



# Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending July 8, 2007

## SHOWERS BRING SHORT TERM RELIEF

For the second consecutive week, scattered rain showers across the State brought some short term relief to continuing hot, dry conditions, but a good soaking rain is still needed. The showers and thunderstorms helped improve the overall condition of most row crops, but pastures and hay fields remained in the very poor-to-poor category. Development of the cotton crop continued at a rapid pace, as nearly all of the acreage has entered the squaring stage. Corn and soybean development also continues to be slightly ahead of the normal pace. With virtually all of the State's tobacco acreage transplanted, three-fourths of the acreage was rated in mostly fair-to-good condition. Cattle were rated in mostly fair-to-good condition, despite pastures deteriorating to the point where a few producers have chosen to reduce their herds. Others were busy feeding hay and hauling water. Tomato harvest is in full swing in West Tennessee. Farmers also continued applying herbicides to soybeans and fungicides to corn.

End-of-the-week rains did little to hamper farming activities as 6 days were considered suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 34 percent very short, 41 percent short, and 25 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 47 percent very short, 37 percent short, and 16 percent adequate. Temperatures across the State last week averaged normal to slightly above normal, while rainfall continued below normal.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent					Percent				
Corn – Silking	86	75	88	82	Cattle	6	17	43	30	4
Cotton – Squaring	94	88	90	87	Corn	21	27	35	14	3
Cotton – Setting Bolls	20	n/a	16	18	Cotton	2	13	35	42	8
Soybeans – Emerged	98	93	97	94	Hay	34	34	27	5	0
Soybeans – Blooming	36	20	51	28	Pastures	41	30	23	6	0
Soybeans – Setting Pods	14	n/a	16	8	Soybeans	8	18	37	30	7
					Tobacco	7	15	44	32	2

n/a = not available

### Count Agent Comments

*“All of Dyer County received rainfall this past Friday and Saturday in amounts of 1.5 to 2.0 inches in most areas. This has given crops new life and some temporary relief from drought. Should help stabilize or perhaps increase corn yields to some degree. Cotton growth has jumped tremendously with rainfall received. Soybeans progressing better since rain. However, we continue to need more rainfall into July and August.”*

**Tim Campbell, Dyer County**

*“Spotted showers have helped some of the tobacco growers. However, many have been irrigating for nearly a month. Hay and pastures continue to decline. Some beef producers are selling off some of their older cows and reducing herd size. Field crops will probably have drastic yield reductions as compared to last year.”*

**Ronnie Barron, Cheatham County**

*“Scattered showers have greened up some pastures but there is little grass growth. Some areas still have not received any rain in many weeks. Our winter supply of hay is critically low. The scattered rains have helped slow the rate of decline in crops but additional rains are a must to avoid further yield reductions.”*

**Richard Groce, Maury County**

*“The heat (consistently the 90's) and the drought continue to impact row crops and forages. Cattle producers are increasingly feeding hay to offset poor pastures. Hay is short and the hopes of a second cutting diminish with each rainless day. Some corn fields in the 'bottoms' are amazingly holding on.”*

**John Wilson, Marion County**

*“The only moisture received over the area during the week was some very widely scattered showers and they were mostly wind with brief downpours. With the elevation in daytime temperatures all crops, including row crops, hay and pastures have deteriorated rapidly. Producers are being forced to supplement lack of pasture with hay that was intended for winter feed or they are having to liquidate portions of their herds. Available water for livestock is also causing problems for a growing number of producers.”*

**Bob Sliger, Monroe County**

**TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION**  
**For week ending: July 8, 2007 (with comparisons)**

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION						
	Week Ending July 8, 2007				Current Week 07/08/07	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	92	66	79	1	2.07	3	17.45	-11.70	9.81	-5.57	
Tri-City_RGNL_A	88	57	74	1	0.11	1	12.10	-10.06	6.58	-5.21	
Brownsville_TN	91	69	79	0	0.68	2	15.71	-13.45	7.92	-7.44	
Chattanooga/Lov	92	66	78	0	0.30	1	14.85	-14.29	7.60	-5.81	
Clarksville_Sew	92	60	78	1	0.26	3	19.87	-7.48	10.75	-2.95	
Cookeville	91	65	77	2	0.15	1	18.42	-12.15	8.52	-7.02	
Covington	90	67	78	-2	2.23	5	20.53	-8.34	11.75	-3.44	
Crossville_AP	86	63	74	2	0.18	2	18.55	-11.79	11.53	-3.79	
Dayton	90	64	76	0	1.89	3	16.69	-13.84	10.06	-4.45	
Dickson_AG	87	58	76	-2	0.80	1	20.12	-9.41	10.53	-4.99	
Dover_1W	91	60	77	2	0.50	2	19.89	-8.56	9.51	-5.04	
Dyersburg	91	64	79	-2	0.57	1	18.30	-9.08	9.22	-5.34	
Erwin_1W	87	60	73	2	0.38	2	16.56	-9.71	10.94	-3.82	
Huntingdon_Wate	91	62	78	-1	0.89	2	14.89	-13.80	6.48	-8.45	
Jackson_Exp_Stn	91	65	78	-1	0.78	4	16.41	-12.66	7.73	-8.06	
Kingston_AG	90	63	75	1	0.46	3	20.51	-11.06	12.31	-3.18	
Knoxville_AP	91	65	79	3	0.45	2	15.94	-10.42	8.90	-4.14	
Lewisburg	90	64	76	-1	0.22	2	18.99	-11.06	11.36	-4.11	
Lexington_TN	92	65	78	0	0.07	1	17.49	-10.31	7.90	-6.71	
Linden	94	61	78	2	0.51	3	17.30	-13.42	8.14	-7.59	
Martin	91	63	78	-1	0.45	2	21.24	-7.44	10.27	-5.17	
Mc_Minnville_Tn	92	66	78	3	0.32	2	16.06	-13.34	9.04	-5.94	
Memphis_AG	92	67	80	-3	0.53	3	18.89	-9.57	10.92	-4.05	
Milan	92	60	77	-2	1.03	1	17.57	-12.11	9.33	-6.73	
Murfreesboro_5N	92	64	77	-1	0.66	3	19.36	-9.34	8.48	-6.44	
Nashville_Metro	92	65	80	2	0.26	1	16.25	-9.82	8.68	-5.15	
Newcomb	91	59	74	2	0.56	3	18.73	-10.75	10.72	-4.89	
Oneida	89	61	74	3	0.43	3	16.67	-12.81	9.17	-6.44	
Portland_TN	93	62	78	2	0.00	0	17.27	-11.20	7.91	-7.26	
Pulaski_Water_P	91	65	77	-2	0.25	3	16.37	-13.82	7.33	-7.47	
Savannah_6SW	96	66	80	2	0.75	2	16.70	-15.15	8.04	-8.35	
Sparta_TN	94	64	78	3	0.00	0	17.07	-12.66	8.68	-6.48	
Springfield	90	54	76	0	0.14	2	18.56	-8.74	9.67	-4.76	
Springhill	92	63	78	2	0.63	3	18.16	-12.14	8.66	-7.03	
Union_City	90	60	76	-3	0.60	2	21.28	-7.13	11.07	-4.16	
Waynesboro_TN	92	65	78	3	0.85	5	16.62	-15.13	8.43	-7.55	

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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