



**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: It is dry! That was the number one comment made by most reporters this week. A few fortunate spots in the west benefitted from a shower or two. Above average temperatures returned as well. Crops have started to show signs of stress. **Topsoil moisture** was rated as 44 percent very short, 40 percent short, and 16 percent adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 32 percent very short, 43 percent short, and 25 percent adequate. There were 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork. Most of the farm work consisted of topping, spraying, cutting, and housing tobacco, cutting hay, watering cattle, and other farm work.

TOBACCO: As of Sunday, August 24, set tobacco condition was rated 2 percent very poor, 10 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 17 percent excellent. Thirty percent of the dark tobacco has been cut, behind the 39 percent cut last year and on par with the five year average of 29 percent. Burley cut was at 28 percent. In 2007 it was 33 percent with an average of 34 percent. There is concern that the housed tobacco may dry up instead of curing.

CORN: Some fields have been cut for silage before the quality had a chance to decline. However, only 12 percent of the corn crop has matured. It was 48 percent last year with an average of 34 percent. Fifty-four percent was in the dent stage, compared to 80 percent a year ago and 76 percent for the five year average. About 82 percent of the corn crop was at the dough stage or beyond. It was 94 percent in 2007 and the five year average was 95 percent. Fields were rated 1 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 43 percent good, and 17 percent excellent.

SOYBEANS: Crop condition declined this week as well. Soybeans were rated 2 percent very poor, 10 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 14 percent excellent.

14 percent excellent. Additional rain would go a long way to improve pod fill. Percent of soybeans that have bloomed was at 93 percent. Last year it was 97 percent with 94 percent for the average. Seventy-four percent of soybeans have set pods, behind the 84 percent and in 2007 and the average of 78 percent.

OTHER CROPS AND PASTURE: Pastures and hay fields were also stressed over the last few days. Hay was cut, but field conditions were rated 11 percent very poor, 21 percent poor, 39 percent fair, 27 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Pastures fared worse and were rated 14 percent very poor, 26 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 22 percent good, and 1 percent excellent.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 08/24/08

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	Percent			
Corn Dough	82	72	94	95
Corn Dent	54	41	80	76
Corn Mature	12	3	48	34
Soybeans Blooming	93	85	97	94
Soybeans Setting	74	64	84	78
Burley Tobacco Cut	28	11	33	34
Dark Tobacco Cut	30	13	39	29

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 08/24/08

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent			
Topsoil	44	40	16	0
Subsoil	32	43	25	0

CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 08/24/08

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Ex
	Percent				
Corn	1	9	30	43	17
Soybeans	2	10	34	40	14
Pasture	14	26	37	22	1
Hay Crops	11	21	39	27	2
Tobacco	2	10	27	44	17

KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, AUGUST 18 - 24, 2008:

Above normal temperatures and below normal rainfall:

The Bluegrass State experienced another unseasonably dry week as high pressure set in over the region. With the exception of a few mid-week showers in western portions of the state, much of the Commonwealth received no rainfall during the period. Warm temperatures accompanied the dry weather as above normal values were reported for the first time in 3 weeks.

Temperatures for the period averaged 75 degrees across the state which was 1 degree above normal. High temperatures averaged from 89 in the West to 90 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 2 degrees above normal in the West to 7 degrees above normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 65 degrees in the West to 63 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 1 degree above normal in the West to 1 degree above normal in the East.

Rainfall for the period totaled 0.06 inches statewide which was 0.65 inches below normal. Rainfall totals by climate division, West 0.25 inches, Central 0.01 inches, Bluegrass 0.00 inches and East 0.00 inches, which was 0.58, 0.68, 0.68 and 0.86 inches respectively below normal. By station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.00 inches at Bardstown to a high of 3.37 inches at Cape Girardeau.

Tom Priddy

KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 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	0.00	18.05	2.50	-2.00	-1.19	94	55	77.9	+5	173	2726	+5
Berea	0.00	18.38	2.86	-2.15	-0.80	93	55	78.4	+6	185	2747	-60
Bowling Green	0.00	17.64	0.99	-3.25	-2.34	95	58	78.5	+5	179	2979	+142
Bristol	0.00	11.66	1.36	-5.85	-1.65	90	57	74.8	+2	163	2653	+54
Buckhorn Lake	0.00	14.45	2.09	-5.23	-1.36	91	56	76.9	+4	172	2736	+276
Cape Girardeau	3.37	22.65	4.39	+3.32	+1.23	89	52	74.4	-1	166	2887	-97
Campbellsville	0.00	16.10	1.78	-6.90	-2.45	93	56	76.9	+4	171	2784	+7
Covington	0.00	18.65	1.30	-0.05	-1.84	93	55	77.7	+5	176	2570	+0
Cumberland Gap	0.00	13.98	1.49	-7.79	-2.54	91	56	76.7	+4	172	2755	+186
Dix Dam	0.00	16.96	2.34	-3.65	-1.32	92	55	78.1	+6	181	2689	-56
Evansville	0.14	21.95	2.06	+3.24	-0.87	92	57	76.8	+2	176	2838	+0
Glasgow	0.00	20.91	1.49	-1.73	-2.32	94	58	78.1	+5	174	2932	+185
Grayson	0.00	17.33	1.74	-2.16	-1.79	93	55	77.1	+5	169	2607	+184
Hardinsburg	0.00	26.39	4.36	+5.72	+0.82	94	58	77.3	+4	176	2827	-10
Henderson	0.06	21.02	3.40	+1.88	+0.42	91	55	76.6	+1	173	2831	-37
Huntington	0.00	17.21	1.43	-2.33	-2.26	93	54	76.6	+4	166	2604	+4
Jackson	0.00	17.40	1.59	-3.35	-2.19	93	57	77.4	+5	176	2648	+188
Lexington	0.00	17.61	1.62	-2.44	-2.07	93	56	78.7	+6	181	2651	+51
London	0.00	15.61	2.30	-3.51	-0.88	93	55	76.5	+4	165	2757	+188
Louisville	0.00	20.15	2.79	+0.59	-0.53	97	64	82.1	+9	196	3038	+176
Mayfield	0.00	11.38	1.03	-9.51	-2.51	92	56	77.3	+2	174	2757	-141
Nashville	0.01	19.21	0.35	-0.26	-2.84	95	65	80.9	+8	194	3110	+72
Nolin Lake	0.00	21.76	2.22	-0.12	-1.33	94	58	78.0	+5	176	2906	+276
Paducah	0.06	23.42	2.44	+2.64	-0.69	93	56	77.2	+2	178	2984	+31
Princeton	0.53	19.64	1.73	-1.36	-1.93	95	57	79.4	+4	188	2980	+58
Quicksand	0.00	15.68	1.55	-5.07	-2.23	91	56	77.1	+5	173	2737	+277
Somerset	0.00	21.00	3.95	-0.58	+0.28	91	53	74.9	+2	164	2631	-29
Spindletop	0.00	17.25	1.96	-2.80	-1.73	93	56	77.9	+5	173	2638	+38
Williamstown	0.00	23.22	2.80	+3.47	-0.67	93	55	78.1	+6	177	2593	-7

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/>