



**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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AGRICULTURAL NEWS: Rain fell across parts of the State this week, but did little to improve soil and crop conditions. All areas need more rain, especially in the west. Average temperatures were normal for this time of year. **Topsoil moisture** was rated as 43 percent very short, 36 percent short, and 21 percent adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 38 percent very short, 41 percent short, and 21 percent adequate. There were 5.8 days suitable for fieldwork. Main farm activities for the week were cutting and housing tobacco, cutting hay, harvesting corn, and other general farm work.

CORN: Reports on current crop conditions were mixed due to delayed planting and drier growing conditions. The crop was rated 1 percent very poor, 11 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 17 percent excellent. More silage was cut and farmers were preparing for the grain harvest. At 29 percent, maturity levels are still behind the 74 percent a year ago and the average of 57 percent. Seventy-eight percent had reached the dent stage. Progress was still behind last year's 94 percent and 89 percent for the average. Ninety-three percent had reached the dough stage or beyond. Last year the entire crop had passed through this stage, and with the five year average at 99 percent.

SOYBEANS: The weather has not been very cooperative for soybean production. Double cropped beans have been impacted the most. Soybean condition was rated 3 percent very poor, 16 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 33 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Three percent of soybeans have dropped leaves, compared to 9 percent last year and the five year average of 6 percent. About 9 percent of soybeans leaves had turned yellow. Last year it was 25 percent and 16 percent for the average. About 88 percent of soybeans have set pods. It was 91 percent in 2007, with the average at 87 percent.

TOBACCO: In spite of the recent high temperatures and lack of rain, only 5 percent of the housed tobacco showed signs of houseburn. Tobacco

harvest gained momentum during the week. Forty-five percent of burley tobacco and 48 percent of the dark tobacco had been cut as of Sunday, August 31. This time last year half of all Kentucky tobacco was cut. The five year average was 47 percent for burley tobacco and 39 percent for dark tobacco. Crop condition was rated 4 percent very poor, 12 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 43 percent good, and 15 percent excellent.

OTHER CROPS AND PASTURE: More hay was cut this week, but many farmers are debating whether another cutting is worth making. Conditions continue to decline. Pastures were rated 24 percent very poor, 28 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 16 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Hay crops were rated 14 percent very poor, 25 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 25 percent good, and 2 percent excellent.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 08/31/08

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Percent				
Corn Dough	93	82	100	99
Corn Dent	78	54	94	89
Corn Mature	29	12	74	57
Soybeans Setting Pods	88	74	91	87
Soybeans Turning Yellow	9	NA	25	16
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	3	NA	9	6
Burley Tobacco Topped	45	28	50	47
Dark Tobacco Topped	48	30	50	39

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 08/31/08

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent				
Topsoil	43	36	21	0
Subsoil	38	41	21	0

CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 08/31/08

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Ex
Percent					
Corn	1	11	29	42	17
Soybeans	3	16	38	33	10
Pasture	24	28	31	16	1
Hay Crops	14	25	34	25	2
Tobacco	4	12	26	43	15

KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, AUGUST 25 - 31, 2008:

The remnants of Tropical Storm Fay provided much needed rainfall in the southeastern quarter of the Commonwealth that has been experiencing moderate drought conditions. Unfortunately, that weather system did not help western portions of the state which have seen below normal rain for 4 straight weeks. Temperatures during the period remained true to form for late summer as normal temperatures were reported.

Temperatures for the period averaged 75 degrees across the state which was 0 degree from normal. High temperatures averaged from 86 in the West to 82 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 0 degrees from normal in the West to 0 degree from normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 66 degrees in the West to 66 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 3 degrees above normal in the West to 6 degrees above normal in the East.

Rainfall for the period totaled 0.92 inches statewide which was 0.09 inches from normal. Rainfall totals by climate division, West 0.41 inches, Central 0.61 inches, Bluegrass 0.86 inches and East 1.57 inches, which was respectively 0.37 inches below normal, 0.25 inches below normal, 0.05 inches below normal and 0.78 inches above normal. By station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.09 inches at Bardstown to a high of 2.02 inches at Bristol.

Tom Priddy

KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 31, 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	0.09	18.14	0.72	-2.80	-2.83	93	61	76.9	+5	175	2907	+19
Berea	0.49	18.87	1.15	-2.56	-2.45	88	66	75.1	+4	170	2917	-58
Bowling Green	0.61	18.25	0.74	-3.43	-2.43	94	67	78.4	+7	186	3165	+160
Bristol	2.02	13.68	2.33	-4.55	-0.53	91	65	74.2	+3	164	2817	+57
Buckhorn Lake	1.25	15.70	1.30	-4.80	-2.00	91	66	74.3	+3	163	2899	+292
Cape Girardeau	0.09	22.74	3.51	+2.62	+0.36	91	61	74.9	+1	169	3056	-103
Campbellsville	0.42	16.52	0.58	-7.51	-3.55	94	64	76.6	+5	176	2960	+15
Covington	0.57	19.22	1.78	-0.24	-1.25	92	62	76.1	+5	173	2743	+12
Cumberland Gap	1.48	15.46	1.49	-7.29	-2.42	91	66	74.8	+4	168	2923	+193
Dix Dam	0.20	17.16	0.88	-2.64	-2.64	90	64	76.0	+5	174	2863	-50
Evansville	0.29	22.24	1.16	+2.83	-1.65	91	62	75.5	+2	174	3012	+6
Glasgow	0.48	21.39	0.52	-2.16	-3.12	97	62	77.0	+5	176	3108	+193
Grayson	1.34	18.67	2.18	-1.67	-1.21	87	61	73.4	+2	161	2768	+191
Hardinsburg	0.44	26.83	1.41	+5.31	-2.00	92	64	76.1	+4	175	3002	-3
Henderson	0.29	21.31	1.16	+1.45	-1.70	92	64	75.8	+2	175	3006	-30
Huntington	1.67	18.88	2.24	-1.55	-1.32	87	59	73.1	+2	160	2764	+3
Jackson	1.07	18.47	1.16	-3.19	-2.46	87	63	73.6	+2	162	2810	+203
Lexington	1.79	19.40	2.18	-1.54	-1.37	90	64	75.2	+4	169	2820	+59
London	1.81	17.42	2.21	-2.45	-0.78	90	63	74.7	+4	168	2925	+195
Louisville	0.23	20.38	0.82	+0.02	-2.38	93	65	77.4	+5	179	3217	+180
Mayfield	0.51	11.89	0.51	-9.86	-2.95	91	65	75.6	+2	173	2930	-136
Nashville	1.65	20.86	1.66	+0.61	-1.47	91	66	76.6	+5	178	3288	+68
Nolin Lake	0.32	22.08	0.58	-0.65	-2.81	91	65	77.5	+6	179	3085	+294
Paducah	0.74	24.16	0.83	+2.63	-2.19	94	63	76.9	+3	177	3161	+33
Princeton	0.52	20.16	1.05	-1.75	-2.57	94	63	76.9	+3	178	3159	+62
Quicksand	1.08	16.76	1.16	-4.90	-2.46	91	65	74.0	+3	162	2899	+292
Somerset	1.66	22.66	2.46	+0.19	-1.08	90	63	75.6	+4	174	2805	-16
Spindletop	0.27	17.52	1.08	-3.42	-2.47	92	64	76.1	+5	172	2810	+49
Williamstown	0.53	23.75	1.97	+3.16	-1.40	91	63	75.8	+5	173	2766	+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.wagwx.ca.uky.edu/>