



# Tennessee Crop Weather

Tennessee Field Office • PO Box 41505 • Nashville, TN 37204 • (615) 781-5300 • www.nass.usda.gov  
In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending August 3, 2008

## SPOTTY SHOWERS PROVIDE LITTLE RELIEF

Hot, humid weather was the main theme of Tennessee Agriculture last week as temperatures hovered in the mid-to-high 90s. Widely scattered thunderstorms provided some relief but, by week's end, over half of the land in production was experiencing deficit topsoil moisture supplies. Crops continued to hold on, however, and were rated in mostly fair-to-good condition. As of Sunday, over a third of the corn crop was denting. Also, the harvest of corn for silage got underway. Soybean and cotton development were both progressing at the normal pace. Double-cropped soybeans will need more rain soon to prevent major yield losses. The main tobacco activity was topping and applying sucker control, as nearly half the acreage has been topped. Summertime heat and a deficit moisture situation are taking their toll on pastures and cattle, but conditions are still mostly fair-to-good.

There were six days considered suitable for fieldwork last week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 17 percent very short, 43 percent short, 39 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 24 percent very short, 39 percent short, 36 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Temperatures across Tennessee last week averaged 2 to 6 degrees above normal. Precipitation averaged one-tenth to one-half inch below normal across Middle and West Tennessee, while amounts averaged a tenth of an inch above normal across the East.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2007	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent					Percent				
Corn – Dough	82	56	85	86	Corn	3	10	32	42	13
Corn – Dent	36	n/a	59	55	Cattle	4	7	28	52	9
Corn – Silage Harvested	10	n/a	18	12	Cotton	1	8	30	57	4
Cotton – Setting Bolls	83	74	92	86	Hay	7	16	35	38	4
Soybeans – Blooming	80	70	86	80	Pastures	8	21	40	28	3
Soybeans – Setting Pods	61	47	69	61	Soybeans	7	14	30	41	8
Tobacco – Topped	44	30	42	50	Tobacco	1	5	22	57	15

n/a = not available

### County Agent Comments

*“Crops continue to suffer for moisture. Need good rainfall.”*

**Tim Campbell, Dyer County**

*“Farmers are still spraying soybeans for weed control for last time. Corn looks very promising since 1 to 2 inches of rain the past weekend. I have had few calls from homeowners on large Texas grasshoppers in gardens and ornamentals this week. Late planted crops look very good this week.”*

**Steve Glass, Decatur County**

*“Good rains were received in parts of the county this past week. This was helpful in many situations. However, several areas did not receive any rain and they are beginning to suffer.”*

**Troy Dugger, Hickman County**

*“Most of Davidson County has received abundant rainfall due to scattered thunderstorms the last couple of weeks.”*

**David Cook, Davidson County**

*“Recent showers have helped the corn crop and pastures. Pastures are looking better but weeds spurred on by last year's drought are still a problem.”*

**Chris Hicks, Van Buren County**

*“We need rain. Topsoil moisture in dropping rapidly in the 90+ degree weather.”*

**Mike Heiskell, Claiborne County**

**TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION**  
**For week ending: August 3, 2008 (with comparisons)**

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION						
	Week Ending August 3, 2008				Current Week 08/03/08	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	99	68	83	5	0.06	1	39.41	6.71	23.73	4.98	
Tri-City_RGNL_A	91	60	77	3	1.08	5	22.27	-3.57	11.35	-4.01	
Brownsville_TN	99	72	85	6	0.04	1	34.49	1.77	18.24	-0.52	
Chattanooga/Lov	94	71	83	4	0.35	3	26.85	-6.44	12.71	-4.68	
Clarksville_Sew	94	67	82	5	0.40	1	32.51	1.54	19.38	2.23	
Cookeville	91	66	79	3	0.40	1	28.79	-6.44	15.87	-4.16	
Covington	99	69	83	4	0.00	0	34.56	2.34	18.90	0.54	
Crossville_AP	89	65	78	5	0.90	5	29.10	-5.70	15.93	-3.67	
Dayton	95	68	80	3	0.70	4	25.94	-8.76	13.64	-4.86	
Dickson_AG	94	67	79	2	0.04	1	34.30	0.98	19.38	0.24	
Dover_1W	97	69	82	6	0.00	0	36.34	4.03	18.98	0.74	
Dyersburg	97	72	84	5	0.37	1	27.05	-4.00	13.51	-4.56	
Erwin_1W	95	63	77	5	2.21	3	22.94	-8.18	13.15	-6.32	
Huntingdon_Wate	96	70	83	5	0.42	2	36.94	4.38	20.34	1.70	
Jackson_Exp_Stn	98	72	85	6	0.03	1	42.89	10.31	24.17	5.02	
Kingston_AG	94	68	80	5	2.15	4	28.66	-7.83	15.80	-4.44	
Knoxville_AP	91	68	80	4	1.46	2	28.33	-1.97	16.11	-0.73	
Lewisburg	96	67	81	5	0.81	2	28.01	-6.46	16.21	-3.52	
Lexington_TN	98	71	84	6	0.12	1	42.96	11.24	25.60	7.23	
Linden	97	68	82	6	0.70	4	39.20	4.55	22.11	2.62	
Martin	96	72	84	6	0.00	0	35.52	2.71	17.68	-1.72	
Mc_Minnville_Tn	94	69	82	6	0.72	5	24.01	-9.45	13.92	-4.95	
Memphis_AG	101	71	85	4	0.35	2	40.70	8.97	23.40	5.34	
Milan	99	70	84	6	0.02	1	40.89	7.48	23.74	4.12	
Murfreesboro_5N	96	68	81	3	0.32	2	27.48	-5.37	15.33	-3.58	
Nashville_Metro	95	72	83	4	0.34	2	32.37	2.86	19.55	2.43	
Newcomb	90	63	77	5	1.18	4	26.25	-7.80	15.72	-4.31	
Oneida	90	64	77	4	1.54	5	21.24	-12.81	15.51	-4.52	
Portland_TN	94	69	81	5	0.69	2	35.86	3.74	21.55	2.89	
Pulaski_Water_P	96	68	80	2	1.74	4	33.22	-0.94	19.15	0.56	
Savannah_6SW	98	70	84	5	0.14	1	40.19	4.69	23.14	3.28	
Sparta_TN	91	63	78	3	0.28	4	32.29	-2.01	20.27	0.69	
Springfield	94	68	80	5	0.81	3	34.87	3.91	21.41	3.48	
Springhill	94	68	81	4	0.68	2	29.39	-5.03	17.76	-1.87	
Union_City	95	68	82	4	0.00	0	32.93	1.02	16.73	-1.83	
Waynesboro_TN	96	70	82	6	0.76	5	34.28	-1.95	20.08	-0.19	

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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