



**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

LELAND E. BROWN, Director

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6-08

AGRICULTURAL NEWS: Below normal temperatures and above normal rainfall prevailed across the Commonwealth this past week. Temperatures for the week averaged 56 degrees across the State which was 4 degrees below normal. Total precipitation for the week was 1.48 inches statewide, which was 0.30 inches above normal. **Topsoil moisture** was rated as 1 percent very short, 9 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 14 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 1 percent very short, 7 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 13 percent surplus. There were 5.3 days suitable for fieldwork. The primary farming activities for the week were planting corn and soybeans, applying fertilizer, preparing soil for planting, setting tobacco and spraying weeds.

TOBACCO: As of Sunday May 4, 29 percent of tobacco plants were less than 2 inches in height, 39 percent were 2 to 4 inches tall, and 32 percent were taller than 4 inches. Only 1 percent of burley tobacco acreage had been set compared to 6 percent the previous year. Three percent of dark tobacco had been set, equal to 2007.

ROW CROPS: Corn planting saw significant progress last week while it still continued to trail last year and the five-year average. As of Sunday May 4, 54 percent of the intended corn acreage had been planted compared to 74 percent last year and 76 percent for the five-year average. Last week 31 percent of the corn acreage had been planted. Corn emergence was reported at 18 percent, up from last week's 4 percent while below last year's 45 percent and the five year average of 51 percent. The condition of the emerged corn crop was rated 23 percent fair, 64 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Farmers were slowly starting to plant soybeans. As of Sunday 5 percent had been planted which was the same as last year but behind the five-year average of 8 percent.

SMALL GRAINS: The winter wheat crop headed or heading as of Sunday was 22 percent, behind last year's 44 percent and the five year-average of 50 percent. Wheat condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor,

21 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 28 percent excellent. Some lodging was reported following the rain and winds this past Friday.

OTHER CROPS AND PASTURE: Hay crops were rated 3 percent very poor, 10 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 49 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. Farmers expect the first date of alfalfa cutting to be around May 9th. Only a few reports of alfalfa weevil have been received. As of May 4, pasture condition was rated 3 percent very poor, 12 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 6 percent excellent.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 05/04/08

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Percent				
Corn Planted	54	31	74	76
Corn Emerged	18	4	45	51
Wheat Headed	22	7	44	50
Soybeans Planted	5	2	5	8
Burley Tobacco Set	1	0	6	3
Dark Tobacco Set	3	0	3	2

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 05/04/08

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent				
Topsoil	1	9	76	14
Subsoil	1	7	79	13

CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 05/04/08

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Ex
Percent					
Corn Emerged	0	0	23	64	13
Wheat	1	3	21	47	28
Pasture	3	12	37	42	6
Hay Crops	3	10	31	49	7

KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, APRIL 28 – MAY 4, 2008:

Below Normal Temperatures and Above Normal Rainfall

The Bluegrass State received above normal rainfall for the first time in 3 weeks, due largely to a potent cold front that swept through the region early last weekend. Temperatures for the period were below normal for the second time in the past 4 weeks as a cold air mass was in place over the Commonwealth early in the week. Overnight low temperatures dropped into the upper 20s and lower 30s in some locations on the last 2 days of April. Despite receiving above normal rainfall, field conditions improved during the majority of the week. The latest Palmer Drought Index shows that West is in an EXTREME MOIST SPELL, Central and Bluegrass are in a VERY MOIST SPELL, and East is NEAR NORMAL hydrologic conditions.

Temperatures for the period averaged 56 degrees across the state which was 4 degrees below normal and 8 degrees below the previous week. High temperatures averaged from 68 in the West to 68 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 8 degrees below normal in the West to 3 degrees below normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 46 degrees in the West to 47 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperatures ranged from 6 degrees below normal in the West to 3 degrees below normal in the East.

Rainfall for the period totaled 1.48 inches statewide which was 0.30 inches above normal. Rainfall totals by climate division, West 1.62 inches, Central 2.09 inches, Bluegrass 1.33 inches and East 1.04 inches, which was 0.23, 0.83, 0.19 and 0.04 inches respectively above normal. By station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.35 inches at Mayfield to a high of 2.52 inches at Bowling Green.

Tom Priddy

KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 4, 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	2.01	8.24	3.29	+3.78	-0.39	76	31	55.9	-6	67	341	-19
Berea	1.17	6.51	2.81	+1.63	-1.22	80	33	57.1	-4	72	351	-13
Bowling Green	2.52	7.70	3.74	+2.74	-0.35	79	34	59.1	-3	84	350	-14
Bristol	0.77	2.91	1.60	-0.89	-1.54	83	30	57.7	-3	76	360	+34
Buckhorn Lake	0.73	3.92	2.40	-0.36	-1.13	81	33	58.0	-3	76	334	+8
Cape Girardeau	2.09	9.96	4.60	+4.86	+0.39	77	31	56.7	-8	70	292	-76
Campbellsville	2.10	7.57	4.28	+2.16	-0.18	79	33	57.8	-4	78	351	-13
Covington	1.01	3.57	1.76	-0.73	-1.79	79	34	55.9	-5	66	294	-2
Cumberland Gap	1.35	5.25	2.05	+0.55	-1.83	81	33	57.8	-3	76	335	+9
Dix Dam	1.54	5.21	2.66	+0.38	-1.33	78	32	56.1	-5	69	318	-42
Evansville	1.11	7.03	3.89	+2.40	+0.06	76	37	57.3	-7	71	299	-35
Glasgow	2.20	9.28	4.82	+4.08	+0.53	80	33	59.1	-3	86	384	+80
Grayson	0.71	4.72	2.18	+0.54	-1.27	82	31	57.1	-4	70	332	+40
Hardinsburg	1.63	8.08	3.09	+3.14	-0.99	77	32	57.4	-5	76	353	-11
Henderson	1.77	7.31	2.93	+2.46	-1.07	76	32	57.1	-7	73	317	-47
Huntington	0.65	3.43	1.41	-0.72	-2.02	83	30	57.3	-4	70	349	+23
Jackson	0.85	4.04	2.15	-0.64	-1.71	81	33	57.7	-3	75	367	+41
Lexington	1.49	7.11	2.19	+2.65	-1.49	79	32	55.7	-5	66	295	-1
London	0.74	4.67	2.46	+0.20	-1.23	81	33	58.4	-3	79	360	+34
Louisville	2.08	8.33	3.09	+3.50	-0.89	80	38	58.4	-4	75	341	+7
Mayfield	0.35	5.49	2.22	-0.21	-2.47	78	33	57.2	-7	73	327	-71
Nashville	1.78	8.93	5.42	+3.93	+1.29	77	38	60.5	-2	86	370	-28
Nolin Lake	1.87	9.36	3.86	+4.12	-0.47	79	33	58.4	-4	80	352	-8
Paducah	0.66	8.54	3.12	+2.89	-1.53	78	33	58.1	-6	80	330	-38
Princeton	0.80	7.23	2.48	+1.79	-2.00	78	32	57.0	-7	73	373	-21
Quicksand	0.85	4.03	2.14	-0.65	-1.72	81	33	58.1	-3	76	336	+10
Somerset	1.25	6.57	3.30	+1.57	-0.83	80	34	57.4	-4	75	331	-29
Spindletop	1.36	6.78	2.44	+2.32	-1.24	79	32	55.7	-5	66	298	+2
Williamstown	1.19	5.03	1.96	+0.31	-1.93	79	34	55.8	-5	65	287	-9

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/>