



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending May 24, 2009

FINALLY A RELATIVELY GOOD FARMING WEEK

For the first time in a month, weather conditions allowed Tennessee farmers to make decent planting progress. However, growers remain behind schedule, especially in hay harvest. After being critically behind schedule, cotton growers sowed an impressive number of acres last week. Over half of the entire acreage was planted last week. Some corn was replanted due to earlier flooding and reduced stands. Over half of the winter wheat was turning color slightly ahead of the normal pace. Head scab, which affects the wheat yield potential, was reported in some isolated areas. Tobacco growers were busy transplanting last week, and a quarter of crop is in the ground. Over a third of the state's hay crop has been cut.

There were 5 days considered suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 4 percent short, 78 percent adequate, and 18 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 7 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 17 percent surplus. Temperatures for the week averaged 1 to 2 degrees below normal across the entire state. Precipitation was above normal across the western portion of the state but below normal across the middle and eastern portions.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2008	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent					Percent				
Corn – Planted	88	79	96	99	Corn	7	13	31	43	6
Corn – Emerged	78	68	80	93	Hay	1	5	20	58	16
Cotton – Planted	64	10	67	82	Pastures	1	4	18	60	17
Hay – First Cutting	36	8	47	51	Winter Wheat	2	7	24	56	11
Soybeans – Planted	22	7	36	51						
Tobacco – Transplanted	25	9	37	42						
Winter Wheat – Turning Color	52	n/a	21	50						

n/a = not available

County Agent Comments

“Much progress has been made this week catching up on cotton planting. Decisions have been made to either replant corn or destroy and go to soybeans. Estimate approximately 50% of planted corn acres have been affected by last three weeks of rainfall and replant decisions were required. Wheat looks fairly good but as each day goes by we are seeing more wheat scab showing up due to rain falling during flowering period.”

Tim Campbell, Dyer County

“Producers are finishing planting corn and are re-planting some fields where excessive moisture has reduced stands. Planting cotton is wide open. Soybean planting is also rolling. Lots of hay on the ground.”

Richard Buntin, Crockett County

“Tobacco transplanting is in full swing. Transplants for the most part still in good condition in spite of being held in greenhouses during wet weather. First reports of hay yields are good; weather for curing has been excellent. Strawberry harvest still underway, later varieties of matted row berries showing some leaf spot but fruit quality still good with minimal loss due to wet weather.”

Paul Hart, Robertson County

“Several hay fields cut and baled between rains. Most had headed out but quality and quantity appear good.”

David K. Glover, Smith County

“Give farmers a week in the field and watch them go. Lot's of hay cut and baled, corn planted, soybeans planted, best week of the year. Even the strawberries have dried out and are being picked.”

J. Dale Beaty, Warren County

“Producers took advantage of the dry weather to make good progress toward completion of corn planting, only some late corn behind hay-crop silage remains to be planted. Good progress was made on early soybean planting. Hay harvest was the most frequent activity across the county. Hay yields are slightly below a five-year average but considerably above the past two years. Flies are beginning to show up on cattle with controls being applied on a few farms. Generally, fruit crops are in fair to good condition with strawberry harvest moving at a good pace during the week.”

Bob Sliger, Monroe County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: May 24, 2009 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending May 24, 2009				Current Week 5/24/09	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	43	65	-6	0.52	2	23.84	0.35	11.39	1.67
Brownsville_TN	85	47	68	-3	0.67	2	20.51	-3.07	10.23	0.45
Covington	82	46	66	-5	0.40	1	21.58	-1.90	10.02	0.22
Dyersburg	84	46	67	-5	0.52	1	19.48	-1.84	10.72	2.22
Huntingdon_Wate	85	44	66	-4	1.12	2	27.91	5.47	15.07	6.39
Jackson_Exp_Stn	85	44	67	-3	0.65	3	21.55	-1.15	10.43	1.01
Lexington_TN	85	42	65	-5	0.21	1	21.86	0.02	11.79	3.14
Martin	85	43	66	-3	0.37	2	25.54	3.50	12.90	4.10
Memphis_AG	85	46	68	-5	1.31	2	24.99	2.06	11.40	1.96
Milan	85	41	66	-3	0.69	2	22.02	-0.74	11.05	1.91
Paris	83	42	64	-4	0.09	3	22.07	0.12	9.17	0.73
Savannah_6SW	85	43	66	-4	0.28	2	22.51	-2.95	10.69	0.69
Selmer	85	41	65	-4	0.25	1	20.22	-5.04	9.67	-0.35
Union_City	86	46	67	-2	0.05	1	25.06	3.23	13.15	4.50
Middle										
Clarksville_Sew	84	43	67	-1	0.49	1	25.40	3.93	11.90	4.08
Cookeville	84	38	62	-5	0.07	1	27.80	3.84	13.66	4.73
Crossville_AP	79	39	62	-3	0.02	1	30.00	6.11	15.90	7.03
Dickson_AG	85	39	65	-4	0.92	1	26.21	3.14	13.44	4.38
Dover_1W	83	43	65	-3	0.22	1	28.08	5.62	13.71	5.15
Fayetteville_TN	84	40	67	-1	0.43	3	23.47	-0.46	11.47	2.82
Jamestown	80	36	61	-3	0.09	3	28.94	6.67	14.84	6.41
Kingston_Spring	87	39	64	-3	0.21	1	25.04	2.86	12.77	4.56
Lawrenceburg_FI	84	41	64	-4	0.22	1	18.96	-5.99	9.77	0.64
Lewisburg	84	36	62	-6	0.09	1	22.19	-1.55	13.20	4.04
Linden	84	39	64	-4	0.35	1	25.33	1.13	15.52	6.31
Livingston_WLIV	84	37	62	-5	0.09	2	26.24	4.44	12.10	3.82
Murfreesboro_5N	84	39	65	-3	0.21	1	23.93	1.44	12.75	4.04
Nashville_Metro	85	43	67	-3	0.04	1	22.56	2.10	12.22	4.00
Oneida	82	35	62	-2	0.00	0	24.91	2.47	13.33	4.76
Portland_TN	84	41	64	-3	0.07	1	27.47	5.79	13.37	4.99
Pulaski_Water_P	85	42	63	-7	0.06	1	21.02	-2.84	10.81	2.34
Shelbyville	85	39	67	-3	0.18	1	23.22	-0.44	12.32	3.54
Sparta_TN	84	37	63	-4	0.15	1	30.49	7.11	15.37	6.56
Springfield	84	41	64	-3	0.07	1	21.60	0.62	11.95	3.84
Springhill	84	39	64	-3	0.14	1	24.60	0.54	14.01	4.56
Tullahoma	82	40	65	-3	0.12	2	24.49	-0.51	12.88	3.85
East										
Chattanooga/Lov	84	45	66	-3	0.07	2	22.04	-1.46	8.89	1.12
Cleveland_6NNE	82	40	63	-4	0.59	2	22.87	-0.88	12.56	4.37
Dayton	82	41	64	-4	0.01	1	23.63	-1.06	13.08	4.41
Erwin_1W	82	37	59	-4	0.13	1	17.41	-1.66	8.85	1.29
Gatlinburg_2SW	80	35	58	-7	0.43	2	22.89	0.66	10.16	1.87
Greeneville	83	36	61	-5	0.02	1	14.91	-2.25	5.74	-0.73
Kingston_AG	84	41	65	-1	0.78	1	24.64	-0.20	11.49	2.73
Knoxville_AP	84	40	64	-3	0.02	1	21.86	1.60	8.97	2.03
Newcomb	83	37	62	-2	0.00	0	25.09	2.65	11.47	2.90
Norris_4NE	83	36	61	-5	0.09	1	24.14	2.40	10.10	2.25
Tri-City_RGNL_A	84	36	62	-4	0.00	0	16.54	-0.13	6.40	0.10

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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