



# 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

Issued Monday 3:00 PM; September 17, 2007

Week Ending September 16, 2007

## RAIN IMPROVES SOYBEANS AND PASTURES

Two cold fronts moved through the state, one early last week and one towards the weekend, bringing cooler temperatures and showers. These conditions helped improve soybeans and pastures. The main farm activities last week included harvest of fall crops, spraying defoliant, and preparation for fall seedings. Corn and cotton harvest was slowed due to rain showers, but the overall pace continued ahead of both the previous year and 5-year average. Soybean development continued to be about 3 weeks ahead of normal. Currently, almost three-fourths of the soybean crop was dropping leaves, while 11 percent had been harvested. Some farmers, who have completed corn harvest, are preparing fields for planting wheat. With virtually all fields topped, tobacco growers continued harvest. Despite rain, harvest was slightly ahead of their 5-year average. Fall pastures improved, but continued to be reported in mostly very poor-to-poor condition. Growth is progressing everyday due to rain showers.

There were 5 days considered suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 22 percent very short, 36 percent short, and 40 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 49 percent very short, 40 percent short, and 11 percent adequate. Temperatures were slightly below normal across the State last week.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent					Percent				
Corn – Harvested for Grain	86	73	54	50	Cotton	7	25	41	22	5
Corn – Harvested for Silage	92	88	91	91	Pastures	47	31	18	4	0
Cotton – Bolls Opening	96	90	72	61	Soybeans	33	31	27	9	0
Cotton – Harvested	5	n/a	2	2						
Cotton – Defoliated	40	29	19	22						
Soybeans – Dropping Leaves	72	61	50	40						
Soybeans – Harvested	11	8	12	7						
Tobacco – Burley Harvested	79	62	73	73						
Tobacco – Dark Air-Cured Harvested	92	88	87	86						
Tobacco – Dark Fire-Cured Harvested	78	68	81	76						

n/a = not available

### County Agent Comments

*“Showers this week have been welcome. Majority of corn has been harvested. Cotton acres have had defoliant applied in preparation for picking. None has been picked at this time primarily due to wet rainy conditions. Rains received will help some with later planted soybeans. It also will help with wheat planting now that we have some soil moisture.”*

**Tim Campbell, Dyer County**

*“We finally got the rain we have been looking for this past weekend with different amounts in different places. Some got as much or more than 5 inches. This causes a problem in that cotton and corn does not need this right now. It is raining today (Thursday) and is suppose to rain Friday. Some cotton is being picked with yields running 500-800 pounds. Defoliation is going out but re-growth is becoming a problem. Some seeds are even sprouting in open cotton. This rain will help pastures and wheat.”*

**Jeffery D. Via, Fayette County**

*“Showers continue to fall on most parts of the county. Pastures and hay fields have shown major improvements this week. Producers are sewing small grains and stockpiling fescue to take advantage of recent soil moisture.”*

**Calvin Bryant, Lawrence County**

*“Pastures remain in poor condition and for the most part severely over grazed. Recent showers have settled the dust and greened lawns. Some drilling of seed is taking place. There will be no second cutting of hay. Cattle are being sold. Cattle in water restricted areas have been moved, or now have access to streams.”*

**Cynthia Zeitz, Jackson County**

*“We received less than one inch of rain by 3:30 PM Friday, September 14. Radar indicated that rain has ended with less than one inch over most of county. Rainfall was not enough to help with pastures, hayfields and dry ponds. During the past week, local volunteer fire departments provided over 50,000 gallons of water to local producers.”*

**R. W. Burden, Hamilton County**

**TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION**  
**For week ending: September 16, 2007 (with comparisons)**

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION						
	Week Ending September 16, 2007				Current Week 09/16/07	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	88	53	71	-3	1.78	4	23.20	-14.27	15.56	-8.14	
Tri-City_RGNL_A	91	43	71	2	0.72	4	17.04	-13.26	11.52	-8.41	
Brownsville_TN	86	55	71	-3	1.98	3	22.47	-14.98	14.68	-8.97	
Chattanooga/Lov	95	54	76	3	1.77	3	25.57	-12.99	18.32	-4.51	
Clarksville_Sew	85	48	70	-2	0.95	2	30.80	-5.41	21.68	-0.88	
Cookeville	85	46	69	-2	1.54	4	24.17	-17.02	14.27	-11.89	
Covington	86	52	69	-4	0.62	1	24.98	-11.58	16.20	-6.68	
Crossville_AP	85	45	68	1	3.69	4	27.93	-12.43	20.91	-4.43	
Dayton	92	51	72	0	3.39	3	27.86	-12.61	21.23	-3.22	
Dickson_AG	87	47	69	-3	0.36	2	24.24	-14.44	14.65	-10.02	
Dover_1W	85	50	70	-2	3.21	3	25.82	-11.75	15.44	-8.23	
Dyersburg	88	54	71	-3	0.83	3	23.80	-11.96	14.72	-8.22	
Erwin_1W	91	46	71	5	1.75	2	26.18	-10.58	20.56	-4.69	
Huntingdon_Wate	85	51	69	-3	0.30	2	20.88	-16.88	12.47	-11.53	
Jackson_Exp_Stn	86	52	71	-3	2.17	3	22.95	-14.20	14.27	-9.60	
Kingston_AG	89	51	71	2	2.25	4	27.79	-14.50	19.59	-6.62	
Knoxville_AP	92	51	74	3	1.49	3	25.82	-8.77	18.78	-2.49	
Lewisburg	90	48	70	-1	2.36	5	27.27	-11.90	19.64	-4.95	
Lexington_TN	86	52	70	-4	4.03	2	25.16	-11.03	15.57	-7.43	
Linden	86	47	70	-1	2.11	5	27.10	-12.65	17.94	-6.82	
Martin	85	50	69	-3	3.72	3	29.30	-8.39	18.33	-6.12	
Mc_Minnville_Tn	90	50	72	1	2.93	2	25.25	-13.21	18.23	-5.81	
Memphis_AG	88	53	71	-5	1.06	3	23.81	-12.84	15.84	-7.32	
Milan	86	47	68	-4	0.38	2	25.81	-12.97	17.57	-7.59	
Murfreesboro_5N	87	48	70	-2	2.12	5	27.77	-10.63	16.89	-7.73	
Nashville_Metro	86	50	71	-3	1.27	4	20.14	-14.27	12.57	-9.60	
Newcomb	88	45	68	1	1.62	5	26.78	-12.99	18.77	-7.13	
Oneida	87	45	68	2	1.29	4	25.22	-14.55	17.72	-8.18	
Portland_TN	85	48	69	-2	0.99	4	24.38	-12.84	15.02	-8.90	
Pulaski_Water_P	89	47	71	-3	1.52	5	23.35	-15.96	14.31	-9.61	
Savannah_6SW	88	50	71	-4	1.82	3	23.56	-16.89	14.90	-10.09	
Sparta_TN	88	45	71	2	1.86	2	24.72	-15.01	16.33	-8.83	
Springfield	86	47	69	-3	1.29	2	23.61	-12.10	14.72	-8.12	
Springhill	88	48	71	0	1.56	5	26.47	-12.80	16.97	-7.69	
Union_City	85	50	69	-3	3.48	4	29.18	-7.56	18.97	-4.59	
Waynesboro_TN	86	49	70	0	1.45	4	26.66	-14.59	18.47	-7.01	

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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The USDA, NASS, Tennessee Field Office gratefully acknowledges contributions to this publication by:  
National Weather Service and the University of Tennessee's Extension.

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