



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

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AGRICULTURAL NEWS: Temperatures averaged above normal last week for the State with rainfall below normal. Most of the State had adequate to surplus moisture while the Northern portion of the State was adequate to short. **Topsoil moisture** as of Friday, May 12 was rated 4 percent very short, 25 percent short, 65 percent adequate and 6 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 2 percent very short, 27 percent short, 67 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus. **Days suitable for fieldwork** averaged 5.1 out of a possible six. Farmers were busy setting tobacco, planting corn and soybeans, applying fertilizer and cutting hay.

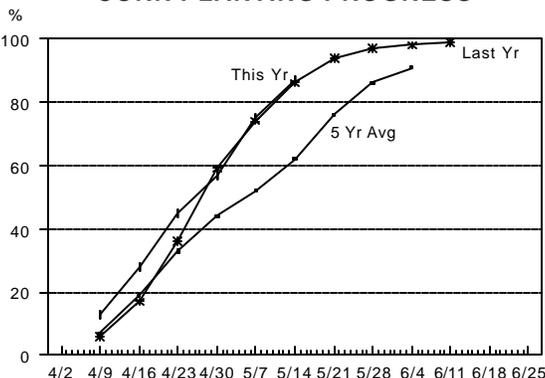
TOBACCO: **Burley** tobacco setting was 16 percent complete as of Sunday, May 14. This compares to 13 percent last year and 8 percent for the five year average. Farmers have been busy setting tobacco with the dry field conditions. No disease problems with plant beds have been reported while only a few insect problems with set tobacco have been reported. **Dark tobacco** setting was estimated at 16 percent. This was ahead of both last year and average. Condition of all set tobacco was 3 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 58 percent good and 14 percent excellent.

CORN: Corn planting showed good progress last week and continues to be ahead of last year and average. Planting was 87 percent complete on Sunday compared to 86 percent last year and 62 percent for average. Corn emerged at 68 percent was also ahead of last year and average. Warm soils were beneficial for germination. As of Friday, May 12 the condition of the emerged corn was 4 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 53 percent good and 18 percent excellent.

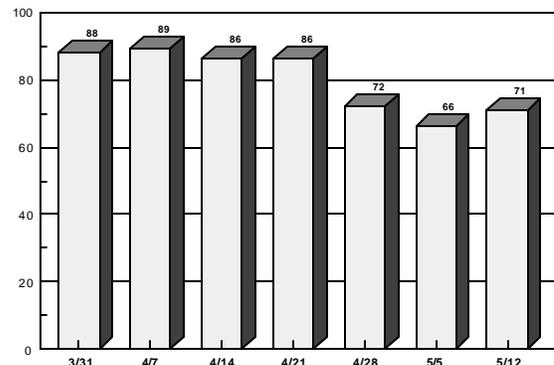
SOYBEANS: Farmers were actively planting full season soybeans last week and by Sunday, 17 percent of the states intended acreage had been planted. This compares to 16 percent last year and 8 percent for average. About 4 percent of the crop had emerged.

OTHER CROPS: The **winter wheat** crop continues to be very promising. The first forecast yield estimate as of May 1 was 55 bushels per acre, down 5 bushels from last year's record 60 bushels per acre. Only scattered disease problems and lodging have been reported. Some wheat will be harvested as silage and hay. Kentucky Pest News has reported the presence of Wheat Streak Mosaic in the state. The virus is generally located in the southern tier counties in central and west Kentucky. Effects of the virus are unknown at this time. Condition of winter wheat was rated 1 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 53 percent good and 18 percent excellent. **Pasture** condition was 1 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 55 percent good and 14 percent excellent. Farmers have enjoyed good grazing this spring. Some are however concerned about the lack of moisture for newly sown pasture grass. Farmers are starting to cut **hay**. Hay condition as of Friday was 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 51 percent good and 11 percent excellent. There are some problems with alfalfa weevil but they are minimal to date. **Grain sorghum** was 13 percent planted. **Strawberry** producers reported that 54 percent of the berries were small in size, 37 percent were medium and 9 percent were large.

CORN PLANTING PROGRESS



WHEAT CONDITION
% Good to Excellent



KENTUCKY CROP PROGRESS
WEEK ENDING MAY 14, 2000
WITH COMPARISONS

Crop Stage	This Week	Previous Year	5-Yr. Avg.	Previous Week	
				KY	U.S.
Percentage					
Corn					
Planted	87	86	62	75	78
Emerged	68	66	55	51	30
Soybeans					
Planted	17	16	8	12	34
Burley Tobacco Set	16	13	8	5	NA
Dark Tobacco Set	16	10	8	2	NA

(NA) Data Not Available.

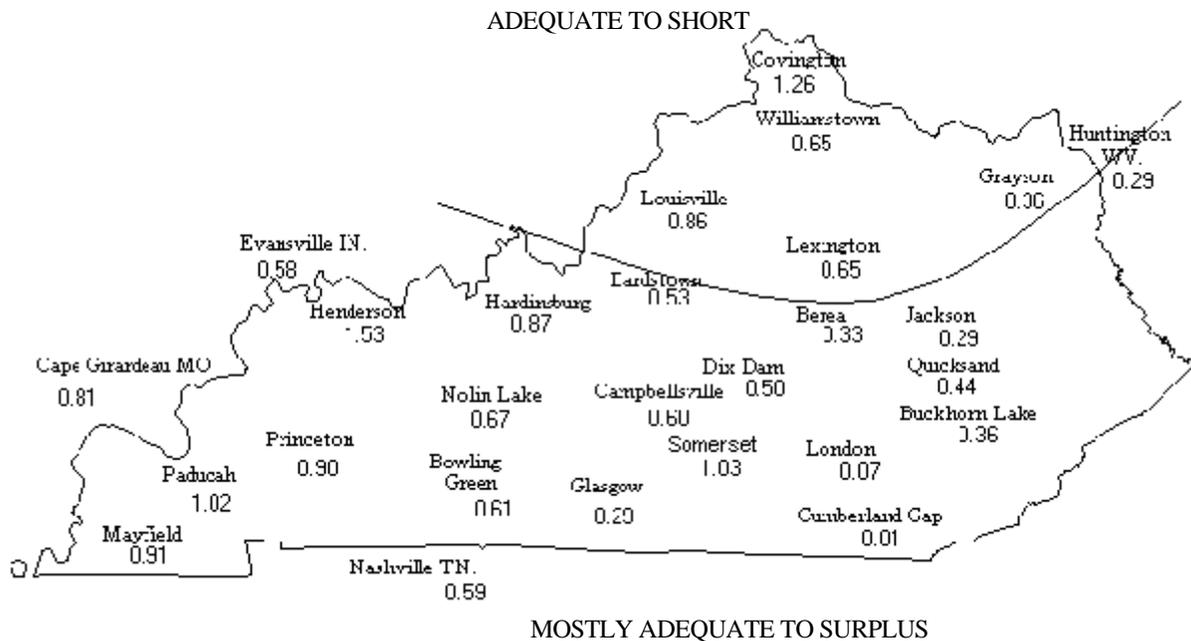
SOIL MOISTURE
WEEK ENDING MAY 12, 2000
WITH COMPARISONS

	This Week	Previous Week
TOPSOIL		
Very Short	4	1
Short	25	11
Adequate	65	73
Surplus	6	15
SUBSOIL		
Very Short	2	3
Short	27	19
Adequate	67	71
Surplus	4	7

KENTUCKY CROP CONDITIONS (Percent)

CROP	WEEK ENDING MAY 12, 2000					WEEK ENDING MAY 5, 2000				
	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
Corn Emerged	0	4	25	53	18	0	3	27	60	10
Wheat	1	5	23	53	18	1	4	29	51	15
Pasture	1	5	25	55	14	1	7	30	49	13
Hay Crops	1	4	33	51	11	0	9	30	47	14
Tobacco Set	0	3	25	58	14	-	-	-	-	-

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 14, 7:00 P.M.
TOPSOIL MOISTURE DELINEATION FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2000



KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, MAY 8 - 14, 2000:

ABOVE NORMAL TEMPERATURES AND BELOW NORMAL RAINFALL:

Dry weather and hot, humid conditions continued for most of the work week with one rain event occurring on Friday. This was the first rain event across the State in a couple of weeks. Temperatures for most of the work week for Kentucky were in the 80s with high humidities. A cool down did occur with the rain event and continued through the weekend with the temperatures dropping to more spring-like conditions. Temperatures for the period averaged 70 degrees across the State which was 5 degrees ABOVE NORMAL. High temperatures averaged from 79 in the West to 80 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 1 degree BELOW NORMAL in the West to 6 degrees ABOVE NORMAL in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 59 degrees in the West to 59 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 4 degrees ABOVE NORMAL in the West to 6 degrees ABOVE NORMAL in the East. The Crop Moisture Index for May 6th continued to indicate that all of the Bluegrass state had adequate moisture for agricultural purposes with the Palmer Drought Severity Index showing Central KY in a Moderate hydrological drought with the rest of KY continuing in a Mild hydrological drought. Rainfall for the period totaled 0.66 inches Statewide which was 0.41 inches BELOW NORMAL. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 0.96 inches, Central 0.64 inches, Bluegrass 0.67 inches and East 0.36 inches, which was 0.15, 0.47, 0.35 and 0.65 inches respectively BELOW NORMAL. By station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.01 inches at Cumberland Gap to a high of 1.53 inches at Henderson.

Tom Priddy

KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL

FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 14, 7:00 P.M.

Weather Station	Rainfall			Deviation From		Air Temperature				Growing Degree Days		
	Last Week	Since April 1	Last Four Wks	Norm Since Apr. 1	Norm Last 4 Wks	High	Low	Wkly. Avg.	Dev. From Norm	Last Week	Since Apr. 1	Dev. Since Apr. 1
	(Inches)			(Degrees Fahrenheit)								
Bardstown	0.53	5.53	2.14	-0.37	-1.69	84	46	70.7	+5	146	538	+28
Berea	0.33	5.34	2.59	-1.09	-1.57	86	43	70.5	+6	146	554	+30
Bowling Green	0.61	6.03	3.46	-0.52	-0.79	87	48	69.3	+4	134	522	-2
Bristol	0.09	3.63	1.45	-1.43	-1.85	89	42	68.0	+4	126	459	-7
Buckhorn Lake	0.36	6.67	3.61	+1.06	+0.00	88	43	70.3	+6	144	540	+74
Cape Girardeau	0.81	3.20	2.59	-3.57	-1.82	83	40	68.1	+1	132	527	-11
Campbellsville	0.60	5.80	2.31	-1.28	-2.25	86	47	71.3	+6	149	574	+50
Covington	1.26	6.58	3.58	+0.90	-0.10	83	39	67.3	+3	125	444	+8
Cumberland Gap	0.01	5.51	1.85	-0.74	-2.23	88	43	70.1	+6	143	571	+105
Dix Dam	0.50	5.52	2.41	-0.84	-1.70	86	45	70.4	+6	143	527	+17
Evansville	0.58	3.46	1.91	-2.71	-2.11	88	42	67.4	-0	123	489	-5
Glasgow	0.29	5.77	2.80	-1.07	-1.61	88	48	71.5	+6	149	611	+147
Grayson	0.36	5.00	2.33	-0.55	-1.29	87	46	69.7	+5	139	502	+80
Hardinsburg	0.87	4.88	2.39	-1.63	-1.82	86	46	70.4	+5	144	567	+43
Henderson	1.53	4.64	3.18	-1.67	-0.86	87	44	69.6	+2	139	567	+43
Huntington	0.29	4.63	2.10	-0.89	-1.50	87	45	69.5	+5	138	495	+29
Jackson	0.29	7.58	4.84	+1.46	+0.90	87	49	70.1	+6	138	502	+36
Lexington	0.65	6.28	3.00	+0.38	-0.83	85	45	69.0	+5	134	473	+37
London	0.07	5.62	2.86	-0.22	-0.89	89	45	69.6	+5	138	480	+14
Louisville	0.86	4.94	1.95	-1.38	-2.11	86	46	70.2	+5	141	519	+25
Mayfield	0.91	5.53	3.28	-1.78	-1.34	85	46	68.8	+1	132	535	-33
Nashville	0.59	7.27	4.56	+0.70	+0.32	86	50	70.1	+5	139	546	-22
Nolin Lake	0.67	5.66	2.93	-1.34	-1.66	87	47	70.2	+5	140	556	+46
Paducah	1.02	5.69	4.08	-1.55	-0.49	86	47	69.5	+2	138	539	+1
Princeton	0.90	7.17	4.88	+0.13	+0.40	88	46	71.3	+4	149	639	+85
Quicksand	0.44	7.00	4.28	+0.88	+0.34	87	43	69.6	+5	139	554	+88
Somerset	1.03	6.64	2.48	+0.00	-1.84	86	46	71.0	+7	149	548	+38
Spindletop	0.62	5.02	2.12	-0.88	-1.71	84	44	68.5	+4	130	463	+27
Williamstown	0.65	6.56	3.65	+0.42	-0.28	83	42	69.2	+5	138	531	+95

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/>

