



**NATIONAL  
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STATISTICS  
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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

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**AGRICULTURAL NEWS:** Below normal temperatures and rainfall was the trend across the Commonwealth during last week, pushing the average temperature 3 degrees below normal. Total rainfall for the week was 0.13 inches, 0.93 inches below average. Some rains over the weekend may have caused some additional flooding or delays for fieldwork. **Topsoil moisture** was rated as 5 percent short, 77 percent adequate, and 18 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated as 1 percent very short, 4 percent short, 71 percent adequate, and 24 percent surplus. There were 5.4 days, out of a possible 7, suitable for fieldwork. This was the first week in a month with below normal rainfall which allowed field work to show significant progress. The main farming activities for the week were planting corn and soybeans, setting tobacco, cutting and baling hay and spraying fungicide. However, soil saturation in a few areas did not permit much fieldwork.

**TOBACCO:** As of Sunday May 24, 38 percent of burley tobacco acreage had been set compared with 27 percent last year and the five year average of 37 percent. Twenty Seven percent of the dark tobacco has been set, behind of last year's 29 percent and the five year average of 34 percent. Farmers reported the tobacco crop condition as 2 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 63 percent good and 17 percent excellent. Tobacco producers were still anxious for the fields to dry from the rain to continue tobacco setting.

**CORN:** Corn planting progress accelerated due to the dry weather conditions. Reported progress was 75 percent of intended acreage planted, down 7 percent from last year, and down 18 percent from the five year average. Corn emergence was reported at 50 percent, 17 percent below the previous year, and 34 percent below the five year average. The average emerged corn height was 4 inches, with the most advanced height at 11 inches. Emerged corn condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 12 percent poor, 42 percent fair, 37 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. Some fields were still in the process of being replanted.

**SOYBEANS:** Soybean planting progress was reported at 13 percent, down 8 percent from last year, and 30 percent below the five year average. Soybeans emerged was reported at 5 percent, behind last year's 8 percent and the five year average of 24 percent.

**SMALL GRAINS:** Winter wheat condition was reported as 1 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. Some lodging was reported due to the rain and wind, but overall not a major concern. Some farmers report that the wet weather has increased the disease level in the winter wheat crop. Rains and wind have prevented widespread spraying for disease; however some farmers have been applying fungicides.

**OTHER CROPS AND PASTURE:** For the week of May 24, hay crop condition was rated as 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 22 percent excellent. Pasture condition was rated as 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. Farmers were busy cutting and baling hay this past week as ideal weather condition prevailed.

### CROP PROGRESS for week ending 05/24/09

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr
				Avg
Percent				
Corn Planted	75	45	82	93
Corn Emerged	50	37	67	84
Soybeans Planted	13	3	21	43
Soybeans Emerged	5	2	8	24
Burley Tobacco Set	38	7	27	37
Dark Tobacco Set	27	3	29	34

### SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 05/24/09

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil	0	5	77	18
Subsoil	1	4	71	24

### CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 05/24/09

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Ex
Corn Emerged	1	12	42	37	8
Wheat	1	6	22	53	18
Pasture	1	4	25	52	18
Hay Crops	1	4	28	45	22
Tobacco Set	0	2	18	63	17

# **KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, MAY 18 - 24, 2009:**

## **Below Normal Temperatures and Rainfall:**

Much needed dry conditions and a warming trend aided Kentucky agriculture last week. For the first week in the past month, below normal rainfall allowed field activity to advance and flooded fields to recede across the Commonwealth. This was the longest period of dry weather so far this spring season.

Temperatures for the period averaged 65 degrees across the state which was 3 degrees below normal and similar to the previous week. High temperatures averaged from 79 in the West to 78 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 3 degrees below normal in the West to 1 degree above normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 53 degrees in the West to 51 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 4 degrees below normal in the West to 5 degrees below normal in the East.

Rainfall for the period totaled 0.13 inches statewide which was 0.93 inches below normal. Rainfall totals by climate division, West 0.38 inches, Central 0.07 inches, Bluegrass 0.04 inches and East 0.02 inches, which was respectively 0.72, 1.04, 0.98 and 0.99 inches below normal. By station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.00 inches at Bardstown to a high of 0.82 inches at Princeton.

Tom Priddy

## **KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 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	10.54	4.75	+3.20	+0.77	86	41	66.2	-2	119	670	+10	
Berea	0.05	8.77	4.43	+0.79	+0.14	84	39	62.8	-4	101	638	-46	
Bowling Green	0.25	8.98	4.74	+0.84	+0.34	86	42	67.0	-1	127	709	+25	
Bristol	0.01	6.23	3.70	-0.09	+0.24	84	36	63.1	-4	110	616	+10	
Buckhorn Lake	0.17	5.16	2.48	-1.77	-1.20	85	41	65.0	-2	114	625	+19	
Cape Girardeau	0.10	7.94	4.33	-0.51	-0.28	84	44	67.1	-3	124	694	-14	
Campbellsville	0.35	10.53	5.00	+1.77	+0.35	84	39	63.4	-5	104	638	-46	
Covington	0.00	6.30	2.99	-0.76	-0.82	85	41	66.1	-1	120	593	+17	
Cumberland Gap	0.00	8.06	4.15	+0.26	-0.12	85	41	65.0	-2	114	626	+20	
Dix Dam	0.06	9.13	4.70	+1.24	+0.47	84	40	63.0	-4	99	609	-51	
Evansville	0.05	10.73	6.01	+3.03	+1.80	88	42	67.6	-2	128	686	+32	
Glasgow	0.01	10.65	4.40	+2.18	-0.12	86	39	66.1	-2	123	714	+90	
Grayson	0.01	7.29	4.46	+0.36	+0.68	85	38	62.6	-4	101	616	+64	
Hardinsburg	0.10	12.73	5.71	+4.65	+1.37	87	42	65.9	-2	121	663	-21	
Henderson	0.03	9.33	4.86	+1.55	+0.77	85	42	65.0	-5	112	658	-26	
Huntington	0.00	7.88	4.62	+0.98	+0.84	85	36	64.9	-2	120	627	+21	
Jackson	0.00	12.05	8.74	+4.48	+4.72	84	42	66.9	+0	124	643	+37	
Lexington	0.10	8.49	3.87	+1.15	-0.11	85	40	65.6	-1	119	601	+25	
London	0.00	10.83	7.16	+3.61	+3.34	84	38	64.9	-2	118	637	+31	
Louisville	0.05	7.61	4.61	-0.20	+0.47	86	43	67.4	-1	125	670	+16	
Mayfield	0.80	7.00	4.93	-1.93	+0.38	85	41	65.0	-5	114	636	-102	
Nashville	0.19	12.14	8.24	+3.99	+3.88	85	43	67.6	-0	131	747	+9	
Nolin Lake	0.02	11.41	6.35	+2.64	+1.50	86	42	64.7	-3	111	684	+24	
Paducah	0.49	8.37	5.47	-0.46	+0.98	86	43	67.7	-2	130	731	+23	
Princeton	0.82	11.00	6.59	+2.36	+2.11	85	40	66.1	-4	122	708	-6	
Quicksand	0.00	11.46	8.13	+3.89	+4.11	85	41	65.0	-2	114	622	+16	
Somerset	0.00	10.89	6.14	+2.61	+1.63	81	38	62.8	-4	101	584	-76	
Spindletop	0.00	7.59	3.30	+0.25	-0.68	86	39	65.3	-2	117	582	+6	
Williamstown	0.04	9.63	4.36	+2.07	+0.39	85	41	63.4	-3	104	593	+17	

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/>