



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending May 4, 2008

FIELD ACTIVITIES NEAR NORMAL FOR A CHANGE!

Producers took advantage of improved soil conditions at mid-week to advance corn planting to three-fourths completed. Wet conditions returned by week's end, however, limiting cotton and soybean plantings, keeping planting progress behind last year and the normal pace. Tobacco transplanting was also hindered due to wet fields. The wheat crop was rated in good-to-excellent condition with some disease problems reported. Cattle continued to be reported in mostly good condition, while hay was rated in fair-to-good condition. Hay stocks were rated as 28 percent very short, 39 percent short, and 33 percent adequate. Other agricultural activities taking place last week included harvesting hay and strawberries, and applying pesticides and fertilizers.

There were 5 days suitable for fieldwork last week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 9 percent short, 80 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 2 percent very short, 17 percent short, 72 percent adequate, and 9 percent surplus. Temperatures averaged slightly below normal across Tennessee last week. Rainfall was below normal across the Plateau and eastern portions of the state, while western and middle areas ranged from slightly above to above normal.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2007	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent					Percent				
Apples – Blooming or Beyond	96	86	100	97	Apples	0	0	24	69	7
Corn – Planted	75	50	89	87	Cattle	1	4	28	57	10
Corn – Emerged	18	n/a	69	70	Hay	2	9	37	46	6
Cotton – Planted	7	2	18	15	Pastures	2	9	29	51	9
Hay – First Cutting	6	n/a	9	6	Peaches	0	3	19	58	20
Soybeans – Planted	3	n/a	9	8	Strawberries	2	6	26	56	10
Tobacco – Transplanted	3	n/a	5	4	Winter Wheat	1	4	15	59	21
Winter Wheat – Headed	50	25	83	77						

n/a = not available

County Agent Comments

“Producers have made great progress the past 7 days with corn planting. However, a few more acres will be planted from now until the 10th of May. Some grain sorghum planting has begun this week. A few acres of early soybeans have also been planted. Most cotton ground has been burned down and waiting for warmer weather for planting. Wheat continues to progress fairly well. Fungicide applications are being applied as weather and wind allow. Expect many acres to be headed over the next 7 to 10 days.”

Tim Campbell, Dyer County

“Another week of cool, wet weather hampered corn planting across Weakley County. Producers were able to take advantage of drying conditions mid-week to advance corn planting to 70 percent completed. Producers were also busy applying fungicides to wheat, fertilizer to pastures and fields being planted to corn. Burndown herbicides were also applied to corn and soybean fields. Light disease pressure is being found in wheat. Some producers were able to make a cutting of wheat for hay before the next rain event occurs.”

Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

“Things are starting to look normal for a change. Wheat is doing very good overall. Some Barley Yellow Dwarf has been seen in some late planted wheat. Corn crop is about planted and is emerging well. Some may have to be replanted due to cutworms but, overall, crop is good at this point.”

Dean Northcutt, Coffee County

“Some hay was cut over the weekend. There was little, if any rain. Farmers were busy in fields spraying, as well as planting soybeans and corn. Farmers market has lots of bedding plants, ornamentals available. Lots of gardens will be planted this week. Need a good shower.”

J. Dale Beaty, Warren County

“Light to moderate frost was experienced across the county earlier this week. However, no major damage has been reported. Pasture and hay growth is still sluggish along with increasing evidence of loss of forage stand during 2007. Expected yield of first-cutting hay appears it may be marginal. Emerged corn is taking full advantage of this week's rain and looks vigorous.”

John Wilson, Blount County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: May 4, 2008 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION						
	Week Ending May 4, 2008				Current Week 5/4/08	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	79	39	59	-8	2.46	2	25.1	4.74	9.42	3.01	
Tri-City_RGNL_A	83	30	58	-2	1.24	3	13.83	-0.44	2.91	-0.88	
Brownsville_TN	81	39	60	-6	2.06	2	24.93	4.81	8.68	2.52	
Chattanooga/Lov	82	39	62	-2	1.64	3	17.73	-3.01	3.59	-1.25	
Clarksville_Sew	79	34	60	-3	2.42	2	22.34	3.53	9.21	4.22	
Cookeville	79	33	57	-5	1.06	5	17.76	-2.79	4.84	-0.51	
Covington	78	38	58	-8	0.9	2	24.35	4.21	8.69	2.41	
Crossville_AP	76	33	58	-2	1.66	5	20.02	-0.66	6.85	1.37	
Dayton	81	35	59	-5	1.16	3	15.53	-5.88	3.23	-1.98	
Dickson_AG	78	36	58	-6	2.27	3	25.31	5.42	10.39	4.68	
Dover_1W	78	34	56	-8	1.97	3	27.48	7.86	10.12	4.57	
Dyersburg	82	39	61	-6	0.79	2	20.57	2.26	7.03	1.7	
Erwin_1W	83	32	57	-1	1.28	3	12.46	-3.76	2.67	-1.9	
Huntingdon_Wate	80	35	57	-7	1.67	3	26.3	7.03	9.7	4.35	
Jackson_Exp_Stn	79	37	58	-7	2.53	3	28.91	9.64	10.19	4.35	
Kingston_AG	80	34	58	-4	1.5	3	17.36	-4.06	4.5	-0.67	
Knoxville_AP	82	34	60	-2	1.35	3	16.05	-1.63	3.83	-0.39	
Lewisburg	77	33	58	-4	0.83	2	17.63	-2.51	5.83	0.43	
Lexington_TN	78	36	58	-6	2.96	2	27.42	8.77	10.06	4.76	
Linden	79	34	58	-5	2.01	3	26.67	5.92	9.58	3.99	
Martin	80	35	58	-6	1.81	2	26.55	7.47	8.71	3.04	
Mc_Minnville_Tn	79	34	60	-4	1.07	4	14.74	-4.93	4.65	-0.43	
Memphis_AG	79	39	59	-9	3.52	2	30.5	10.66	13.2	7.03	
Milan	79	33	57	-6	3.27	2	29.69	10.24	12.54	6.88	
Murfreesboro_5N	78	34	58	-5	1.13	3	17.59	-1.51	5.44	0.28	
Nashville_Metro	77	38	61	-4	1.86	3	21.76	4.35	8.94	3.92	
Newcomb	81	31	55	-3	1.41	3	14.45	-4.71	3.92	-1.22	
Oneida	80	33	56	-3	0.96	4	9.02	-10.14	3.29	-1.85	
Portland_TN	76	34	57	-5	3.04	4	25.13	6.67	10.82	5.82	
Pulaski_Water_P	78	35	59	-7	0.95	3	19.61	-1.05	5.54	0.45	
Savannah_6SW	81	36	60	-7	1.8	2	24.41	2.58	7.36	1.17	
Sparta_TN	80	33	60	-2	1.11	4	16.74	-3.26	4.72	-0.56	
Springfield	77	34	57	-5	3.14	4	23.93	5.98	10.47	5.55	
Springhill	78	36	59	-3	1.53	2	18.65	-1.95	7.02	1.21	
Union_City	79	34	57	-7	2.97	2	25.6	6.81	9.4	3.96	
Waynesboro_TN	79	33	59	-3	1.73	2	21.71	-0.34	7.51	1.42	

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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