



**NATIONAL
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STATISTICS
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KENTUCKY WEEKLY CROP & WEATHER REPORT



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

LELAND E. BROWN, Director

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AGRICULTURAL NEWS: March ended with adequate amounts of rainfall and near average temperatures sustaining crop and pasture growth. Heavy rainfall in the middle of the month resulted in flood conditions for the western part of the State and along the Ohio River. For the last week of March the average temperature across the State was 48 degrees, 1 degree below normal. The amount of precipitation averaged 1.04 inches, 0.01 inches above normal. **Topsoil moisture** was 1 percent short, 43 percent adequate, and 56 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was 2 percent very short, 3 percent short, 50 percent adequate, and 45 percent surplus. There were 2.7 days, out of the possible 7, suitable for fieldwork. Farm work during the week consisted primarily of tobacco seeding, fertilization, and planting preparation. The supply of Nitrogen fertilizer available is expected to meet 95 percent of anticipated need. Planting preparation, including plowing and fertilization, was 19 percent complete.

TOBACCO: As of March 30, plant bed and greenhouse seeding was 56 percent complete. Seeding completion was behind that of last year but ahead of average.

SMALL GRAINS & LEGUMES: Due to a relatively mild winter, the State's winter wheat crop is in mostly good condition. Winter wheat lost due to winter kill was reported at 3 percent. The condition of winter wheat was 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 19 percent excellent. The barley acreage lost to winter kill was reported at 1 percent. Barley condition was 9 percent fair, 78 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Alfalfa stand loss was 10 percent, while red clover stand loss was 9 percent.

PASTURE & LIVESTOCK: Pasture condition was reported as 14 percent very poor, 25 percent poor, 42 percent fair, 18 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Pastures were meeting 18 percent of livestock roughage requirements. Ninety-one percent of farms statewide were still providing livestock with winter feed. Farmers statewide had approximately 10 percent of their winter hay supply still on hand. Livestock were in mostly fair condition.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 03/30/08

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
		Percent		
Tobacco Beds Seeded	56	NA	69	47

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 03/30/08

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent			
Topsoil	0	1	43	56
Subsoil	2	3	50	45

CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 03/30/08

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Ex
	Percent				
Wheat	1	2	18	60	19
Barley	0	0	9	78	13
Pasture	14	25	42	18	1

KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, MARCH 24 - 30, 2008:

Above normal rainfall and below normal temperatures:

The first full week of Spring proved to be a mild one weather-wise as near normal temperatures and rainfall were reported. The majority of rainfall in the Bluegrass State fell on Thursday and Friday as a stalled frontal boundary kicked off showers and thunderstorms throughout the two day period. Temperatures still showed a little hint of winter lingering as morning lows dropped below the freezing mark throughout the state a few times in the period. The latest Palmer Drought Index holds the majority of the state in a VERY MOIST SPELL, with east Kentucky NEAR NORMAL hydrologic conditions.

Temperatures for the period averaged 48 degrees across the state which was 1 degree below normal and 1 degree above the previous week. High temperatures averaged from 58 in the West to 58 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 6 degrees below normal in the West to normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 40 degrees in the West to 39 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from normal in the West to 2 degrees above normal in the East.

Rainfall for the period totaled 1.04 inches statewide which was 0.01 inches above normal. Rainfall totals by climate division, West 1.02 inches, Central 0.69 inches, Bluegrass 1.75 inches and East 0.69 inches, which was respectively 0.11 inches below normal, 0.36 inches below normal, 0.74 inches above normal and 0.27 inches below normal. By station, rainfall totals ranged from a low of 0.09 inches at Bowling Green to a high of 3.50 inches at Williamstown.

Tom Priddy

KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 7:00 P.M.

Weather Station	Precipitation		Deviation From Normal Since Jan. 1	Temperatures					Air Temp. Deviation From Normal
	Last Week	Since Jan 1		Soil 4 In. High	Grass Low	High	Air Low	Wkly. Avg	
	(Inches)			(Degrees Fahrenheit)					
Bardstown	0.85	19.54	+9.21	51	45	66	25	48.4	-1
Berea	0.82	14.39	+4.48	51	40	68	27	52.2	+4
Bowling Green	0.09	13.33	+0.44	53	49	70	26	51.5	+2
Bristol	0.52	10.89	+0.64	51	46	72	23	47.3	-1
Buckhorn Lake	0.11	8.44	-2.89	51	46	66	28	48.1	-0
Cape Girardeau	1.55	25.23	+14.14	51	44	67	30	50.2	-2
Campbellsville	0.47	13.48	+1.11	52	48	70	25	48.6	-1
Covington	1.72	16.58	+7.20	50	39	65	25	44.2	-4
Cumberland Gap	0.16	8.59	-4.63	51	45	66	28	48.9	+1
Dix Dam	1.27	15.01	+4.43	51	40	67	26	46.4	-2
Evansville	0.87	21.13	+10.79	51	45	65	30	48.8	-3
Glasgow	0.26	12.91	-0.04	53	49	68	26	50.4	+1
Grayson	2.55	12.78	+3.74	51	45	68	25	45.8	-3
Hardinsburg	0.75	18.16	+6.34	55	44	66	27	50.1	+0
Henderson	1.53	21.52	+10.80	51	45	66	29	46.6	-6
Huntington	1.82	11.01	+2.02	50	39	68	25	47.8	-1
Jackson	0.33	9.84	-1.25	51	40	69	27	49.9	+2
Lexington	1.55	16.23	+5.90	50	39	66	26	47.5	-1
London	0.11	8.70	-2.66	51	46	71	24	50.8	+2
Louisville	1.64	16.49	+5.82	51	45	68	28	45.8	-4
Mayfield	0.66	16.99	+3.38	51	45	66	28	48.3	-4
Nashville	0.81	12.79	+0.69	53	49	74	26	52.6	+3
Nolin Lake	0.58	16.39	+4.51	51	45	69	28	48.9	-1
Paducah	0.55	16.73	+4.80	51	44	67	28	50.6	-2
Princeton	0.96	16.97	+3.96	50	38	68	27	49.9	-2
Quicksand	0.26	9.00	-2.09	51	45	66	28	47.9	-0
Somerset	0.12	11.99	+0.05	51	46	68	24	49.9	+2
Spindletop	1.54	16.16	+5.83	50	39	66	26	51.4	+3
Williamstown	3.50	21.02	+11.16	51	45	65	24	43.2	-5

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.gwgw.ca.uky.edu/>