in the western part of the State, to slowed planting progress in the east. Corn producers have seeded 94 percent of their acres, as of Sunday, May 22, compared to 95 percent last year, and 86 percent for the average. Emerged corn was reported at 86 percent, ahead of last year's 85 percent and the average of 78 percent. The rain received last week helped improve corn condition. Corn emerged rated at 3 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 54 percent good, 20 percent excellent. The average corn height was 6 inches, with the most advance height at 12 inches.

SOYBEANS: Single crop soybean planting is in full swing across the State, with 65 percent of the crop planted. This is well ahead of last year's pace of 33 percent and the five year average of 31 percent. Soybean growth has been slowed in some areas of the State due to cool dry weather, but growth should improve with the rains and a return to normal temperatures. Soybeans emerged is rated at 30 percent, compared to 25 percent last year and the average of 21 percent emerged.

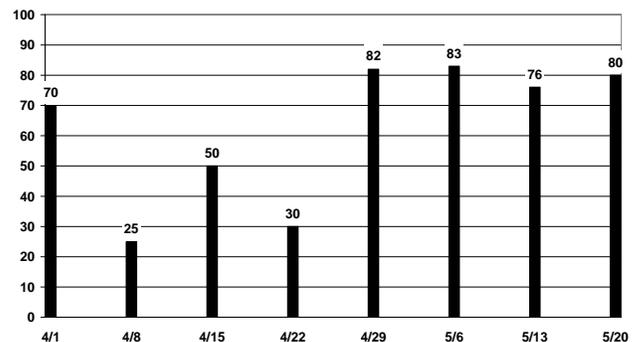
SMALL GRAINS: As of Friday, May 20, winter wheat condition was rated 4 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 24 percent excellent. Farmers reported very little lodging in the small grains from the heavy rains late last week. Very little disease or insect problems in the small grains have been reported as well. Prospects for small grain yields have been reported as excellent and above average. The winter wheat harvest is expected to begin Friday, June 17, and barley on Tuesday, June 14.

OTHER CROPS: Range and pasture condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. Hay crop condition was reported at 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. The first cutting and baling of hay has begun, although rain has affected the hay crop with delayed cuttings and slower curing rates. As of Sunday, May 22, 40 percent of sorghum acreage had been planted compared to 36 percent planted last year at this time, and the five year average of 32 percent.

CORN PLANTING PROGRESS



**Winter Wheat Condition
% Good to Excellent**



KENTUCKY CROP PROGRESS

WEEK ENDING MAY 22, 2005
WITH COMPARISONS

Crop Stage	This Week	Previous Year	5-Yr. Avg.	Previous Week	
				KY	U.S.
Percentage					
Corn					
Planted	94	95	86	93	89
Emerg'd	86	85	78	66	41
Soybeans					
Planted	65	33	31	43	46
Emerg'd	30	25	21	0	11
Sorghum Planted	40	36	32	30	26
Burley Tobacco Set	26	35	32	10	NA
Dark Tobacco Set	36	24	32	8	NA

(NA)Data Not Available.

SOIL MOISTURE

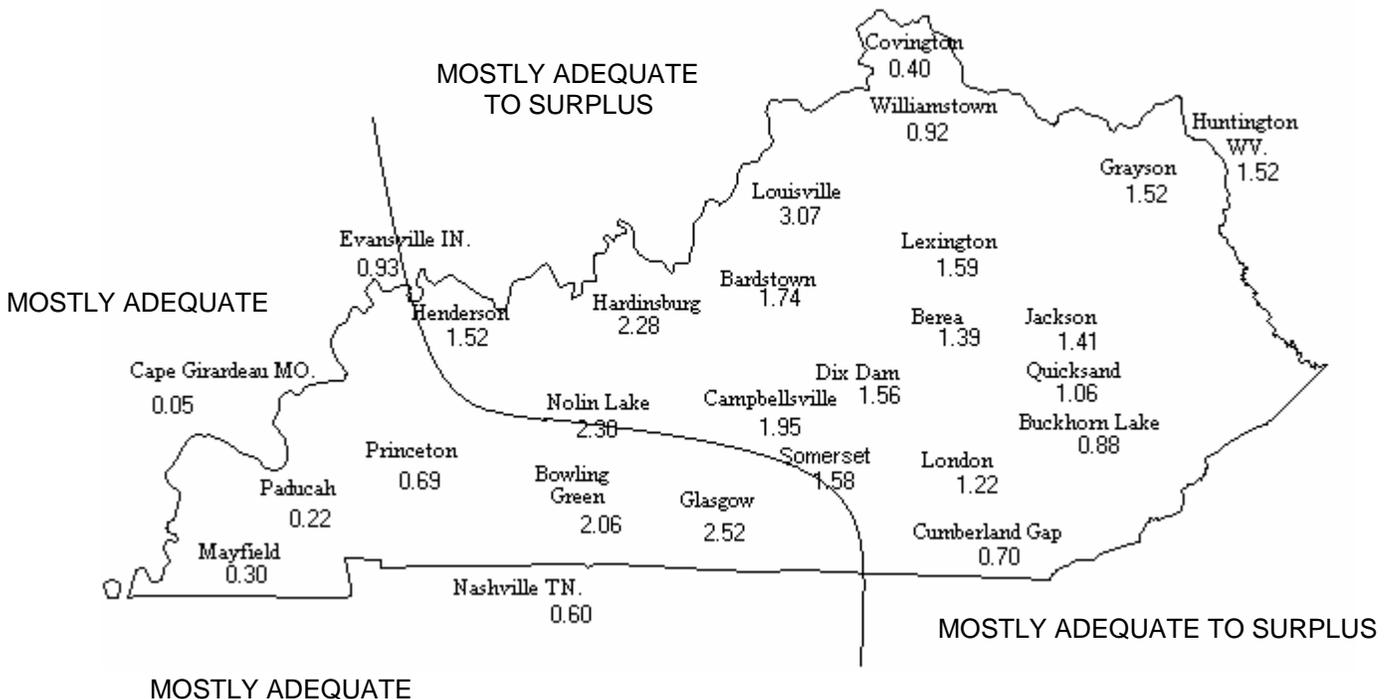
WEEK ENDING MAY 20, 2005
WITH COMPARISONS

	This Week	Previous Week
TOPSOIL		
Very Short	1	1
Short	7	28
Adequate	76	67
Surplus	16	4
SUBSOIL		
Very Short	1	1
Short	7	16
Adequate	81	77
Surplus	11	6

KENTUCKY CROP CONDITIONS (Percent)

CROP	WEEK ENDING MAY 20, 2005					WEEK ENDING MAY 13, 2005				
	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCEL-LENT	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCEL-LENT
Corn Emerg'd	0	3	23	54	20	0	3	24	59	14
Wheat	0	4	16	56	24	0	3	21	54	22
Pasture	1	3	24	57	15	1	4	29	54	12
Hay Crop	1	4	24	56	15	0	6	27	54	13
Tobacco Set	0	0	34	57	9	0	1	29	57	13

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 22, 7:00 P.M. TOPSOIL MOISTURE DELINEATION FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MAY 20, 2005



KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, MAY 16 – 22, 2005:

Below Normal Temperatures and Above Normal Precipitation:

The week began with high pressure in control. Days and nights were cool with mostly clear skies and light winds allowing ample time for outdoor activity. By Wednesday, winds had shifted to the south, and a warmer, more humid, air mass moved into the region. Thunderstorms erupted on Thursday. Nearly every county was under a severe thunderstorm watch at some time. Rainfall was heavy and frequent, prompting flood and flash flood watches and warnings to be issued. Some areas in central Kentucky received more than 4 inches of rain. Reports of hail, strong winds, and frequent lightning were numerous. Conditions cleared quickly on Friday, but again some isolated showers popped up in the afternoon. Ideal working conditions returned over the weekend with sunny skies, mild temperatures, and light winds.

Temperatures for the period averaged 63 degrees across the State which was 4 degrees below normal. High temperatures averaged from 78 in the West to 75 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 4 degrees below normal in the West to 2 degrees below normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 53 degrees in the West to 50 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 4 degrees below normal in the West to 6 degrees below normal in the East. The extreme high temperature was 88 in Paducah. The extreme low temperature was 38 in Somerset. Rainfall for the period totaled 1.34 inches statewide which was 0.28 inches below normal. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 0.62 inches, Central 2.33 inches, Bluegrass 1.17 inches and East 1.24 inches, which was -0.49, +1.22, +0.14 and +0.23 inches respectively from normal. By station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.22 inches at Paducah to a high of 3.07 inches at Louisville.

Tom Priddy

KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 22, 7:00 P.M.

Weather Station	Rainfall			Deviation From		Air Temperature				Growing Degree Days		
	Last Week	Since April 1	Last Four Wks	Norm Since Apr. 1	Norm Last 4 Wks	High	Low	Wkly. Avg.	Dev. From Norm	Last Week	Since Apr. 1	Dev. Since Apr. 1
	(Inches)			(Degrees Fahrenheit)								
Bardstown	1.74	8.57	4.41	+1.52	+0.46	80	40	63.1	-4	98	607	-23
Berea	1.39	7.58	4.97	-0.09	+0.70	81	40	62.1	-4	92	650	-2
Bowling Green	2.06	8.24	5.18	+0.41	+0.81	83	42	64.4	-3	108	619	-33
Bristol	0.74	6.90	3.47	+0.83	+0.04	81	43	62.9	-3	96	552	-26
Buckhorn Lake	0.88	5.96	3.45	-0.71	-0.22	82	43	63.4	-3	99	602	+24
Cape Girardeau	0.05	8.15	4.36	+0.04	-0.21	86	46	67.0	-2	121	650	-24
Campbellsville	1.95	8.67	5.01	+0.25	+0.38	84	39	63.6	-4	104	635	-17
Covington	0.40	5.25	2.27	-1.54	-1.52	78	45	61.2	-5	81	504	-44
Cumberland Gap	0.70	5.10	2.13	-2.39	-2.10	82	43	63.5	-3	100	602	+24
Dix Dam	1.56	7.45	4.63	-0.13	+0.42	81	40	62.5	-4	92	595	-35
Evansville	0.93	4.21	3.07	-3.18	-1.10	82	42	65.1	-4	109	596	-26
Glasgow	2.52	9.53	5.63	+1.39	+1.13	86	39	65.5	-2	116	717	+125
Grayson	1.52	7.26	4.38	+0.61	+0.63	83	41	61.3	-5	89	594	+68
Hardinsburg	2.28	6.72	5.04	-1.05	+0.72	83	43	64.4	-3	106	628	-24
Henderson	1.52	6.95	4.43	-0.54	+0.35	84	45	65.2	-4	110	628	-24
Huntington	1.52	7.27	4.25	+0.65	+0.51	83	40	60.6	-6	87	599	+21
Jackson	1.41	9.00	5.41	+1.72	+1.41	83	43	62.8	-4	94	632	+54
Lexington	1.59	5.92	4.15	-1.13	+0.20	81	41	62.1	-4	91	541	-7
London	1.22	7.78	4.67	+0.84	+0.86	83	40	62.2	-4	94	576	-2
Louisville	3.07	7.71	6.13	+0.20	+2.01	82	45	63.5	-4	98	587	-35
Mayfield	0.30	4.47	1.64	-4.14	-2.93	82	43	63.5	-6	100	603	-101
Nashville	0.60	7.96	3.66	+0.13	-0.68	85	49	67.4	-0	120	684	-20
Nolin Lake	2.30	8.40	5.37	-0.02	+0.57	83	43	64.5	-3	108	640	+10
Paducah	0.22	5.37	1.95	-3.15	-2.56	88	44	67.0	-2	122	674	+0
Princeton	0.69	6.15	3.04	-2.17	-1.44	84	42	65.0	-4	111	705	+23
Quicksand	1.06	7.80	4.61	+0.52	+0.61	82	43	63.4	-3	100	598	+20
Somerset	1.58	8.21	4.40	+0.26	-0.07	84	38	62.0	-4	96	573	-57
Spindletop	1.13	5.06	3.35	-1.99	-0.60	79	41	60.6	-6	83	521	-27
Williamstown	0.92	5.56	3.08	-1.72	-0.88	79	45	61.6	-5	84	522	-26

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.gwax.ca.uky.edu/>

A GUIDE TO GROWING DEGREE DAYS

For the 2005 growing season, the Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service in cooperation with the National Weather Service will provide weekly accumulated growing degree days (GDD) data.

These GDD are calculated according to the definition:

$$\text{GDD} = \frac{\text{Daily Max } (\leq 86^{\circ}\text{F}) + \text{Daily Min } (\geq 50^{\circ}\text{F})}{2} - 50^{\circ}\text{F}$$

Maximum temperatures above 86° F are entered as 86° and minima below 50° are entered as 50°. This modification is designed to take into account the differing response of plants to quite high or quite low temperatures. There are several methods of calculating GDD, but the above formula is most widely accepted. This adjusted 50°F method of calculating GDD has been adopted by the Hybrid Seed Corn Industry as a basis for a uniform maturity rating system.

At 50°F corn grows hardly at all. As the temperature rises up to the range of 80° to 86°F, corn grows faster if moisture is adequate. When the temperature rises above 86°F the roots have increasing difficulty taking in water fast enough to keep plant cells turgid (full of water) and working at top speed. When soil moisture is short, the optimum temperature is less than 80°F. With perfect moisture supply the optimum temperature is likely 90° to 95°F.

The concept of growing degree days is still under study and refinement. In its short existence growing degree days has proven to be a much better gauge for rating corn maturity than the old "days of maturity" rating. The use and importance of GDD will improve as information is collected over the years.

Corn Percent Planted

State	May 15 2005	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	60	33	74	70
IL	98	94	98	84
IN	89	76	92	70
IA	96	90	97	86
KS	92	80	93	91
KY	93	85	92	80
MI	83	62	64	57
MN	89	78	97	82
MO	95	90	96	87
NE	89	74	94	84
NC	96	92	97	95
ND	69	64	82	63
OH	90	70	79	74
PA	73	52	65	60
SD	73	59	86	67
TN	97	89	98	94
TX	92	84	96	95
WI	76	59	67	61
ALL	89	79	91	79
These 18 States planted 92% of last year's corn acreage.				

Soybean Percent Planted

State	May 15 2005	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg.
AR	59	40	46	36
IL	70	39	54	45
IN	57	33	63	47
IA	45	26	72	47
KS	36	18	29	33
KY	43	16	19	20
LA	59	47	59	55
MI	58	25	31	28
MN	28	17	68	46
MS	91	79	92	77
MO	43	21	38	31
NE	36	15	47	36
NC	24	9	20	18
ND	19	15	39	24
OH	63	27	50	48
SD	12	9	33	22
TN	31	13	16	17
WI	39	29	21	27
ALL	46	26	51	39
These 18 States planted 95 of last year's soybean acreage.				

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.