



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending May 3, 2009

FARMERS WORK THROUGH WET CONDITIONS

Widespread rainfall returned to the Volunteer State last week resulting in only 4 days being suitable for fieldwork. Wet conditions have hampered farmers this year in their efforts to plant corn, cotton, and soybeans. Over a quarter of the corn crop has emerged, ahead of last year, but behind the normal pace. Winter wheat was developing slightly behind the normal pace, and the crop was rated in mostly good-to-excellent condition. Hay harvest began on a limited basis last week. Hay stocks were rated in mostly adequate-to-surplus supply. Other agricultural field activities last week included applying herbicides and fungicides.

As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 5 percent short, 61 percent adequate, and 34 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 11 percent short, 67 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Temperatures averaged several degrees above normal across the State last week while precipitation averaged below normal.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2008	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent					Percent				
Apples – Blooming or Beyond	94	83	95	96	Apples	0	1	15	75	9
Corn – Planted	74	37	71	83	Cattle	0	3	19	60	18
Corn – Emerged	27	n/a	15	56	Hay	1	4	21	58	16
Cotton – Planted	5	n/a	6	11	Pastures	1	6	21	55	17
Winter Wheat – Jointed	96	90	98	99	Strawberries	0	4	12	65	19
Winter Wheat – Headed	66	27	46	71	Winter Wheat	0	2	11	62	25

n/a = not available

County Agent Comments

“The next big push will be early soybeans and cotton as soon as current rain front moves out of area. Wheat continues to head out and looks good. However, not sure yield potential is as great as in past 2 or 3 years. Many head appear to be smaller than in the past 2 or 3 years; however, wheat can fool you in realizing final yield. Currently projecting average yield in range of 65 to 70 bushels per acre. May be fooled again!”

Tim Campbell, Dyer County

“Corn producers made good progress through last weekend into Monday, but were halted by scattered showers Monday night. Some producers were able to plant in limited areas on Tuesday. General showers followed by heavy rains on Friday stopped all field work. Producers have also been busy with burndown herbicide applications on fields that will be planted to soybeans. Some limited fungicide applications to wheat have been made, with most wheat now advanced past the proper application stage.”

Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

“The Duck River is rolling in our county this morning. Waters levels have gone down some since the weekend. Planting time in these bottoms will be set back a while.”

Troy Dugger, Hickman County

“Planting was able to take place this week; most of the corn is in the ground now. Tobacco producers were finally able to break ground for setting. A few producers began cutting some of their winter annuals for hay.”

Jason Evitts, Trousdale County

“Rain on Friday helped to end a rapidly drying period brought on by recent winds and warmer temperatures. Corn planting has gained momentum with favorable planting conditions. First-cutting haying has begun on a somewhat shorter forage stand but should prove to be of good quality. Local strawberries are in good quantity and quality which should make for a stellar crop.”

John Wilson, Blount County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: May 3, 2009 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending May 3, 2009				Current Week 5/3/09	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
West										
Ames_Plantation	85	61	72	8	2.13	5	18.40	-1.60	5.95	-0.28
Brownsville_TN	85	59	71	7	1.86	4	14.92	-4.83	4.64	-1.31
Covington	82	57	69	6	1.35	5	16.58	-3.18	5.02	-1.06
Dyersburg	84	57	70	5	3.58	5	15.36	-2.63	6.60	1.43
Huntingdon_Wate	84	56	69	6	5.97	5	22.63	3.70	9.79	4.62
Jackson_Exp_Stn	85	60	71	8	2.34	5	17.81	-1.11	6.69	1.05
Lexington_TN	84	59	70	7	3.70	5	18.31	0.00	8.24	3.12
Martin	85	52	67	6	5.30	6	21.74	2.98	9.10	3.58
Memphis_AG	86	61	72	5	2.44	4	19.81	0.32	6.22	0.22
Milan	85	57	70	8	3.42	5	17.30	-1.81	6.33	0.84
Paris	85	53	67	6	3.00	5	18.97	0.12	6.07	0.73
Savannah_6SW	86	61	72	7	2.99	4	18.31	-3.14	6.49	0.50
Selmer	86	61	73	11	1.99	5	15.72	-5.51	5.17	-0.82
Union_City	83	53	67	5	6.43	6	21.50	3.03	9.59	4.30
Middle										
Clarksville_Sew	85	55	68	7	3.17	6	19.62	1.09	6.12	1.24
Cookeville	87	54	68	9	2.65	3	23.18	2.98	9.04	3.87
Crossville_AP	81	56	67	9	3.12	3	23.81	3.47	9.71	4.39
Dickson_AG	84	56	66	4	5.60	5	21.89	2.34	9.12	3.58
Dover_1W	85	53	67	6	2.85	6	22.93	3.63	8.56	3.16
Fayetteville_TN	85	56	69	9	3.91	3	20.03	-0.40	8.03	2.88
Jamestown	84	56	67	9	3.12	4	23.82	5.05	9.72	4.79
Kingston_Spring	87	56	68	8	6.06	5	21.43	2.50	9.16	4.20
Lawrenceburg_FI	84	58	69	9	3.53	4	16.79	-4.25	7.60	2.38
Lewisburg	83	57	69	8	4.85	4	18.61	-1.17	9.62	4.42
Linden	86	55	69	8	7.42	5	20.69	0.30	10.88	5.48
Livingston_WLIV	87	54	68	8	2.37	3	21.45	3.11	7.31	2.49
Murfreesboro_5N	86	59	71	9	4.03	3	19.83	1.07	8.65	3.67
Nashville_Metro	86	59	69	7	3.55	4	18.02	0.93	7.68	2.83
Oneida	87	55	68	11	1.91	5	17.81	-1.02	6.23	1.27
Portland_TN	84	55	68	8	3.12	4	23.58	5.44	9.48	4.64
Pulaski_Water_P	83	52	68	4	3.62	5	18.75	-1.59	8.54	3.59
Shelbyville	84	59	69	7	6.87	4	21.10	1.13	10.20	5.11
Sparta_TN	86	55	68	8	3.71	4	24.23	4.56	9.11	4.01
Springfield	84	56	69	9	2.68	5	17.08	-0.55	7.43	2.67
Springhill	84	59	69	9	5.98	4	20.59	0.35	10.00	4.37
Tullahoma	81	56	67	5	4.69	3	22.01	0.63	10.40	4.99
East										
Chattanooga/Lov	85	57	70	8	2.37	3	18.90	-1.56	5.75	1.02
Cleveland_6NNE	82	55	68	7	2.73	3	16.33	-4.06	6.02	1.19
Dayton	86	57	69	7	3.21	3	17.88	-3.19	7.33	2.28
Erwin_1W	89	52	68	12	0.24	2	11.65	-4.29	3.09	-1.34
Gatlinburg_2SW	90	52	68	10	1.51	4	17.48	-1.25	4.75	-0.04
Greeneville	88	52	68	10	0.55	3	12.47	-1.98	3.30	-0.46
Kingston_AG	87	55	69	10	2.28	3	19.59	-1.49	6.44	1.44
Knoxville_AP	88	56	70	9	1.12	4	16.91	-0.51	4.02	-0.08
Newcomb	88	52	68	12	2.59	4	19.83	1.00	6.21	1.25
Norris_4NE	88	51	67	8	1.99	3	19.99	1.43	5.95	1.28
Tri-City_RGNL_A	87	49	68	9	0.53	3	13.37	-0.66	3.23	-0.43

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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