



# Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Issued Monday 3:00 PM; October 26, 2009

Week Ending October 25, 2009

## SOME HARVEST PROGRESS MADE DESPITE WET FIELDS

High pressure dominated the weather through the middle part of last week, keeping the state dry enough to allow farmers to advance harvest somewhat. With harvest weeks behind schedule, producers are concerned about the quality of the crop left in the fields. Cotton continued to lag about 3 weeks behind normal with less than a tenth of the crop harvested. Over a quarter of the state's winter wheat has been seeded with 6 percent emerged, both behind the normal pace. Tobacco harvest moved closer to completion with only a few acres remaining. Other farm activities last week included stripping burley, fertilizing wheat, and delivering grain. Pastures were rated in mostly good-to-excellent condition.

There were 4 days suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 57 percent adequate, and 43 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 1 percent short, 64 percent adequate, and 35 percent surplus. Temperatures across the state last week averaged slightly below normal. Rainfall averaged above normal over western Tennessee and slightly below normal across the remainder of the state.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2008	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent					Percent				
Corn – Harvested	83	64	98	98	Cotton	1	7	40	44	8
Cotton – Bolls Opening	97	93	100	100	Pastures	0	2	16	60	22
Cotton – Defoliated	89	74	100	99						
Cotton – Harvested	8	3	74	66						
Soybeans – Dropping Leaves	96	89	99	99						
Soybeans – Harvested	32	22	60	62						
Tobacco – Burley Harvested	96	89	98	100						
Tobacco – Burley Stripped	26	19	23	34						
Tobacco – Fire-Cured Harvested	98	91	100	100						
Winter Wheat – Seeded	29	16	35	39						
Winter Wheat – Emerged	6	n/a	9	15						

n/a = unavailable

### County Agent Comments

*“Continued wet conditions and rain continue to plaque harvest progress. With corn and soybean harvest occurring simultaneously and being delivered to local granaries, farmers are experiencing some long lines and delays unloading due to granaries taking both grains in at the same time. Normally we are done with corn harvest by the time bean harvest breaks into full harvest so the two being delivered at different time intervals does not create such a problem. With both crop yields being good granaries are not set up to handle such volume of both grains coming in at the same time.”*

**Tim Campbell, Dyer County**

*“Producers made the most of the dry conditions to harvest additional corn and soybean acres. Winter wheat planting kicked into gear as producers rushed to get fertilizer applied and seed in the ground before being shut down by rain on Thursday. Soybean yields of 50 to 60 bushels are being reported. Good corn yields of 175 and above are also being reported, but producers are being docked at the granary for wet grain.”*

**Jeff Lannom, Weakley County**

*“Row crop farmers have been going full throttle with corn and soybean harvest. Corn, for many, is still showing high moisture levels that require drying before it can be stored. This drying process is causing a bottle-neck situation for some. Yields are reported to be good to very good. Practically all the tobacco has been hung in the barns. Stripping has slowed this week with the dry weather. Pastures are mostly good condition. The killing frost early this week has reduced the overall quality of pastures with the loss of crab grass, Bermuda grass and others.”*

**Richard Groce, Maury County**

*“Some dry weather this week had the combines and farmers running. Need more of the same. Farmers pretty upbeat about their crop yields. Big frost early in week will slow vegetables available at farmer's market.”*

**J. Dale Beaty, Warren County**

*“4 days in a row of sunshine! Hay, corn and soybean harvest is underway. Three frosts in a row have caused cattle producers to pull cattle off of Johnson grass pastures for fear of Prussic Acid Poison.”*

**John Goddard, Loudon County**

**TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION**  
**For week ending: October 25, 2009 (with comparisons)**

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending October 25, 2009				Current Week 10/25/09	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
West										
Ames_Plantation	72	32	54	-5	1.25	3	55.07	13.47	42.62	14.79
Brownsville_TN	72	36	56	-4	0.81	1	47.22	5.71	36.94	9.23
Covington	69	33	54	-5	1.78	1	52.74	12.02	41.18	14.14
Dyersburg	73	37	57	-3	1.73	2	49.87	10.19	41.11	14.25
Huntingdon_Wate	72	33	53	-4	0.48	1	49.24	6.62	36.40	7.54
Jackson_Exp_Stn	72	34	55	-3	0.81	2	46.51	4.95	35.39	7.11
Lexington_TN	74	34	54	-5	0.45	2	43.81	3.25	33.74	6.37
Martin	72	33	54	-4	0.97	2	45.94	3.74	33.30	4.34
Memphis_AG	73	34	55	-6	2.51	2	59.88	19.31	46.29	19.21
Milan	72	33	54	-3	0.77	1	45.08	1.80	34.11	4.45
Paris	71	31	52	-4	0.65	2	45.20	3.48	32.30	4.09
Savannah_6SW	77	33	55	-5	1.08	3	48.73	3.93	36.91	7.57
Selmer	76	33	54	-4	0.55	2	55.52	11.43	44.97	16.12
Union_City	70	32	53	-4	1.19	2	51.69	10.41	39.78	11.68
Middle										
Clarksville_Sew	73	35	56	-1	0.68	2	48.74	8.48	35.24	8.63
Cookeville	77	30	52	-4	0.56	2	55.87	10.15	41.73	11.04
Crossville_AP	71	30	54	1	0.22	3	57.85	13.24	43.75	14.16
Dickson_AG	74	30	55	-3	1.20	1	54.37	11.47	41.60	12.71
Dover_1W	71	34	52	-4	0.57	2	54.22	12.25	39.85	11.78
Fayetteville_TN	77	31	57	1	0.57	3	48.90	5.86	36.90	9.14
Jamestown	73	28	50	-4	0.30	3	58.01	13.58	43.91	13.32
Kingston_Spring	76	31	53	-3	0.51	2	54.00	12.58	41.73	14.28
Lawrenceburg_Fl	75	32	53	-3	0.61	2	49.43	4.86	40.24	11.49
Lewisburg	77	31	53	-4	0.26	1	47.53	3.53	38.54	9.12
Linden	74	33	53	-3	0.71	2	53.32	9.42	43.51	14.60
Livingston_WLIV	77	29	52	-4	0.82	2	58.55	16.07	44.41	15.45
Murfreesboro_5N	76	30	53	-3	0.54	4	48.36	5.38	37.18	7.98
Nashville_Metro	76	33	56	-3	0.51	2	50.74	12.74	40.40	14.64
Oneida	71	27	51	-2	0.17	2	58.84	14.22	47.26	16.51
Portland_TN	73	36	53	-2	0.05	1	53.17	12.00	39.07	11.20
Pulaski_Water_P	75	35	54	-5	0.35	3	52.70	8.65	42.49	13.83
Shelbyville	77	31	56	-3	0.67	1	44.42	0.25	33.52	4.23
Sparta_TN	78	31	55	0	0.38	2	56.84	12.52	41.72	11.97
Springfield	75	32	54	-2	0.82	3	45.14	5.56	35.49	8.78
Springhill	75	30	51	-5	0.70	2	51.21	7.37	40.62	11.39
Tullahoma	75	31	54	-4	0.48	2	48.65	3.32	37.04	7.68
East										
Chattanooga/Lov	78	34	56	-3	0.24	2	48.81	5.81	35.66	8.39
Cleveland_6NNE	76	30	56	0	0.36	3	50.53	6.36	40.22	11.61
Dayton	74	31	51	-7	0.28	2	49.08	4.05	38.53	9.52
Erwin_1W	79	29	52	0	0.10	2	45.37	4.75	36.81	7.70
Gatlinburg_2SW	78	26	50	-4	0.03	1	55.20	8.51	42.47	9.72
Greeneville	76	27	49	-6	0.55	2	38.84	3.29	29.67	4.81
Kingston_AG	74	32	53	-2	0.41	2	55.44	8.53	42.29	11.46
Knoxville_AP	75	31	53	-4	0.27	2	49.72	11.46	36.83	11.89
Newcomb	73	30	51	-2	0.30	2	58.17	13.55	44.55	13.80
Norris_4NE	69	33	51	-4	0.47	2	53.82	11.23	39.78	11.08
Tri-City_RGNL_A	77	29	53	-3	0.70	1	38.61	4.70	28.47	4.93

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.