



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending April 1, 2007

CORN PLANTING AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

Corn farmers across the Volunteer State took advantage of the recent warm weather to push corn planting progress to nearly two weeks ahead of normal. Over a third of the acreage has already been planted, the highest percentage since records began in 1969. Winter wheat was developing about a week ahead of schedule and was rated in mostly good condition. Wheat growers were able to make their top dressing applications on time and there has been virtually no crop damage due to insects or disease. Apple trees were budding and blooming a few days ahead of normal and were rated in mostly good condition. The peach crop was also developing ahead of schedule, with no major problems reported. Nurseries were busy digging and planting stock. Dry weather over the winter months has taken a toll on pastures and hay fields so far. Pastures were rated in mostly fair-to-poor condition, with hay fields slightly better. Cattle were rated in mostly fair-to-good condition with hay stocks in mostly short supply. Other field activities last week included applying fungicides and insecticides to wheat, turning tobacco fields, and fertilizing pastures and hay fields.

There were 6 days suitable for fieldwork last week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 12 percent very short, 42 percent short, 45 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 15 percent very short, 47 percent short, and 38 percent adequate. Temperatures averaged well above normal across the State last week with some readings reaching the upper 80's. Precipitation amounts varied from west to east across the State with West Tennessee generally above normal while the remainder of the State averaged below normal.

CROP PROGRESS: Through April 1, 2007					CONDITION: On March 30, 2007					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent					Percent				
Apples – Budding or Beyond	71	n/a	66	64	Apples	0	0	27	63	10
Apples – Blooming or Beyond	40	n/a	28	30	Cattle	2	8	38	45	7
Corn – Planted	36	n/a	8	13	Hay	5	17	47	28	3
Peaches – Budding or Beyond	90	n/a	85	85	Pastures	10	21	42	24	3
Peaches – Blooming or Beyond	75	n/a	67	60	Winter Wheat	0	3	28	46	23
Winter Wheat – Jointed	59	n/a	44	42						
Winter Wheat – Top Dressed	89	n/a	85	87						

n/a = not available

County Agent Comments

“With unusually warm weather for March, corn planting has started off with a bang. Expect corn planting to be completed possibly two weeks ahead of normal if weather continues to remain warm and dry.”

Tim Smith, Dyer County

“1/2 inch to 1 inch of rain on March 28, helped relieve the extreme drought conditions. The subsoil moisture remains short. Pastures and hay crops are stunted because of the lack of moisture.”

John Bartee, Montgomery County

“Spring rains are helping over-grazed pastures. Hay feeding has significantly been reduced although pastures remain short.”

Cynthia Zeitz, Jackson County

“Dry, warm conditions have spurred activity in the corn planting arena. Some farmers have reported that some of their earlier planted corn has already germinated and is spiking out of the ground.”

Dean Northcutt, Coffee County

“Big time dry. Things look good for now, but we will be hurting big time if we don't get significant rain soon. Scary dry!”

Mannie Bedwell, Hamblen County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: April 1, 2007 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending April 1, 2007				Current Week 04/01/07	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
Ames_Plantation	89	53	71	15	0.78	2	8.18	-5.77	0.54	0.36
Tri-City_RGNL_A	83	44	65	14	0.11	2	5.62	-4.86	0.10	-0.01
Brownsville_TN	85	54	70	15	1.12	2	8.59	-5.38	0.80	0.63
Chattanooga/Lov	88	53	70	17	0.46	2	7.69	-8.21	0.44	0.27
Clarksville_Sew	84	57	70	18	0.43	4	9.21	-4.61	0.09	-0.08
Cookeville	85	47	68	17	0.23	3	9.91	-5.29	0.01	-0.16
Covington	84	57	70	16	1.33	2	9.59	-4.27	0.81	0.63
Crossville_AP	82	53	67	17	0.09	3	7.05	-8.15	0.03	-0.15
Dayton	84	53	67	13	0.33	2	6.92	-9.28	0.29	0.11
Dickson_AG	86	52	69	16	2.07	4	9.67	-4.51	0.08	-0.09
Dover_1W	85	56	70	18	2.21	3	11.48	-2.59	1.10	0.93
Dyersburg	84	57	71	16	1.32	2	9.84	-3.14	0.76	0.60
Erwin_1W	83	47	64	16	0.04	1	5.62	-6.03	0.00	-0.14
Huntingdon_Wate	85	54	70	17	0.82	3	8.76	-5.16	0.35	0.19
Jackson_Exp_Stn	87	58	72	18	0.74	2	9.30	-4.14	0.62	0.46
Kingston_AG	86	52	67	17	0.61	2	8.52	-7.73	0.32	0.15
Knoxville_AP	85	52	69	17	0.31	3	7.21	-6.25	0.17	0.03
Lewisburg	85	51	67	16	0.62	2	7.63	-7.12	0.00	-0.17
Lexington_TN	85	58	70	18	1.34	3	10.04	-3.31	0.45	0.29
Linden	88	48	70	18	0.73	3	9.26	-5.90	0.10	-0.07
Martin	85	57	70	18	1.40	5	11.35	-2.06	0.44	0.27
Mc_Minnville_Tn	85	56	71	17	0.05	1	7.07	-7.52	0.05	-0.12
Memphis_AG	89	57	72	15	1.48	2	9.33	-4.34	1.36	1.18
Milan	87	52	71	18	1.04	3	8.81	-4.98	0.57	0.40
Murfreesboro_5N	86	50	68	16	0.50	2	10.88	-3.06	0.00	-0.16
Nashville_Metro	86	58	71	17	1.31	3	7.58	-4.81	0.01	-0.14
Newcomb	87	46	66	18	0.35	1	8.01	-6.02	0.00	-0.16
Oneida	85	50	66	18	0.00	0	7.50	-6.53	0.00	-0.16
Portland_TN	84	57	70	19	0.36	1	9.36	-4.10	0.00	-0.16
Pulaski_Water_P	85	48	67	12	0.65	2	9.06	-6.51	0.02	-0.16
Savannah_6SW	87	58	71	15	0.29	2	8.66	-6.98	0.00	-0.18
Sparta_TN	85	55	70	18	0.99	3	9.19	-5.54	0.80	0.64
Springfield	87	55	69	19	0.35	3	8.90	-4.12	0.01	-0.14
Springhill	90	55	70	19	1.55	4	9.68	-5.11	0.18	0.00
Union_City	83	49	67	16	1.48	4	10.48	-2.87	0.27	0.10
Waynesboro_TN	85	52	68	17	0.39	3	8.33	-7.63	0.14	-0.05

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

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