



# Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Issued Monday 3:00 PM; October 22, 2007

Week Ending October 21, 2007

## COTTON HARVEST THREE WEEKS AHEAD

Widespread showers across the State brought harvest to a standstill toward the end of last week. Good progress, however, was made in all crops prior to the showers. Cotton harvest continued to out-pace the 5-year average by three weeks with over 75 percent of the acreage completed. In addition, soybean harvest was almost two weeks ahead of normal. Moisture also aided the seeding of the 2008 winter wheat crop. A third of the acreage had been seeded, on-pace with last year and the 5-year average. Burley tobacco stripping has been slow, as producers continued to wait for more moisture to bring their crop into case. Other activities during the week included renovating pastures and hauling feed and water to livestock.

There were 5 days considered suitable for field work. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 31 percent very short, 29 percent short, 38 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 53 percent very short, 32 percent short, and 15 percent adequate. Temperatures averaged one to three degrees above normal across the State. Rainfall across Middle and East Tennessee last week was around one half inch below normal, while West Tennessee saw rainfall amounts around one half inch above normal.

n/a = not available

### County Agent Comments

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent					Percent				
Cotton – Harvested	78	66	54	47	Pastures	42	32	21	5	0
Soybeans – Harvested	64	54	59	49						
Tobacco – Burley Stripped	27	21	26	34						
Winter Wheat – Seeded	35	20	32	36						
Winter Wheat – Emerged	9	n/a	12	8						

*“Rainfall this past week makes the opportunity for wheat planting into moist soil a better condition and it is also now into the proper planting window. Remaining soybeans are a challenge for harvest as they are generally mature but the plants are still green. The remaining cotton has green re-growth and does not look good after harvest. Farmers are doing the best they can.”*

**Jerry Parker, Lauderdale County**

*“Producers made some progress last weekend and early this week on soybean and cotton harvest, as well as wheat seeding. Rainfall occurred early, mid and late week, to stop soybean harvest and wheat seeding. The improved soil moisture conditions have helped to bring earlier seeded wheat up to a stand, as well as pastures that have been seeded.”*

**Jeff Lannom, Weakley County**

*“Beef producers continued to move and liquidate herds due to no pasture, water or hay.”*

**David Qualls, Lincoln County**

*“Corn harvest is coming to a close with widely variable yields ranging from 40 to 120 bushels per acre. Wheat is not germinating well due to hot and dry conditions - many producers are waiting on moisture to plant. Soybeans are turning color and losing leaves without ripening at all or ripening at a highly variable rate, and some are dropping pods before they can be harvested. Soybeans after wheat are a total loss in most cases. Hay is in very short supply with many producers hauling it in from out of state and selling cows. Some rain was received on Wednesday night and Friday morning but need much more to bring any real relief from the drought. Burley tobacco is being stripped with producers reporting several quality problems due to extremely dry and hot curing conditions. Late tomatoes on irrigated land are bringing good prices. All streams, ponds, rivers and lakes are at record low levels, if they have water in them at all.”*

**Mannie Bedwell, Hamblen County**

*“Area received 0.20 to 0.40 inches of rain on Thursday; however, the drought conditions continue to worsen. Available livestock water is becoming more of a problem than hay and pasture with pastures grazed into the ground and hay in very short supply. Producers are measuring hay yields on late cuttings in acres per bale rather than bales per acre. Producers are taking advantage of the dry conditions to harvest soybeans where yields are quite variable from very poor to moderate. Very little fall seeding has been completed.”*

**Bob Sliger, Monroe County**

**TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION**  
**For week ending: October 21, 2007 (with comparisons)**

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION						
	Week Ending October 21, 2007				Current Week 10/21/07	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	45	68	10	2.93	4	27.28	-13.92	19.64	-7.79	
Tri-City_RGNL_A	84	37	66	11	0.07	2	17.78	-15.81	12.26	-10.96	
Brownsville_TN	84	47	68	9	1.90	3	26.34	-14.79	18.55	-8.78	
Chattanooga/Lov	83	45	69	10	0.47	2	26.25	-16.35	19.00	-7.87	
Clarksville_Sew	85	47	68	12	2.15	4	34.32	-5.52	25.20	-0.99	
Cookeville	84	40	66	9	0.56	3	25.11	-20.17	15.21	-15.04	
Covington	85	47	67	8	2.06	3	29.78	-10.57	21.00	-5.67	
Crossville_AP	77	45	65	11	1.06	4	29.21	-14.96	22.19	-6.96	
Dayton	81	43	66	8	0.66	3	28.74	-15.85	22.11	-6.46	
Dickson_AG	86	39	67	10	2.06	4	26.83	-15.66	17.24	-11.24	
Dover_1W	84	46	67	11	2.60	4	29.82	-11.70	19.44	-8.18	
Dyersburg	88	45	68	9	2.93	4	28.32	-10.98	19.24	-7.24	
Erwin_1W	83	40	64	12	0.28	2	26.71	-13.55	21.09	-7.66	
Huntingdon_Wate	86	46	67	10	2.04	3	24.81	-17.37	16.40	-12.02	
Jackson_Exp_Stn	86	46	68	9	4.57	4	28.76	-12.39	20.08	-7.79	
Kingston_AG	80	43	65	10	0.54	3	29.25	-17.18	21.05	-9.30	
Knoxville_AP	85	44	69	12	0.32	1	26.34	-11.56	19.30	-5.28	
Lewisburg	86	43	67	11	0.69	3	27.99	-15.52	20.36	-8.57	
Lexington_TN	86	45	68	10	2.50	3	28.54	-11.58	18.95	-7.98	
Linden	84	43	66	10	1.65	4	29.64	-13.83	20.48	-8.00	
Martin	85	45	67	10	2.18	3	32.94	-8.81	21.97	-6.54	
Mc_Minnville_Tn	83	46	68	11	0.86	4	25.63	-16.92	18.61	-9.52	
Memphis_AG	88	48	69	7	2.13	3	26.59	-13.58	18.62	-8.06	
Milan	87	43	67	10	2.99	3	30.83	-12.05	22.59	-6.67	
Murfreesboro_5N	85	42	66	9	0.59	4	29.05	-13.51	18.17	-10.61	
Nashville_Metro	86	48	69	11	0.84	3	21.70	-15.97	14.13	-11.30	
Newcomb	81	39	63	10	0.55	3	27.78	-16.32	19.77	-10.46	
Oneida	81	42	64	12	0.43	3	26.24	-17.86	18.74	-11.49	
Portland_TN	83	49	68	12	1.02	4	26.24	-14.51	16.88	-10.57	
Pulaski_Water_P	83	43	66	6	0.76	3	24.58	-19.02	15.54	-12.67	
Savannah_6SW	88	45	69	9	2.28	4	26.09	-18.27	17.43	-11.47	
Sparta_TN	82	46	67	11	0.81	3	26.54	-17.33	18.15	-11.15	
Springfield	86	42	66	10	1.30	3	25.57	-13.61	16.68	-9.63	
Springhill	87	45	67	11	1.73	3	28.68	-14.68	19.18	-9.57	
Union_City	86	45	66	9	2.14	3	32.64	-8.15	22.43	-5.18	
Waynesboro_TN	83	42	66	11	2.18	4	29.19	-16.06	21.00	-8.48	

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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