



# Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Issued Monday 3:00 PM; August 18, 2008

Week Ending August 17, 2008

## TOBACCO HARVEST UNDERWAY

With seven days available for fieldwork last week, tobacco growers made good progress with harvest activities. For growers not yet harvesting, the main activities were topping and applying sucker control. Widely scattered showers continued last week, but were coupled with cooler than normal temperatures that provided some relief. Nearly the entire corn crop was in the dough stage, with a small amount having reached maturity. Corn silage harvest continued throughout the State. Soybeans were setting pods at a pace about three days behind normal. Although crop and pasture conditions continued to decline, most were still in the fair-to-good category. Over a third of the State's pastures, however, were rated in very poor-to-poor condition.

As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 24 percent very short, 44 percent short, and 32 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 31 percent very short, 39 percent short, and 30 percent adequate. Temperatures across the State last week averaged 1 to 5 degrees below normal. Precipitation was sparse across much of Middle and East Tennessee, with variable amounts recorded in the West.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2007	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent					Percent				
Corn – Dough	96	90	98	98	Corn	4	14	32	41	9
Corn – Dent	75	53	92	88	Cotton	0	8	33	52	7
Corn – Silage Harvested	44	26	56	44	Pastures	14	24	37	24	1
Corn – Mature	9	n/a	37	25	Soybeans	10	19	30	39	2
Soybeans – Blooming	92	87	96	94	Tobacco	1	5	25	59	10
Soybeans – Setting Pods	77	71	87	83						
Tobacco – Topped	69	55	75	76						
Tobacco – Burley Harvested	9	n/a	22	21						
Tobacco – Dark Air-Cured Harvested	24	n/a	36	22						
Tobacco – Dark Fire-Cured Harvested	21	n/a	27	23						

n/a = not available

### County Agent Comments

*“Cooler than normal daytime temperatures have made outside chores more bearable, but lack of rainfall has crop conditions declining rapidly. Corn is drying down quickly and more pollination problems were found this week. Soybeans are badly in need of rain with some fields prematurely turning yellow. Pastures have practically dried up with little grazing available. Producers have applied fungicides to soybean fields with better yield potential.”*

**Jeff Lannom, Weakley County**

*“Double crop soybeans are suffering from lack of moisture. Most have not grown above the wheat stubble. Stands are poor.”*

**John Bartee, Montgomery County**

*“Hot and dry, that explains our situation. We have folks hauling water to cattle and feeding hay. Soybeans are shedding pods and the beans behind wheat look terrible.”*

**Larry Moorehead, Moore County**

*“About 2/3 of the county is short or about adequate on moisture while the northern and eastern portion is bone dry; much like last year. They have been feeding hay since July and are very drought like.....evidently this year the rain is more spotted than usual.”*

**Ron Johnson, Overton County**

*“What pasture growth we have is being consumed and drying up rapidly. Corn and tobacco crops reached maturity before we got as dry as we are now. Second cutting hay crop is not growing now and is drying down. Ponds are drying. We need rain desperately.”*

**Mike Heiskell, Claiborne County**

**TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION**  
**For week ending: August 17, 2008 (with comparisons)**

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION						
	Week Ending August 17, 2008				Current Week 8/17/08	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	90	60	74	-5	0.86	2	41.01	6.98	25.33	5.25	
Tri-City_RGNL_A	85	51	71	-4	0.17	2	22.74	-4.54	11.82	-4.98	
Brownsville_TN	88	62	75	-5	0.06	1	36.60	2.52	20.35	0.23	
Chattanooga/Lov	91	60	76	-3	0.01	1	26.86	-7.98	12.72	-6.22	
Clarksville_Sew	87	56	73	-4	0.00	0	32.51	-0.22	19.38	0.47	
Cookeville	85	52	69	-8	0.00	0	29.68	-7.46	16.76	-5.18	
Covington	86	61	73	-6	0.30	1	36.15	2.86	20.49	1.06	
Crossville_AP	83	53	69	-4	0.00	0	29.22	-7.46	16.05	-5.43	
Dayton	90	57	73	-4	0.00	0	25.94	-10.59	13.64	-6.69	
Dickson_AG	87	55	73	-5	0.00	0	34.50	-0.43	19.58	-1.17	
Dover_1W	88	57	74	-3	0.00	0	36.34	2.38	18.98	-0.91	
Dyersburg	88	59	74	-6	0.05	1	29.04	-3.46	15.50	-4.02	
Erwin_1W	85	53	71	-2	0.41	1	23.75	-9.35	13.96	-7.49	
Huntingdon_Wate	89	58	74	-5	0.00	0	37.14	3.14	20.54	0.46	
Jackson_Exp_Stn	86	60	74	-4	0.26	3	44.73	10.91	26.01	5.62	
Kingston_AG	87	57	72	-3	0.00	0	28.93	-9.55	16.07	-6.16	
Knoxville_AP	88	59	74	-3	0.00	0	28.33	-3.42	16.11	-2.18	
Lewisburg	90	52	71	-6	0.03	1	28.31	-7.63	16.51	-4.69	
Lexington_TN	88	59	74	-5	0.03	1	43.93	10.87	26.57	6.86	
Linden	88	55	73	-4	0.22	2	40.46	4.18	23.37	2.25	
Martin	87	58	74	-5	0.10	1	36.43	2.09	18.59	-2.34	
Mc_Minnville_Tn	88	57	73	-4	0.00	0	22.29	-12.70	12.20	-8.20	
Memphis_AG	90	64	75	-7	0.42	2	41.60	8.33	24.30	4.70	
Milan	88	56	74	-4	0.01	1	41.12	6.18	23.97	2.82	
Murfreesboro_5N	90	53	73	-5	0.00	0	27.48	-7.03	15.33	-5.24	
Nashville_Metro	88	60	76	-4	0.00	0	32.37	1.32	19.55	0.89	
Newcomb	86	52	69	-4	0.00	0	26.53	-9.46	16.00	-5.97	
Oneida	85	53	69	-4	0.00	0	21.54	-14.45	15.81	-6.16	
Portland_TN	87	59	72	-4	0.00	0	35.86	2.06	21.55	1.21	
Pulaski_Water_P	88	58	73	-6	0.14	2	35.83	0.16	21.76	1.66	
Savannah_6SW	88	60	74	-5	0.51	2	41.93	4.99	24.88	3.58	
Sparta_TN	88	51	71	-5	0.00	0	32.38	-3.68	20.36	-0.98	
Springfield	86	56	72	-5	0.00	0	34.91	2.43	21.45	2.00	
Springhill	88	54	73	-5	0.02	1	29.45	-6.58	17.82	-3.42	
Union_City	87	54	72	-6	0.05	1	32.98	-0.44	16.78	-3.29	
Waynesboro_TN	88	57	73	-4	0.35	2	35.18	-2.70	20.98	-0.94	

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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