



**NATIONAL
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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

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AGRICULTURAL NEWS: Precipitation and below normal temperatures continued across the Commonwealth this past week. Temperatures for the week averaged 51 degrees across the State which was 5 degrees below normal. Total precipitation for the week was 0.19 inches statewide, which was 0.80 inches below normal. **Topsoil moisture** was rated as 1 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 39 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 3 percent short, 57 percent adequate, and 40 percent surplus. There were 4.0 days suitable for fieldwork. The main farming activities for the week were planting corn, seeding tobacco, applying fertilizer, spraying weeds, plowing, marketing cattle, and working on farm equipment. In some areas soil saturation and wet weather did not permit much fieldwork.

TOBACCO: For 2008, 94 percent of tobacco plants will be grown in greenhouses compared to 6 percent in conventional beds. As of Sunday April 20, 64 percent of tobacco plants were less than 2 inches in height, 25 percent were 2 to 4 inches tall, and 11 percent were taller than 4 inches.

CORN: Corn planting progress continued to be behind last year and the five year average. As of Sunday April 20, 11 percent of the intended corn acreage had been planted compared to 39 percent for last year and 47 percent for the five year average. Last week 1 percent of the intended had been planted.

SMALL GRAINS: Winter wheat condition was rated 3 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 26 percent excellent.

OTHER CROPS AND PASTURE: Farmers expect the first date of alfalfa cutting to be around May 9th. This year's anticipated alfalfa hay crop will be a welcome change from last year's freeze and drought reduced crop. As of April 20, condition of strawberry crop was 1 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. Pasture condition was 5 percent very poor, 17 percent poor, 40 percent fair, 34 percent good, and 4 percent excellent.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 04/20/08

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Percent				
Corn Planted	11	1	39	47
Corn Emerged	0	NA	9	19
Wheat Headed	1	NA	7	6
Soybeans Planted	0	NA	1	1

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 04/20/08

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent				
Topsoil	0	1	60	39
Subsoil	0	3	57	40

CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 04/20/08

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Ex
Percent					
Wheat	3	4	20	47	26
Pasture	5	17	40	34	4
Strawberries	1	7	32	52	8

KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, APRIL 14 - 20, 2008:

Below Normal Temperatures and Below Normal Rainfall:

Last week was the driest week since January for the Bluegrass state as high pressure dominated eastern U.S. and provided a return to drier outdoor working conditions during the workweek. A significant but short warming trend occurred during the middle of the week. The week started out dry and cool but ended with light rainfall and cooler temperatures on the weekend. Areas of frost were reported on Tuesday morning (Apr. 15).

Temperatures for the period averaged 51 degrees across the state which was 5 degrees below normal and 7 degrees cooler than the previous week. High temperatures averaged from 64 in the West to 65 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 7 degrees below normal in the West to 1 degree below normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 42 degrees in the West to 41 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 5 degrees below normal in the West to 4 degrees below normal in the East.

Rainfall for the past 7 day period totaled 0.19 inches statewide which was 0.80 inches below normal. Rainfall totals by climate division, West 0.30 inches, Central 0.21 inches, Bluegrass 0.12 inches and East 0.12 inches, which was 0.77, 0.80, 0.81 and 0.80 inches respectively below normal. By station, rainfall totals ranged from a low of 0.03 inches at Somerset to a high of 0.69 inches at Evansville.

Tom Priddy

KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 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	0.09	25.79	+12.73	58	50	74	30	53.1	-4
Berea	0.09	19.61	+6.72	63	46	81	29	54.6	-2
Bowling Green	0.25	18.35	+2.42	60	53	77	29	52.2	-5
Bristol	0.22	12.56	-0.01	64	48	81	27	51.1	-5
Buckhorn Lake	0.27	11.67	-2.30	64	48	81	30	53.6	-3
Cape Girardeau	0.43	32.63	+18.43	57	50	72	29	52.4	-7
Campbellsville	0.29	18.82	+3.13	60	51	78	28	52.9	-5
Covington	0.16	19.18	+7.16	56	47	75	31	52.6	-3
Cumberland Gap	0.14	12.50	-3.60	60	49	80	30	52.4	-4
Dix Dam	0.13	18.81	+5.28	63	46	77	30	53.4	-3
Evansville	0.69	26.86	+13.69	60	49	74	31	52.9	-7
Glasgow	0.45	20.09	+3.95	60	53	77	27	53.8	-4
Grayson	0.23	16.70	+5.12	60	49	81	32	53.4	-3
Hardinsburg	0.11	24.62	+9.78	65	53	76	32	55.7	-2
Henderson	0.25	27.71	+13.99	60	49	74	31	53.8	-6
Huntington	0.24	13.87	+2.36	56	47	82	30	53.1	-3
Jackson	0.30	13.22	-0.74	63	46	82	34	55.4	-1
Lexington	0.11	21.92	+8.86	56	47	76	32	52.6	-4
London	0.17	12.42	-1.69	64	48	79	29	53.1	-3
Louisville	0.12	22.50	+8.86	58	50	75	31	54.3	-3
Mayfield	0.55	22.57	+5.42	60	49	77	30	53.3	-6
Nashville	0.46	19.49	+4.32	60	53	77	31	53.9	-4
Nolin Lake	0.35	23.75	+8.71	58	50	77	29	54.0	-3
Paducah	0.35	24.27	+8.84	57	50	73	29	54.3	-5
Princeton	0.07	22.66	+6.29	60	41	76	28	53.6	-6
Quicksand	0.30	12.37	-1.59	60	49	82	30	54.1	-2
Somerset	0.03	17.26	+2.27	64	48	79	28	50.9	-5
Spindletop	0.17	21.64	+8.58	56	47	72	32	53.4	-3
Williamstown	0.14	24.74	+11.96	60	49	75	31	52.6	-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.gwax.ca.uky.edu/>