



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending April 27, 2008

FIELD ACTIVITIES ADVANCE DESPITE SHOWERS

Producers made favorable progress last week with most fieldwork, despite frequent showers across much of West Tennessee. Half of the State's corn acreage had been planted by week's end with side-dressing underway. Planting of the corn crop continues to lag behind last year and the 5-year average by about two weeks. Cotton planting began last week, mostly in southern middle portions of the State. Nearly the entire winter wheat crop has reached the jointing stage, in line with the 5-year average. Fungicide applications also began last week. The crop was rated in mostly good condition with only a few reports of insect and disease pressure. Besides planting, the other major agricultural field activities last week were applying pesticides, fertilizer, and harvesting early strawberries.

There were 6 days suitable for fieldwork last week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 11 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 13 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 3 percent very short, 16 percent short, 69 percent adequate, and 12 percent surplus. Temperatures averaged slightly above normal across Tennessee last week. Rainfall across the middle portions of the State was below normal, western portions were slightly above, and everywhere else remained near normal last week.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2007	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent					Percent				
Apples – Budding or Beyond	99	93	100	99	Apples	0	2	26	63	9
Apples – Blooming or Beyond	86	67	98	90	Pastures	2	10	33	47	8
Corn – Planted	50	17	78	79	Peaches	0	3	19	59	19
Cotton – Planted	2	n/a	4	6	Strawberries	2	5	31	53	9
Peaches – Blooming or Beyond	96	87	100	95	Winter Wheat	2	4	17	54	23
Winter Wheat – Jointed	95	82	99	97						
Winter Wheat – Headed	25	2	62	49						
Winter Wheat – Top Dressed	98	93	100	100						

n/a = not available

County Agent Comments

“Overall, our farming situation is good. Farmers are having trouble planting corn because of rains. As soon as soil becomes dry enough to plant, it rains; thus postponing planting. Upland wheat is in good to excellent condition and some of the earlier wheat is beginning to head. Pasture conditions are good and almost all farmers are no longer feeding hay.”

JC Dupree, Jr., Lauderdale County

“Good week so far. Corn planting is in full swing, pastures continue to get fertilized and sprayed for weeds. Freeze last week did very little damage to fruit.”

Steve Glass, Decatur County

“Farmers are optimistic about wheat crop, minimal disease pressure at this point. Tobacco greenhouse plants are in very good condition, growth of plants a little behind schedule but sunny, warm weather may help. Some growers are looking at beginning to set tobacco this week.”

Paul Hart, Robertson County

“Wheat producers have been busy applying fungicide and insecticide applications. About 10% of the crop is showing visible head emergence. Powdery mildew was noticeable in most fields but warmer, drier conditions have slowed progress. A few cereal leaf beetles have emerged. Overall the crop appears to have better than average yield potential. Drier conditions have allowed corn producers to catch up on planting with about 90% of the crop planted and 25% of the crop emerged. Most of the larger acreage producers reporting planting complete. Warmer and drier conditions allowed cotton growers to get a number of acres planted with about a fourth of the crop planted. Pastures and the hay crop continues to progress with warmer conditions, hay feeding has ceased. Fescue is beginning to mature with the bulk of the crop in the boot to early head stage.”

Ed Burns, Franklin County

“Producers took advantage of good work weather to make good progress with corn planting and early forage harvest. Wheat is making excellent progress with producers applying fungicides and control for cereal leaf beetle on some fields. Strawberry producers are harvesting early berries with good yields of high quality fruit.”

Bob Sliger, Monroe County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: April 27, 2008 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION						
	Week Ending April 27, 2008				Current Week 4/27/08	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	88	44	67	4	0.85	3	22.64	3.56	6.96	1.83	
Tri-City_RGNL_A	83	38	62	5	0	0	12.59	-0.86	1.67	-1.3	
Brownsville_TN	85	51	68	5	0.27	2	22.87	4.08	6.62	1.79	
Chattanooga/Lov	84	47	68	7	0	0	16.09	-3.67	1.95	-1.91	
Clarksville_Sew	86	47	66	6	0.59	3	19.92	2.09	6.79	2.78	
Cookeville	83	41	62	4	0.05	2	16.7	-2.66	3.78	-0.38	
Covington	82	45	65	3	1.28	3	23.45	4.64	7.79	2.84	
Crossville_AP	78	43	63	6	0.1	2	18.36	-1.16	5.19	0.87	
Dayton	83	46	66	5	0.07	1	14.37	-5.89	2.07	-1.99	
Dickson_AG	84	47	65	4	0.63	2	23.04	4.34	8.12	3.6	
Dover_1W	85	46	64	5	0.62	1	25.51	7.01	8.15	3.72	
Dyersburg	86	52	67	4	0.43	3	19.78	2.59	6.24	2.03	
Erwin_1W	82	42	62	6	0	0	11.18	-4.06	1.39	-2.2	
Huntingdon_Wate	87	43	66	5	0.7	1	24.63	6.5	8.03	3.82	
Jackson_Exp_Stn	87	49	68	6	0.9	1	26.38	8.37	7.66	3.08	
Kingston_AG	83	42	64	6	0	0	15.86	-4.4	3	-1.01	
Knoxville_AP	82	44	66	7	0.01	1	14.7	-2.1	2.48	-0.86	
Lewisburg	83	40	62	4	0.43	1	16.8	-2.1	5	0.84	
Lexington_TN	86	46	65	4	0.51	1	24.46	6.97	7.1	2.96	
Linden	85	45	65	6	0.42	1	24.66	5.14	7.57	3.21	
Martin	86	48	66	6	0.66	2	24.74	6.78	6.9	2.35	
Mc_Minnville_Tn	83	46	67	6	0.67	3	14.74	-3.84	4.65	0.66	
Memphis_AG	89	46	68	3	0.64	3	26.98	8.39	9.68	4.76	
Milan	88	44	66	6	0.89	1	26.42	8.16	9.27	4.8	
Murfreesboro_5N	84	43	65	5	0.26	2	16.46	-1.48	4.31	0.31	
Nashville_Metro	84	47	67	6	0.4	2	19.9	3.6	7.08	3.17	
Newcomb	84	40	62	7	0	0	13.04	-4.98	2.51	-1.49	
Oneida	82	41	63	7	0.04	1	8.06	-9.96	2.33	-1.67	
Portland_TN	83	47	64	5	0.38	1	22.09	4.73	7.78	3.88	
Pulaski_Water_P	83	44	64	1	0.17	2	18.66	-0.91	4.59	0.59	
Savannah_6SW	87	45	67	3	0.53	2	22.61	2.11	5.56	0.7	
Sparta_TN	83	41	65	6	0.45	1	15.85	-2.98	3.83	-0.28	
Springfield	83	46	64	6	0.48	2	20.74	3.85	7.28	3.42	
Springhill	85	43	65	6	0.45	1	17.12	-2.23	5.49	0.93	
Union_City	85	44	63	3	0.31	2	22.63	4.96	6.43	2.11	
Waynesboro_TN	84	42	64	5	0.37	2	19.98	-0.78	5.78	0.98	

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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