



**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: Dry conditions continued throughout the Commonwealth last week. As of Sunday, September 28, **topsoil moisture** was rated as 65 percent very short, 28 percent short and 7 percent adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 60 percent very short, 31 percent short and 9 percent adequate. Rainfall totaled 0.0 inches, which was 0.80 inches below normal. Temperatures for the week averaged 70 degrees, 5 degrees above normal and 3 degrees warmer than the previous week. Main farm activities for the week were harvesting corn and soybeans, cutting hay and harvesting tobacco. Fieldwork was possible for 6.6 days out of a total 7 days.

CORN: Grain and silage harvest continued, but remained behind normal. By September 28, 38 percent of the corn had been harvested, compared to last year's 78 percent and 58 percent for the five year average. At 93 percent, maturity levels are still behind the 99 percent a year ago and the five year average of 95 percent. Virtually all the corn crop had reached the dent stage. The crop was rated 3 percent very poor, 14 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 34 percent good, and 18 percent excellent.

SOYBEANS: Farmers began harvesting their soybean crop. Seven percent of soybeans were harvested, compared to 17 percent last year and 11 percent for the five year average. Sixty-four percent of soybeans have dropped leaves, compared to 76 percent last year and the five year average of 70 percent. About 37 percent of the soybean crop had matured, compared to last year's 50 percent and 46 percent for the five year average. Soybean condition was rated 8 percent very poor, 23 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 24 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. Farmers reported 78 percent of the soybean crop was safe from frost damage.

TOBACCO: The tobacco harvest continued to progress. Ninety-one percent of burley tobacco had been cut as of Sunday, September 28, even with last year, and ahead of the five year average of 89

percent. Eighty-four percent of the dark tobacco had been cut, behind last year's 95 percent and the five year average of 88 percent. Two percent of the tobacco crop had been stripped, 11 percent was ready for stripping, and 87 percent was not ready. Housed crop condition was rated 2 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 11 percent excellent.

OTHER CROPS AND PASTURE: Wheat seeding had begun with farmers reporting 4 percent of the crop seeded. Many farmers continued to wait for improved moisture for germination before planting fall grains. Farmers continued to report poor conditions for pastures and hay crops due to dry weather. Pastures were rated 42 percent very poor, 35 percent poor, 17 percent fair, and 6 percent good.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 09/28/08

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Percent				
Corn Mature	93	84	99	95
Corn Harvested	38	22	78	58
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	64	43	76	70
Soybeans Mature	37	20	50	46
Soybeans Harvested	7	1	17	11
Winter Wheat Seeded	4	NA	4	3
Burley Tobacco Cut	91	80	91	89
Dark Tobacco Cut	84	74	95	88

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 09/28/08

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent				
Topsoil	65	28	7	0
Subsoil	60	31	9	0

CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 09/28/08

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Ex
Percent					
Corn	3	14	31	34	18
Soybeans	8	23	30	24	15
Pasture	42	35	17	6	0
Tobacco	2	7	32	48	11

KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, SEPTEMBER 22 - 28, 2008:

Above Normal Temperatures and Below Normal Rainfall:

Abnormally dry crop moisture conditions and very warm temperatures dominated the Bluegrass state last week. Afternoon humidities were repeatedly near or below 30 percent and only limited rainfall was received across the state. The latest U.S. Drought Monitor indicated over 82 percent of the Commonwealth in Moderate hydrologic drought and nearly 20 percent in Severe hydrologic drought. It was the 7th week in the past 8 weeks with below normal rainfall in Kentucky.

Temperatures for the period averaged 70 degrees across the state which was 5 degrees above normal and 3 degrees warmer than the previous week. High temperatures averaged from 86 in the West to 82 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 7 degrees above normal in the West to 7 degrees above normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 55 degrees in the West to 56 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from near normal in the West to 3 degrees above normal in the East.

Rainfall for the past 7 days totaled 0.00 inches statewide which was 0.80 inches below normal. Rainfall totals by climate division, West 0.00 inches, Central 0.00 inches, Bluegrass 0.00 inches and East 0.01 inches, which was 0.82, 0.85, 0.77 and 0.77 inches respectively below normal. By station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.00 inches at Bardstown to a high of 0.41 inches at Bristol.

Tom Priddy

KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 7:00 P.M.

Weather Station	Rainfall			Deviation From		Air Temperature				Relative Humidity	
	Last Week	Since April 1	Last Four Wks	Norm Since Apr. 1	Norm Last 4 Wks	High	Low	Wkly. Avg.	Dev. From Norm	High	Low
		(Inches)				(Degrees Fahrenheit)					
Bardstown	0.00	18.35	0.21	-5.58	-2.78	89	53	69.9	+5	92	47
Berea	0.00	19.42	0.55	-5.74	-3.18	84	57	72.1	+9	84	46
Bowling Green	0.00	19.65	1.40	-5.50	-2.07	90	50	70.8	+6	86	41
Bristol	0.41	16.18	2.50	-5.09	-0.54	83	46	64.5	+1	93	39
Buckhorn Lake	0.00	16.07	0.37	-7.85	-3.05	87	54	69.9	+6	84	40
Cape Girardeau	0.00	24.63	1.89	+1.18	-1.44	88	49	68.9	+2	93	37
Campbellsville	0.00	16.78	0.26	-11.58	-4.07	88	50	69.3	+5	92	50
Covington	0.00	20.25	1.03	-1.90	-1.66	85	57	70.5	+7	88	42
Cumberland Gap	0.04	16.43	0.97	-9.19	-1.90	87	54	69.9	+6	93	39
Dix Dam	0.00	17.74	0.58	-6.93	-2.60	86	54	70.6	+7	88	43
Evansville	0.00	23.12	0.88	+0.94	-1.89	90	51	70.6	+4	85	49
Glasgow	0.00	21.81	0.42	-5.37	-3.21	90	48	69.9	+5	83	32
Grayson	0.03	18.90	0.23	-4.01	-2.34	86	54	69.1	+5	92	50
Hardinsburg	0.00	28.06	1.23	+3.13	-2.18	90	52	70.9	+6	94	54
Henderson	0.00	22.55	1.24	-0.54	-1.99	89	54	70.4	+4	85	49
Huntington	0.01	18.95	0.07	-4.09	-2.54	86	52	68.5	+5	90	45
Jackson	0.00	19.04	0.57	-5.91	-2.72	85	57	68.6	+5	85	42
Lexington	0.00	20.40	1.00	-3.53	-1.99	86	53	69.4	+6	88	43
London	0.00	17.60	0.18	-5.52	-3.07	87	49	67.7	+4	86	40
Louisville	0.00	21.23	1.05	-2.08	-1.90	90	54	70.8	+6	80	39
Mayfield	0.00	12.23	0.34	-13.23	-3.37	87	54	69.9	+3	92	50
Nashville	0.03	21.74	0.88	-1.69	-2.30	88	52	72.1	+7	90	45
Nolin Lake	0.00	22.90	0.82	-3.77	-3.12	90	51	70.9	+6	83	32
Paducah	0.00	24.76	0.60	-0.21	-2.84	90	49	70.1	+3	85	46
Princeton	0.00	20.08	0.28	-4.94	-2.83	92	53	71.8	+5	91	45
Quicksand	0.00	16.81	0.05	-8.14	-3.24	87	54	69.9	+6	92	50
Somerset	0.00	22.70	0.04	-3.50	-3.69	87	50	67.5	+4	93	37
Spindletop	0.00	18.39	0.87	-5.54	-2.12	88	52	69.1	+6	92	48
Williamstown	0.00	24.73	0.98	+1.16	-2.00	85	54	69.9	+6	92	50

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.gwx.ca.uky.edu/>