



Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending April 2, 2006

Agricultural Summary

Field work has slowed for Missouri farmers, as storms soaked fields in much of the State during the past week. An average of 3.3 **days** were **suitable for fieldwork**. In spite of the recent delays, fertilizer application and spring tillage have progressed at the normal pace, although the Bootheel is well behind normal due to March rains. Thirty-six percent of tillage on **ground intended for spring crops** has been completed, compared with 41 percent last year and the 5-year average of 35 percent. Row crop planting has begun in scattered areas of the State, especially in the Bootheel, where corn is being planted between rain events. The moisture situation has started to improve, with **topsoil moisture** rated at 8 percent very short, 21 percent very short, 67 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. **Subsoil** will still need more recharging from last year's drought. It is rated at 18 percent very short, 41 percent short, and 41 percent adequate.

Field Crops Report

Corn planting has started in the southern two-thirds of the state, while planters are ready to roll in northern areas. Recent rains have given a boost to topsoil moisture, creating good conditions for up-coming germination. The **wheat** crop is rated at 2 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. Reports from across the State indicate the crop is growing well due to recent rain.

Pasture & Livestock

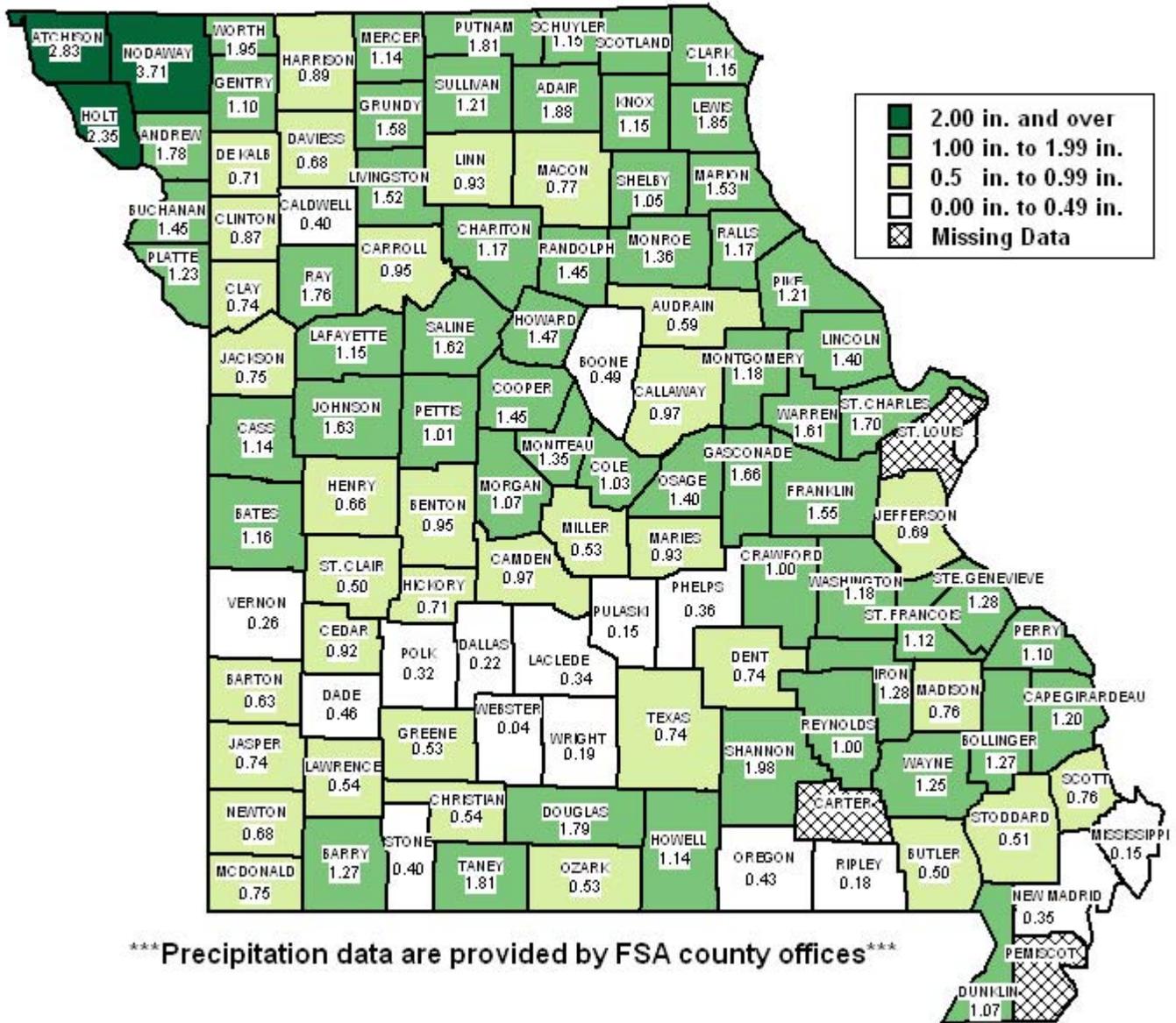
Pasture condition is rated at 11 percent very poor, 19 percent poor, 50 percent fair, 18 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Grasses have greened up, but growth is slow from lingering effects of last year's drought and temperatures which, until this week, have been cool. **Hay supplies** are rated at 14 percent very short, 27 percent short, 55 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. **Stock water supplies** are rated at 14 percent very short, 29 percent short, 56 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. The southwest is still gripped by drought and remains significantly short on both hay and stock water supplies.

Weather Summary

Missouri **temperatures** during the past week were 3 to 7 degrees above normal throughout the State, with the warmest areas being the southeast and southwest. **Rainfall** for the State averaged 1.03 inches during the week. The southeast district recorded the lowest average at 0.57 inches while the northwest district averaged 1.50 inches, with Atchison, Holt, and Nodaway counties receiving well over 2 inches. Most northern and east-central counties averaged over 1 inch.

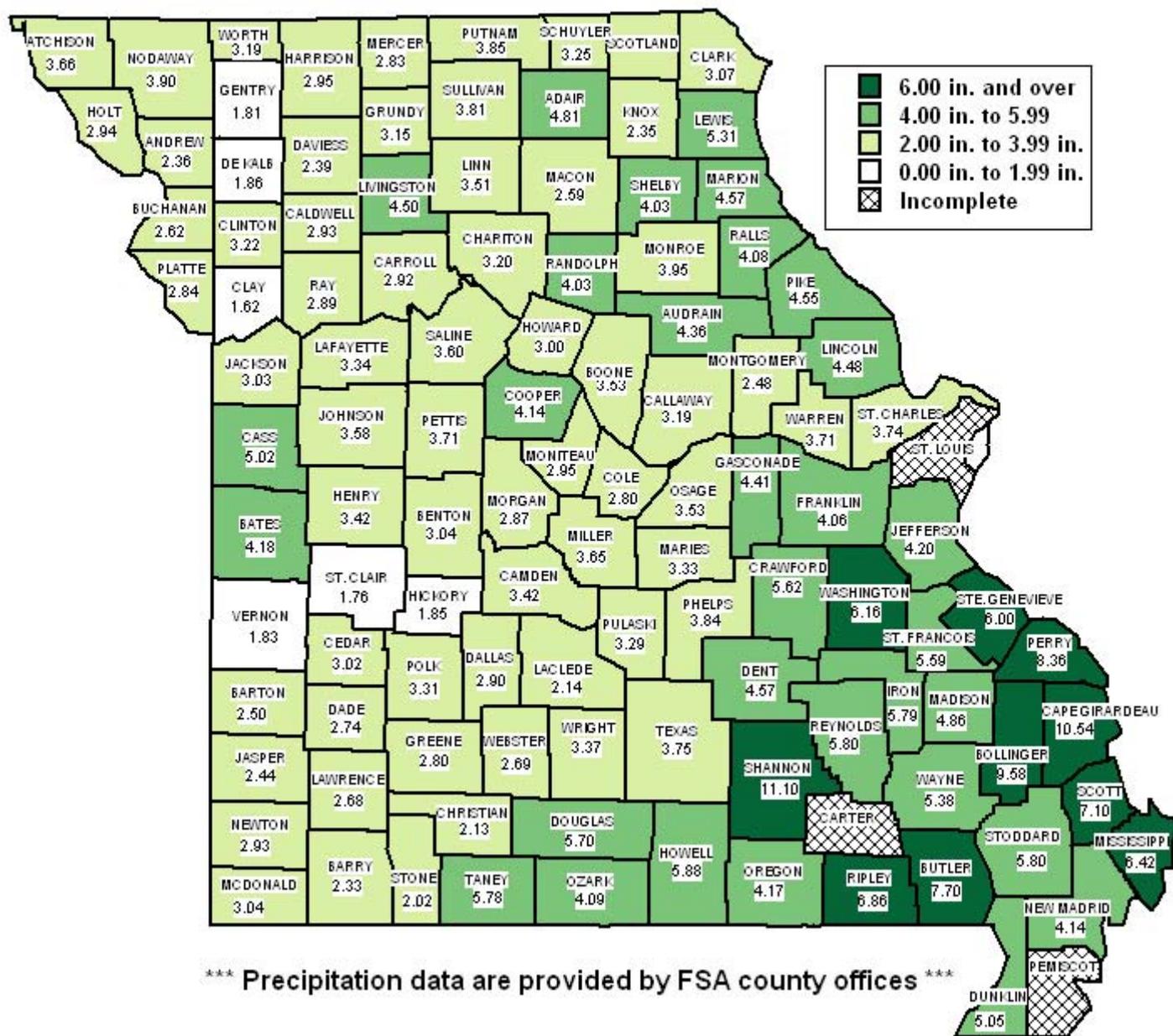
Missouri Summary For Week Ending April 2, 2006						
		This Year	Last Year	Normal		
Days Suitable For Fieldwork	days	3.3	5.3	N/A		
Ground Worked (Spring Tillage)	%	36	41	35		
		Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	
Topsoil Moisture Supply	%	8	21	67	4	
Subsoil Moisture Supply	%	18	41	41	0	
Supply of Hay and Other Roughages	%	14	27	55	4	
Stock Water Supplies	%	14	29	56	1	
		Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat Condition	%	0	2	29	54	15
Pasture Condition	%	11	19	50	18	2

Precipitation for Week Ending April 2, 2006



Precipitation data are provided by FSA county offices

Precipitation for Previous Four Weeks Ending April 2, 2006



*** Precipitation data are provided by FSA county offices ***