



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending April 22, 2007

EFFECTS OF EASTER FREEZE BECOMING CLEARER

Last week's seasonal temperatures allowed evidence of the extreme cold weather during the week ending April 8 to become more measurable. Crops in most areas were damaged more severely than previously thought, as reflected in condition ratings, which dropped across the board. Many wheat growers are faced with the decision to try to salvage their crop for grain or cut it for hay. Others fear they have totally lost their crop and are deciding whether to replant to another crop. A large number of corn acres have already been replanted with more to be completed over the next several weeks. Despite these setbacks, planting is on pace with normal progress. Virtually all of the State's winter wheat crop was jointing with nearly half heading. Fruits and berries were reported as a total loss in many areas and significantly damaged in nearly all. Nurseries sustained heavy losses as well, with seedling and seed crops showing the most damage. Pasture conditions also declined from the week earlier and were rated in mostly fair to poor condition.

There were 6 days suitable for fieldwork last week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 3 percent very short, 29 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 8 percent very short, 38 percent short, 53 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Temperatures last week averaged near or slightly above normal across central and western portions of the State and slightly below normal in the East. Rainfall was below normal for the entire State last week.

CROP PROGRESS: Through April 22, 2007					CONDITION: On April 20, 2007					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent					Percent				
Apples – Blooming or Beyond	95	86	87	79	Apples	68	23	9	0	0
Corn – Planted	71	54	76	69	Pastures	8	24	42	24	2
Corn – Emerged	44	27	33	31	Peaches	80	18	2	0	0
Winter Wheat – Jointed	99	91	97	92	Strawberries	25	14	23	23	15
Winter Wheat – Headed	45	22	41	23	Winter Wheat	47	37	14	2	0

County Agent Comments

“We will replant at least 40% of the corn acres if we can find enough seed. Corn put back out after the freeze but the (next) week of cool weather caused the corn to expend all of its energy and a large percentage died after re-emerging.”

Richard Buntin, Crockett County

“About 50% of the corn will have to be replanted. The freeze caused more damage to corn than I first thought. It's still too early to know the extent of the damage to wheat, but a high percentage has been replanted to corn.”

John Bartee, Montgomery County

“Wheat a total loss for grain. Strawberries were saved with covers and irrigation. Peach and apple crop a total loss. 30 – 40% of corn to be replanted. Many cutting wheat for hay. Recent rainfall moisture about gone. Ground is hard again. Potatoes frozen back to ground, but expected to recover.”

David Qualls, Lincoln County

“The Easter freeze has caused heavy losses in the county's nursery production. It may take a couple of years to rebound production for some crops like dogwoods and other seedling crops.”

Ed Burns, Franklin County

“As the sunshine returns and the temperatures warm, the freeze damage picture becomes a little more bleak. Many calls have come in on the freeze damage to hardwood trees of the forest in the higher elevations. The ‘Brown Zone’ of the surrounding mountains is very visible from the valley.”

John Wilson, Marion County

“I visited a few apple orchards this week and found that even flowers that had opened up in the last week were damaged from the cold on the inside and will not produce any fruit. Some hay fields have had some damage as well. The worst hay field that I saw had about 50% of the grass lying nearly flat on the ground.”

Ty Petty, Unicoi County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: April 22, 2007 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION						
	Week Ending April 22, 2007				Current Week 04/22/07	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	82	34	57	-6	0.00	0	11.35	-6.59	3.71	-0.46	
Tri-City_RGNL_A	75	35	53	-4	0.53	1	7.87	-4.92	2.35	-0.07	
Brownsville_TN	81	37	59	-4	0.00	0	10.90	-6.80	3.11	-0.79	
Chattanooga/Lov	79	37	57	-4	0.00	0	10.27	-8.68	3.02	-0.20	
Clarksville_Sew	82	36	58	-2	0.11	1	12.59	-4.40	3.47	0.13	
Cookeville	78	31	51	-8	0.19	1	12.72	-5.70	2.82	-0.57	
Covington	81	39	59	-3	0.00	0	12.44	-5.23	3.66	-0.33	
Crossville_AP	74	36	52	-5	0.04	2	10.80	-7.76	3.78	0.24	
Dayton	75	38	55	-5	0.02	1	9.67	-9.69	3.04	-0.30	
Dickson_AG	81	33	57	-4	0.00	0	12.70	-4.99	3.11	-0.57	
Dover_1W	80	36	58	-2	0.00	0	14.05	-3.49	3.67	0.03	
Dyersburg	81	37	59	-4	0.00	0	12.21	-4.02	3.13	-0.28	
Erwin_1W	74	34	52	-2	1.22	3	8.25	-6.16	2.63	-0.27	
Huntingdon_Wate	81	36	56	-4	0.00	0	10.63	-6.54	2.22	-1.19	
Jackson_Exp_Stn	82	35	58	-4	0.03	1	11.58	-5.38	2.90	-0.78	
Kingston_AG	77	35	55	-4	0.12	1	12.32	-7.03	4.12	0.85	
Knoxville_AP	75	34	55	-5	0.38	2	11.00	-5.08	3.96	1.20	
Lewisburg	79	33	53	-6	0.11	1	10.30	-7.67	2.67	-0.72	
Lexington_TN	81	35	57	-4	0.07	1	13.13	-3.41	3.54	0.19	
Linden	82	32	55	-4	0.00	0	12.61	-5.93	3.45	-0.10	
Martin	80	39	57	-3	0.00	0	14.00	-2.98	3.03	-0.71	
Mc_Minnville_Tn	78	39	57	-4	0.00	0	10.07	-7.63	3.05	-0.23	
Memphis_AG	83	38	59	-5	0.01	1	11.79	-5.72	3.82	-0.20	
Milan	80	35	56	-4	0.00	0	11.21	-6.03	2.97	-0.65	
Murfreesboro_5N	78	30	52	-7	0.16	1	13.98	-3.04	3.10	-0.14	
Nashville_Metro	78	38	57	-4	0.06	1	10.04	-5.36	2.47	-0.69	
Newcomb	78	34	51	-4	0.36	2	12.55	-4.58	4.54	1.28	
Oneida	76	34	51	-4	0.21	2	10.91	-6.22	3.41	0.15	
Portland_TN	77	34	54	-5	0.14	1	12.28	-4.20	2.92	-0.26	
Pulaski_Water_P	76	32	54	-9	0.00	0	11.70	-7.00	2.66	-0.65	
Savannah_6SW	82	38	58	-5	0.04	1	12.07	-7.35	3.41	-0.55	
Sparta_TN	80	34	56	-3	0.00	0	12.59	-5.33	4.20	0.85	
Springfield	78	32	52	-7	0.11	1	11.45	-4.57	2.56	-0.59	
Springhill	79	34	56	-3	0.08	1	12.24	-6.09	2.74	-0.98	
Union_City	79	37	56	-4	0.00	0	13.53	-3.18	3.32	-0.21	
Waynesboro_TN	80	30	55	-5	0.08	1	11.35	-8.33	3.16	-0.75	

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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