



# Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Issued Monday 3:00 PM; October 15, 2007

Week Ending October 14, 2007

## DRY WEATHER ALLOWS FOR GREAT HARVEST PROGRESS

Tennessee farmers last week took advantage of continued dry conditions across the State to make excellent progress with crop harvest. Cotton growers harvested an additional 20 percent of the acreage. In addition, progress continued well ahead of schedule by over two weeks. Soybean producers also made good progress with over half of the State's acreage harvested by week's end, a pace almost two weeks ahead of schedule. A fifth of the winter wheat acreage had been seeded by week's end. However, many wheat farmers are waiting for rain before continuing. Pastures are also in need of rain as over three-fourths of the State's acreage was rated very poor-to-poor. In addition to these activities, farmers were spreading lime, applying pesticides, preparing tobacco for market, and feeding hay.

For the second consecutive week, there were 7 days considered suitable for field work. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 48 percent very short, 36 percent short, and 16 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 61 percent very short, 32 percent short, and 7 percent adequate. Temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees above normal across the State. Rainfall averaged well below normal with many locations recording little to no rain last week.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent					Percent				
Cotton – Harvested	66	46	44	35	Cotton	14	37	34	15	0
Cotton – Defoliated	98	94	93	87	Pastures	46	32	19	3	0
Soybeans – Dropping Leaves	96	91	98	90	Soybeans	34	30	25	9	2
Soybeans – Harvested	54	42	53	39						
Tobacco – Burley Stripped	21	14	19	25						
Winter Wheat – Seeded	20	12	23	21						

### County Agent Comments

*“The Farmers in Fayette County were busy finishing up with defoliating, harvesting cotton, planting wheat, and soybean harvest. Many farmers received rain on Tuesday but were able to go back into their fields the following day.”*

**Jeffery D. Via, Fayette County**

*“Fall pasture seedings have emerged and are awaiting rainfall. Ponds continue to dry up. Established cool-season grasses are being hammered by grazing pressure and dry weather, so growth is spotty. Producers are still looking to buy enough hay to get livestock through the fall and winter.”*

**Ken Burress, Wayne County**

*“Parts of the county received about .2 inch of rainfall this week. Some newly seeded ryegrass emerged but died from lack of moisture. A lot of sowing needs to be done but we can't get enough moisture to risk it. Some hay is being cut, mostly johnsongrass and crabgrass.”*

**David K. Glover, Smith County**

*“Weather has continued to be dry! Some areas of the county got trace amounts of moisture Tuesday. Temperatures in the first half of the week were above normal with highs around 90. A cold front pushed through Wednesday bringing seasonable temperatures with highs in the 70's and lows in the 40's. Cotton harvest is in full swing. Several acres have been abandoned in the driest parts of the county, with other acres reporting fair to good yields. Drought has halted efforts to seed the 2008 wheat crop. Most producers are preparing to seed and are waiting on moisture. It is too dry to prepare seed beds for conventionally planted wheat. No-till producers are waiting on moisture to hopefully germinate winter weeds in order to burn down before seeding. Pastures continued to decline with lack of moisture while producers continued to feed stock.”*

**Ed Burns, Franklin County**

*“Light, scattered showers did little to improve field moisture conditions. Forage is scarce. Ponds are drying up daily and several producers hauling water with continued reduction of herd numbers.”*

**John Wilson, Blount County**

**TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION**  
**For week ending: October 14, 2007 (with comparisons)**

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION						
	Week Ending October 14, 2007				Current Week 10/14/07	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	39	65	4	0.40	1	24.35	-16.22	16.71	-10.09	
Tri-City_RGNL_A	89	36	61	3	0.00	0	17.71	-15.32	12.19	-10.47	
Brownsville_TN	90	41	66	4	0.42	1	24.44	-16.06	16.65	-10.05	
Chattanooga/Lov	91	44	68	6	0.03	1	25.78	-16.15	18.53	-7.67	
Clarksville_Sew	91	42	65	6	0.00	0	32.17	-6.97	23.05	-2.44	
Cookeville	92	39	62	3	0.14	1	24.55	-20.03	14.65	-14.90	
Covington	88	42	65	4	0.25	1	27.72	-12.03	18.94	-7.13	
Crossville_AP	86	39	62	5	0.22	1	28.15	-15.29	21.13	-7.29	
Dayton	88	41	63	3	0.11	1	28.08	-15.79	21.45	-6.40	
Dickson_AG	88	36	63	3	0.00	0	24.77	-17.07	15.18	-12.65	
Dover_1W	88	41	64	6	0.00	0	27.22	-13.57	16.84	-10.05	
Dyersburg	91	41	66	3	0.37	1	25.39	-13.28	16.31	-9.54	
Erwin_1W	89	38	62	7	0.00	0	26.43	-13.20	20.81	-7.31	
Huntingdon_Wate	90	40	64	4	0.00	0	22.77	-18.65	14.36	-13.30	
Jackson_Exp_Stn	90	40	65	4	0.06	1	24.19	-16.26	15.51	-11.66	
Kingston_AG	88	41	63	6	0.13	1	28.71	-16.93	20.51	-9.05	
Knoxville_AP	89	42	65	5	0.01	1	26.02	-11.25	18.98	-4.97	
Lewisburg	92	35	62	3	0.00	0	27.30	-15.37	19.67	-8.42	
Lexington_TN	90	41	65	4	0.00	0	26.04	-13.37	16.45	-9.77	
Linden	90	37	64	5	0.06	1	27.99	-14.78	18.83	-8.95	
Martin	91	41	65	5	0.33	1	30.76	-10.22	19.79	-7.95	
Mc_Minnville_Tn	89	40	64	4	0.06	1	24.77	-17.04	17.75	-9.64	
Memphis_AG	93	44	68	3	0.44	1	24.46	-15.07	16.49	-9.55	
Milan	91	37	63	3	0.00	0	27.84	-14.38	19.60	-9.00	
Murfreesboro_5N	91	37	63	3	0.01	1	28.46	-13.40	17.58	-10.50	
Nashville_Metro	90	45	67	5	0.01	1	20.86	-16.25	13.29	-11.58	
Newcomb	89	36	61	6	0.22	1	27.23	-16.01	19.22	-10.15	
Oneida	89	38	61	6	0.25	2	25.81	-17.43	18.31	-11.06	
Portland_TN	90	40	65	6	0.27	1	25.22	-14.85	15.86	-10.91	
Pulaski_Water_P	89	38	64	2	0.00	0	23.82	-19.01	14.78	-12.66	
Savannah_6SW	93	40	65	3	0.00	0	23.81	-19.85	15.15	-13.05	
Sparta_TN	89	39	64	6	0.14	1	25.73	-17.37	17.34	-11.19	
Springfield	94	34	63	4	0.02	1	24.27	-14.28	15.38	-10.30	
Springhill	92	38	63	4	0.00	0	26.95	-15.57	17.45	-10.46	
Union_City	90	41	64	5	0.26	1	30.50	-9.47	20.29	-6.50	
Waynesboro_TN	89	40	63	5	0.00	0	27.01	-17.45	18.82	-9.87	

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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