



# KENTUCKY WEEKLY CROP & WEATHER REPORT



Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service  
P.O. Box 1120  
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-1120  
(502) 582-5293 or 1-800-928-5277

Prepared in Cooperation with:  
Univ. of Ky - Agr'l Weather Center  
U.S. Dept. of Commerce - NOAA  
Kentucky Department of Agriculture  
Cooperative Extension Service

*LELAND E. BROWN, State Statistician*

Issued 4:00 P.M., April 3, 2000

NRC 2-00

**AGRICULTURAL NEWS:** March ended with very warm temperatures for the State. Temperatures averaged 52 degrees which was near normal. Rainfall was limited across the State, with rain at the start of the week and at the end of the week. Western portions of the State reported generally moist conditions while the Eastern areas were near average. **Topsoil moisture**, as of Friday, March 31 was rated 2 percent very short, 19 percent short, 75 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture**, was rated 7 percent very short, 33 percent short, 57 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus. **Days suitable for fieldwork** averaged 4.2 out of a possible 6 days. Farming activities included completing fertilization of winter wheat and seeding of traditional and greenhouse tobacco beds. Farmers report approximately 35 percent of plowing and field preparation for planting completed. General repairs to machinery and fencing are also reported as current activities. Corn planting has begun in the Southwestern areas of the State.

**TOBACCO:** Seeding was 65 percent complete by Sunday, April 2. This compares with 51 percent in 1999, and 65 percent for the five year average. Kentucky burley gross sales through March totaled 413.7 million pounds and averaged \$189.82 per hundred pounds.

**SMALL GRAINS & LEGUMES:** A relatively mild winter helped keep Kentucky's winter wheat crop in mostly good to excellent condition. Producers report less than 3 percent of wheat acreage lost due to winter kill. As of Sunday, April 2 wheat condition was rated as 2 percent poor, 10 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 41 percent excellent. About 3 percent of barley acreage was also lost due to winter kill. Barley was rated 4 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 32 percent excellent. Losses to alfalfa and red clover stands averaged 3 percent and 5 percent respectively.

**PASTURE AND LIVESTOCK:** Pasture condition was rated 2 percent very poor, 11 percent poor, 41 percent fair, 37 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Approximately 45 percent of the current roughage requirements for livestock are being met from pastures. About 65 percent of the State's farms with livestock currently have animals on winter feed. Hay supplies are holding up, with some reports of cattle being returned to grazing acres. Many producers report reconditioning and replanting of hay fields and pastures as a result of last year's drought.

**MARCH 1, 2000 PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS-PLANTED ACRES, KENTUCKY & UNITED STATES**

| CROPS                    | KENTUCKY         |           |                   | UNITED STATES    |           |                   |
|--------------------------|------------------|-----------|-------------------|------------------|-----------|-------------------|
|                          | 1999             | Ind. 2000 | 2000 %<br>of 1999 | 1999             | Ind. 2000 | 2000 %<br>of 1999 |
|                          | (Thousand Acres) |           |                   | (Thousand Acres) |           |                   |
| All Tobacco <u>1/</u>    | 221.7            | 142.5     | 64                | 644.3            | 500.7     | 78                |
| Burley Tobacco <u>1/</u> | 210.0            | 130.0     | 62                | 300.4            | 207.7     | 69                |
| Corn                     | 1,320            | 1,330     | 101               | 77,431           | 77,881    | 101               |
| Soybeans                 | 1,200            | 1,200     | 100               | 73,780           | 74,871    | 101               |
| All Sorghum              | 10               | 15        | 150               | 9,288            | 8,979     | 97                |
| All Wheat <u>2/</u>      | 650              | 670       | 103               | 62,814           | 61,664    | 98                |
| All Hay <u>1/</u>        | 2,400            | 2,450     | 102               | 63,160           | 63,052    | 100               |
| Barley <u>2/</u>         | 9                | 10        | 111               | 5,223            | 5,733     | 110               |

1/ Harvested acreage. 2/ Includes acreage planted preceding fall.

**KENTUCKY CROP PROGRESS**  
WEEK ENDING APRIL 2, 2000  
WITH COMPARISONS

**SOIL MOISTURE**  
WEEK ENDING MARCH 31, 2000  
WITH COMPARISONS

| Crop Stage          | This Week | Previous Year | 5-Yr. Avg. | Previous Week KY | Previous Week U.S. |
|---------------------|-----------|---------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Percentage          |           |               |            |                  |                    |
| Tobacco Beds Seeded | 65        | 51            | 65         | NA               | NA                 |

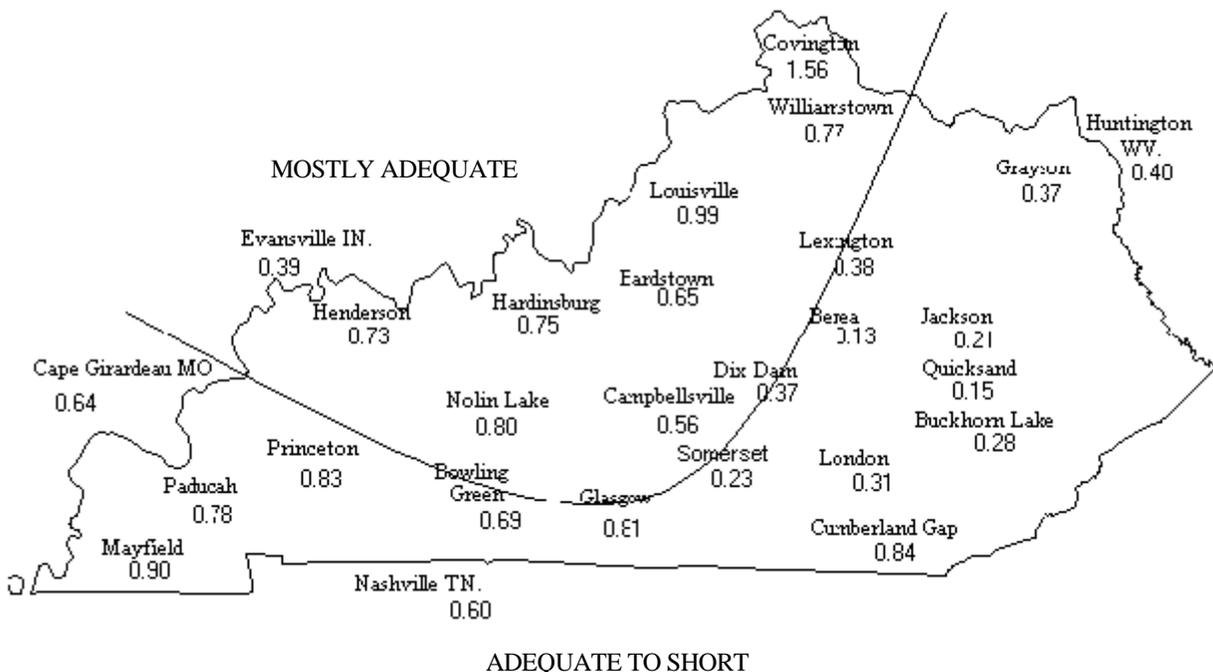
(NA) Data Not Available.

|                | This Week | Previous Week |
|----------------|-----------|---------------|
| Percentage     |           |               |
| <b>TOPSOIL</b> |           |               |
| Very Short     | 2         | NA            |
| Short          | 19        | NA            |
| Adequate       | 75        | NA            |
| Surplus        | 4         | NA            |
| <b>SUBSOIL</b> |           |               |
| Very Short     | 7         | NA            |
| Short          | 33        | NA            |
| Adequate       | 57        | NA            |
| Surplus        | 3         | NA            |

**KENTUCKY CROP CONDITIONS (Percent)**

| CROP    | WEEK ENDING MARCH 31, 2000 |      |      |      |           | WEEK ENDING MARCH 24, 2000 |      |      |      |           |
|---------|----------------------------|------|------|------|-----------|----------------------------|------|------|------|-----------|
|         | VERY POOR                  | POOR | FAIR | GOOD | EXCELLENT | VERY POOR                  | POOR | FAIR | GOOD | EXCELLENT |
| Wheat   | 0                          | 2    | 10   | 47   | 41        | No Survey Conducted        |      |      |      |           |
| Barley  | 0                          | 4    | 20   | 44   | 32        |                            |      |      |      |           |
| Pasture | 2                          | 11   | 41   | 37   | 9         |                            |      |      |      |           |

**PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 7:00 P.M.**  
**TOPSOIL MOISTURE DELINEATION FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2000**



# **KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, MARCH 27 - APRIL 2, 2000:**

## **NEAR NORMAL TEMPERATURES AND BELOW NORMAL RAINFALL:**

Cooler than normal temperatures started off the workweek. By mid-week very mild temperatures dominated the Bluegrass state. Rainfall was limited with generally two rainfall events at the start of the work-week and on the weekend. Soil temperatures at a 4 inch depth under a sod cover were averaging in the low to mid 50's. The latest Crop Moisture Index (Mar 25th) indicated generally abnormally moist soil moisture conditions for agricultural purposes across the Western three-quarters of the State with the Eastern area at near normal short-term soil moisture. However, the Palmer Drought Severity Index continued to hold most of the state in MILD hydrologic drought with the Eastern sections of the State in MODERATE drought and the entire State needing 3 to 5 inches of ABOVE NORMAL rainfall to end the hydrologic drought. Due to the very mild temperatures so far this year, Alfalfa Weevil Degree Day accumulations were a couple of weeks ahead of normal and ranged from 245 at Covington to 400 at Paducah.

Temperatures for the period averaged 52 degrees across the State which was NEAR NORMAL and 3 degrees cooler than the previous week. High temperatures averaged from 65 in the West to 64 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 1 degree BELOW NORMAL in the West to 5 degrees ABOVE NORMAL in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 41 degrees in the West to 40 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 1 degree ABOVE NORMAL in the West to 1 degree ABOVE NORMAL in the East. Precipitation (liq. equ.) for the period totaled 0.61 inches Statewide which was 0.41 inches BELOW NORMAL. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 0.71 inches, Central 0.78 inches, Bluegrass 0.58 inches and East 0.35 inches, which was -0.40, -0.26, -0.40 and -0.60 inches respectively BELOW NORMAL. By station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.13 inches at Berea to a high of 1.56 inches at Covington.

Tom Priddy

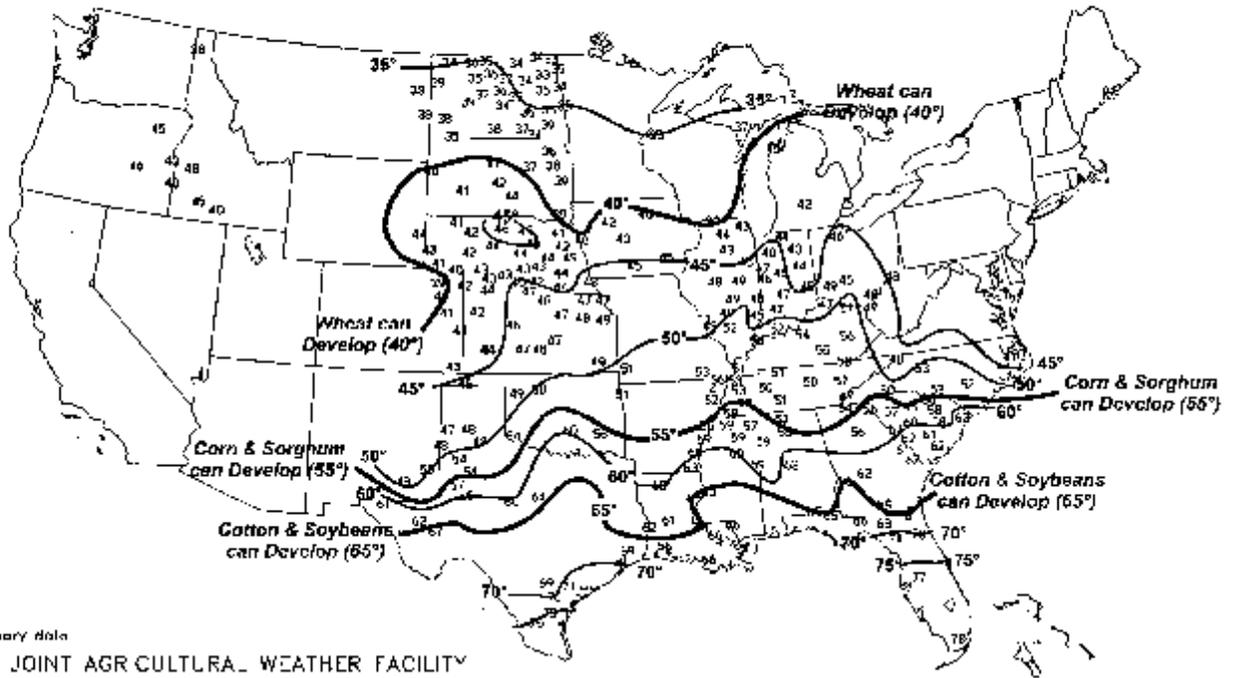
## **KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 7:00 P.M.**

| Weather Station | Precipitation |             | Deviation From Normal Since Jan. 1 | Temperatures              |              |           |                       |      | Air Temp. |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------------------|------|-----------|
|                 | Last Week     | Since Jan 1 |                                    | Soil 4 In. Grass High Low | Air High Low | Wkly. Avg | Deviation From Normal |      |           |
|                 | (Inches)      |             |                                    | (Degrees Fahrenheit)      |              |           |                       |      |           |
| Bardstown       | 0.65          | 11.79       | +1.06                              | 60                        | 49           | 75        | 27                    | 51.6 | +1        |
| Berea           | 0.13          | 6.23        | -4.10                              | 58                        | 49           | 78        | 29                    | 51.4 | +2        |
| Bowling Green   | 0.69          | 9.64        | -3.70                              | --                        | --           | 78        | 27                    | 53.0 | +2        |
| Bristol         | 0.63          | 9.47        | -1.12                              | --                        | --           | 74        | 30                    | 50.1 | +1        |
| Buckhorn Lake   | 0.28          | 7.64        | -4.08                              | --                        | --           | 77        | 28                    | 52.4 | +3        |
| Cape Girardeau  | 0.64          | 12.49       | +0.94                              | --                        | --           | 72        | 32                    | 51.9 | -1        |
| Campbellsville  | 0.56          | 9.85        | -3.00                              | 58                        | 51           | 77        | 27                    | 52.6 | +2        |
| Covington       | 1.56          | 14.25       | +4.48                              | --                        | --           | 70        | 30                    | 47.6 | -2        |
| Cumberland Gap  | 0.84          | 10.08       | -3.57                              | 64                        | 51           | 77        | 31                    | 53.5 | +4        |
| Dix Dam         | 0.37          | 13.81       | +2.81                              | --                        | --           | 75        | 29                    | 50.7 | +1        |
| Evansville      | 0.39          | 15.13       | +4.37                              | --                        | --           | 71        | 28                    | 50.1 | -3        |
| Glasgow         | 0.81          | 11.29       | -2.12                              | 58                        | 49           | 80        | 27                    | 54.6 | +4        |
| Grayson         | 0.37          | 9.37        | -0.03                              | 59                        | 51           | 75        | 32                    | 50.5 | +1        |
| Hardinsburg     | 0.75          | 14.99       | +2.73                              | 60                        | 50           | 76        | 30                    | 52.9 | +2        |
| Henderson       | 0.73          | 16.07       | +4.91                              | 60                        | 52           | 73        | 27                    | 53.9 | +1        |
| Huntington      | 0.40          | 9.48        | +0.13                              | --                        | --           | 75        | 29                    | 50.2 | +1        |
| Jackson         | 0.21          | 8.24        | -3.26                              | --                        | --           | 77        | 33                    | 53.4 | +4        |
| Lexington       | 0.38          | 12.34       | +1.61                              | --                        | --           | 73        | 30                    | 49.3 | -0        |
| London          | 0.31          | 9.20        | -2.56                              | --                        | --           | 75        | 29                    | 52.4 | +3        |
| Louisville      | 0.99          | 16.56       | +5.46                              | --                        | --           | 76        | 30                    | 51.6 | +1        |
| Mayfield        | 0.90          | 12.08       | -2.04                              | 58                        | 52           | 75        | 33                    | 53.6 | +0        |
| Nashville       | 0.60          | 11.42       | -1.13                              | --                        | --           | 77        | 34                    | 54.8 | +4        |
| Nolin Lake      | 0.80          | 11.88       | -0.44                              | --                        | --           | 77        | 28                    | 53.0 | +2        |
| Paducah         | 0.78          | 15.55       | +3.13                              | 61                        | 52           | 75        | 33                    | 52.4 | -1        |
| Princeton       | 0.83          | 15.92       | +2.43                              | 63                        | 52           | 78        | 29                    | 55.6 | +2        |
| Quicksand       | 0.15          | 7.60        | -3.90                              | 61                        | 52           | 77        | 27                    | 52.2 | +3        |
| Somerset        | 0.23          | 10.40       | -1.98                              | 61                        | 52           | 75        | 27                    | 51.3 | +2        |
| Spindletop      | 0.28          | 12.11       | +1.38                              | 55                        | 45           | 73        | 33                    | 49.6 | +0        |
| Williamstown    | 0.77          | 13.22       | +2.93                              | 59                        | 46           | 71        | 30                    | 50.6 | +1        |

The above information is provided by Tom Priddy, Kentucky Extension Agricultural Meteorologist, University of Kentucky Agr'l Weather Center (606)257-3000 ext 245. E-mail: tpriddy@ca.uky.edu Additional Ky weather data available on Internet at: <http://www.wagwx.ca.uky.edu/>

Average Soil Temperature (°F, 4" Bare)

MAR 19 - 25, 2000



This release and others can be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky/> For a free E-Mail subscription of the Kentucky Weekly Crop & Weather report, send an E-Mail message to [nass-state-releases@news.usda.gov](mailto:nass-state-releases@news.usda.gov) with the following command in the body of the message: **subscribe ky-crop-weather <e-mail address>**. The E-Mail address is optional; leave the address blank unless subscribing for someone else. The default address is where you sent the message from. You would unsubscribe in a similar way but use the word unsubscribe.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
KENTUCKY AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
AGRICULTURAL STATISTICIAN  
POST OFFICE BOX 1120  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40201-1120

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUEST

PRESORT  
FIRST-CLASS MAIL  
POSTAGE & FEES PAID  
USDA  
PERMIT NO. G-38