



**NATIONAL
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USDA, NASS, Kentucky Field Office
PO Box 1120
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-1120
(502) 582-5293 or 1-800-928-5277

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: Kentucky weather continued to be cooler this week, which is not typical for mid-August. The lack of adequate rainfall in some areas continued to cause concern. Conditions were favorable for fieldwork as there were 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork. Farm activities included topping, spraying, cutting, and housing tobacco, cutting hay, and other general farm work. **Topsoil moisture** was rated as 18 percent very short, 47 percent short, 34 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 16 percent very short, 42 percent short and 42 percent adequate.

TOBACCO: Harvest has progressed slowly with 11 percent of the burley cut as of Sunday, August 17. Last year it was 16 percent with a five year average of 18 percent. Sixty-four percent has been topped, compared with 77 percent in 2007 and 69 percent for the average. Dark tobacco harvest was at 13 percent, same as the average and 1 percent ahead of a year ago. Tobacco condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. Early housed tobacco was in good condition, but remaining crop in the field is in need of more rain. Minor black shank problems still exist in some fields.

CORN: Just a few fields have begun to mature at 3 percent. This time last year 22 percent was mature with a five year average of 14 percent. A few early maturing fields may be harvested for silage in a week or two. Percentage of corn in the dent stage was 41 percent. It was 56 percent in 2007 with 53 percent for the average. Seventy-two percent was in the dough stage or beyond, behind last year's 79 percent and the five year average of 78 percent. Condition of the corn was rated 1 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 19 percent excellent.

SOYBEANS: Rain would improve soybean conditions. Moisture is needed to fill pods and prevent a decline in crop condition. Fields were rated

1 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 19 percent excellent. Eighty-five percent of soybeans were blooming, though a year ago it was 90 percent. Progress over the entire season was close to the five year average of 84 percent. Percent of soybeans setting pods was on track with the average at 64 percent. Last year it was 73 percent.

OTHER CROPS AND PASTURE: Weather was favorable for baling hay, but fields will need more precipitation in order to promote growth. Conditions were rated 3 percent very poor, 17 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 4 percent excellent for hay. Pastures were rated 6 percent very poor, 19 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 34 percent good, and 3 percent excellent.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 08/17/08

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Percent				
Corn Dough	72	50	79	78
Corn Dent	41	18	56	53
Corn Mature	3	NA	22	14
Soybeans Blooming	85	78	90	84
Soybeans Setting Pods	64	41	73	64
Burley Tobacco Topped	64	45	77	69
Burley Tobacco Cut	11	3	16	18
Dark Tobacco Cut	13	NA	12	13

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 08/17/08

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent				
Topsoil	18	47	34	1
Subsoil	16	42	42	0

CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 08/17/08

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Ex
Percent					
Corn	1	7	25	48	19
Soybeans	1	6	30	44	19
Pasture	6	19	38	34	3
Hay Crops	3	17	36	40	4
Tobacco	1	6	27	48	18

KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, AUGUST 11 - 17, 2008:

Below normal temperatures and rainfall:

High pressure was the dominant weather feature over the Ohio Valley for much of the period as the Commonwealth experienced the 2nd straight week of very dry conditions. A weak upper level disturbance rotated through the region on the 14th and 15th, but this feature only resulted in isolated showers and minimal rainfall totals. The high pressure that was centered over the mid-west ushered in a cool air mass which continued the relatively mild summer pattern. Last week was the 8th week out of the past 9 with either normal or below normal temperatures.

Temperatures for the period averaged 70 degrees across the state which was 5 degrees below normal. High temperatures averaged from 84 in the West to 83 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 59 degrees in the West to 57 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 6 degrees below normal in the West to 6 degrees below normal in the East.

Rainfall for the period totaled 0.08 inches statewide which was 0.75 inches below normal. Rainfall totals by climate division, West 0.01 inches, Central 0.02 inches, Bluegrass 0.11 inches and East 0.16 inches, which was 0.64, 0.79, 0.74 and 0.80 inches respectively below normal. By station, rainfall totals ranged from a low of 0.00 inches at Berea to a high of 0.42 inches at Spindletop.

Tom Priddy

KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 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	0.13	18.05	3.18	-1.12	-0.75	86	54	70.1	-4	138	2553	-7
Berea	0.00	18.38	4.03	-1.25	+0.27	88	60	72.2	-1	153	2562	-77
Bowling Green	0.00	17.64	2.70	-2.45	-0.91	88	56	72.5	-2	154	2800	+131
Bristol	0.01	11.66	2.78	-5.14	-0.49	85	51	70.5	-3	141	2490	+52
Buckhorn Lake	0.00	14.45	2.79	-4.40	-0.93	85	53	70.4	-3	140	2564	+251
Cape Girardeau	0.05	19.28	1.68	+0.74	-1.49	86	52	71.1	-5	146	2721	-88
Campbellsville	0.00	16.10	2.34	-5.87	-2.07	85	53	70.9	-3	145	2613	+4
Covington	0.01	18.65	1.76	+0.70	-1.58	84	54	69.6	-4	136	2394	-15
Cumberland Gap	0.01	13.98	2.49	-6.81	-1.75	85	54	71.1	-2	145	2583	+175
Dix Dam	0.04	16.96	2.84	-2.77	-1.06	86	57	70.6	-3	141	2508	-69
Evansville	0.00	21.81	2.14	+3.80	-1.00	86	56	72.0	-4	152	2662	-8
Glasgow	0.00	20.91	2.92	-0.82	-1.17	87	55	71.6	-3	148	2758	+179
Grayson	0.07	17.33	1.92	-1.32	-1.86	85	53	69.3	-4	134	2438	+169
Hardinsburg	0.01	26.39	5.16	+6.58	+1.39	86	54	71.0	-3	145	2651	-18
Henderson	0.03	20.96	3.73	+2.53	+0.54	86	53	71.0	-5	146	2658	-42
Huntington	0.04	17.21	1.60	-1.44	-2.31	85	52	69.1	-4	132	2438	-1
Jackson	0.00	17.40	2.34	-2.45	-1.72	84	53	69.6	-4	136	2472	+159
Lexington	0.00	17.61	2.67	-1.56	-1.26	85	53	69.4	-4	134	2470	+31
London	0.00	15.61	3.09	-2.77	-0.41	86	53	70.4	-3	142	2592	+184
Louisville	0.40	20.15	2.96	+1.39	-0.58	87	60	74.4	+0	167	2842	+155
Mayfield	0.00	11.38	1.26	-8.64	-2.43	85	56	70.8	-5	143	2583	-147
Nashville	0.00	19.20	1.33	+0.51	-1.98	88	58	74.7	+0	170	2916	+60
Nolin Lake	0.00	21.76	3.39	+0.72	-0.46	87	56	71.9	-2	151	2730	+261
Paducah	0.03	23.36	4.69	+3.34	+1.37	87	55	72.2	-4	153	2806	+28
Princeton	0.02	19.13	1.90	-0.97	-1.82	87	56	71.9	-4	151	2792	+45
Quicksand	0.00	15.68	2.17	-4.17	-1.89	85	53	70.1	-3	138	2564	+251
Somerset	0.00	21.00	5.63	+0.30	+1.75	86	51	69.7	-4	137	2467	-32
Spindletop	0.42	17.25	2.61	-1.92	-1.32	86	51	69.6	-4	135	2465	+26
Williamstown	0.03	23.22	3.41	+4.31	-0.24	84	55	69.4	-4	134	2416	-23

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/>