



KENTUCKY WEEKLY CROP & WEATHER REPORT



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Prepared in Cooperation with:
Univ. of Ky - Agr'l Weather Center
U.S. Dept. of Commerce - NOAA
Kentucky Department of Agriculture
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AGRICULTURAL NEWS: Farmers received much needed rain over much of the State last week. Northern areas received most of the rain with southern and western areas needing much more rain. Even with the rain received the northern Kentucky soil conditions remain short to adequate while the southern part of the State remains mostly short. **Topsoil moisture** for the State as of Friday, May 20 was 26 percent very short, 39 percent short, 33 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 29 percent very short, 47 percent short, 22 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus. **Days suitable for fieldwork** averaged 5.3 out of a possible 6 days. Farmers were busy last week setting tobacco, cutting and baling hay, planting soybeans and finishing up corn planting. Farmers in some drier areas stopped planting due to dry soil conditions. Problems with army worms have been reported in legumes (hays), pastures, wheat and corn. Farmers have been spraying as needed.

TOBACCO: Burley setting continued even with the dry soils. As of Sunday, Kentucky farmers had set 38 percent of their intended acreage. This was slightly behind the 41 percent last year while ahead of the 5 year average of 24 percent. Farmers had set 52 percent of their **dark tobacco**, ahead of last year and average. Little if any insect damage has been reported. Condition of the set tobacco was 1 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 50 percent good and 4 percent excellent.

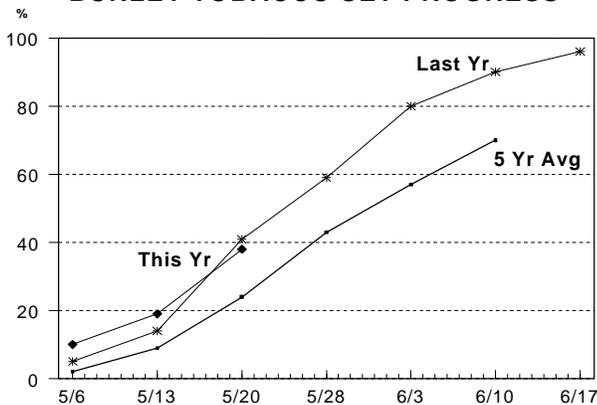
CORN: Corn planting continued to make good progress last week and was 98 percent planted by May 20. This was ahead of the 92 percent of last year and 77 percent for the 5 year average. Corn emerged at 93 percent was also ahead of last year and average. Army worm damage had been reported in scattered corn fields. As of Friday, the emerged crop was 3 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 44 percent good and 8 percent excellent.

SOYBEANS: Farmers continued to plant soybeans but slowed their planting during the week due to dry soils. Planting as of Sunday was 58 percent complete, ahead of 37 percent last week and 21 percent for average. Of the intended acreage, 40 percent had emerged.

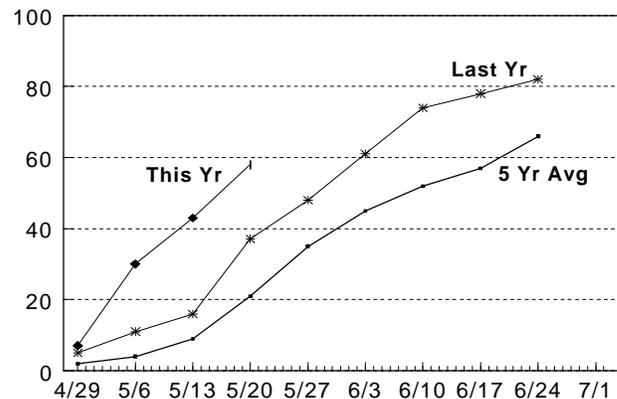
SMALL GRAINS: The **winter wheat** crop continued rapid development. Prior to the rains of late last week, the crop had experienced little lodging. Some of the crop was being cut for hay due to damage from an earlier freeze and poor development in some areas. Army worms have been reported in wheat. The earliest wheat harvest is expected to begin on June 16. Condition of the wheat crop was rated 2 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 47 percent good and 13 percent excellent. Harvesting of the **barley** crop is expected to begin about June 4.

OTHER CROPS: Farmers are harvesting their first cutting of **alfalfa** hay. Farmers comment that production may be down by as much as half in some areas due to dry field conditions. Some alfalfa weevil damage had been reported and farmers are harvesting their alfalfa to prevent further damage to their crop. Some other hay was also harvested due to the dry crop conditions. Dry weather has reduced yields but curing conditions have helped the quality of the hay. Condition of the hay crops was rated 12 percent very poor, 24 percent poor, 39 percent fair, 23 percent good and 2 percent excellent. **Pastures** continue to be stressed by dry soil conditions. Farmers continue to graze their pastures but some have started to consider feeding stored hay to supplement their pastures. Pastures were rated 11 percent very poor, 24 percent poor, 39 percent fair, 23 percent good and 2 percent excellent. **Grain sorghum** was 58 percent planted.

BURLEY TOBACCO SET PROGRESS



SOYBEAN PLANTING PROGRESS



KENTUCKY CROP PROGRESS
WEEK ENDING MAY 20, 2001
WITH COMPARISONS

Crop Stage	This Week	Previous Year	5-Yr. Avg.	Previous Week	
				KY	U.S.
Percentage					
Corn					
Planted	98	92	77	93	72
Emerged	93	82	65	78	44
Soybeans					
Planted	58	37	21	43	37
Emerged	40	19	8	NA	NA
Burley Tobacco Set	38	41	24	19	NA
Dark Tobacco Set	52	42	25	25	NA

(NA) Data Not Available.

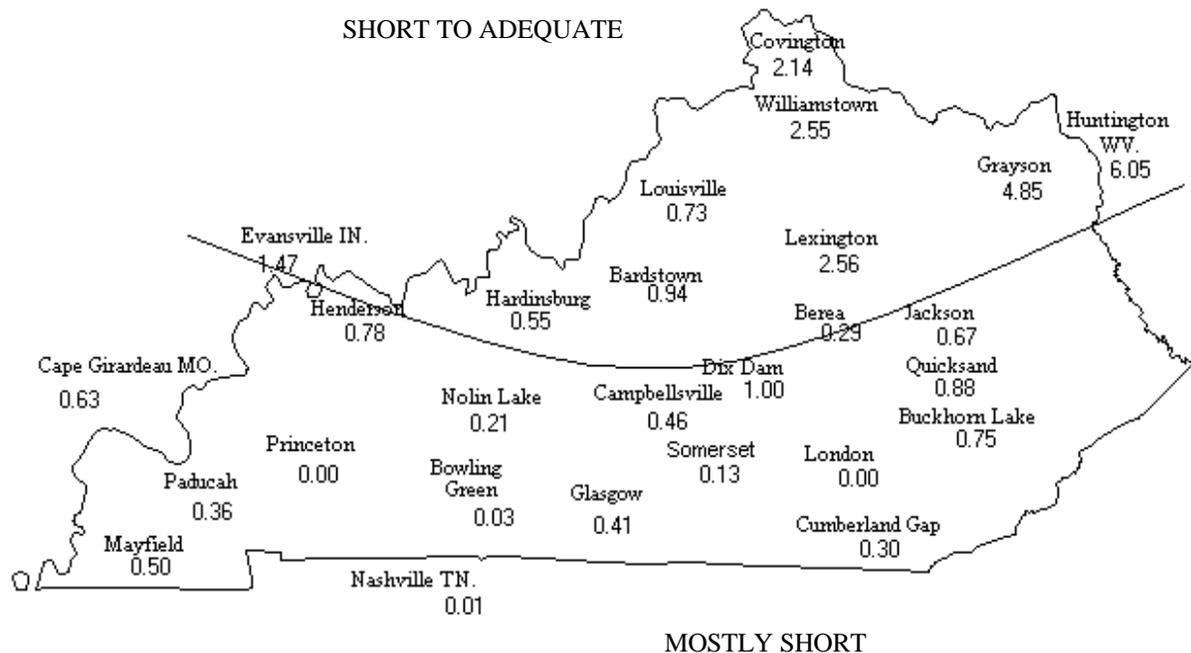
SOIL MOISTURE
WEEK ENDING MAY 18, 2001
WITH COMPARISONS

	This Week	Previous Week
TOPSOIL		
Very Short	26	26
Short	39	46
Adequate	33	28
Surplus	2	0
SUBSOIL		
Very Short	29	31
Short	47	45
Adequate	22	24
Surplus	2	0

KENTUCKY CROP CONDITIONS (Percent)

CROP	WEEK ENDING MAY 18, 2001					WEEK ENDING MAY 11, 2001				
	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
Corn Emerged	3	8	37	44	8	1	9	28	51	11
Wheat	2	5	33	47	13	1	4	27	54	14
Pasture	11	27	37	23	2	6	24	38	29	3
Hay Crops	12	24	39	23	2	6	25	41	25	3
Tobacco Set	1	7	38	50	4	0	5	34	57	4

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 20, 7:00 P.M.
TOPSOIL MOISTURE DELINEATION FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MAY 18, 2001



KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, MAY 14 - 20, 2001:

ABOVE NORMAL TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL:

Rain, Rain, Rain. Many areas of Kentucky finally received much needed rain last week especially in the northern half of the State. Rainfall amounts of one to four inches were common in this area. In the southern half of the State rainfall amounts varied from near nothing in the southeast to half inch totals in the southwest part of the State. Temperatures were also hot last week with highs in the upper 80s and some areas of Western Kentucky reaching the 90s.

Temperatures for the period averaged 72 degrees across the State which was 5 degrees ABOVE NORMAL. High temperatures averaged from 85 in the West to 82 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 4 degrees ABOVE NORMAL in the West to 5 degrees ABOVE NORMAL in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 63 degrees in the West to 58 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 6 degrees ABOVE NORMAL in the West to 2 degrees ABOVE NORMAL in the East. Rainfall for the period totaled 1.14 inches statewide which was 0.08 inches ABOVE NORMAL. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 0.62 inches, Central 0.48 inches, Bluegrass 1.74 inches and East 1.70 inches, which was -0.48, -0.63, +0.72 and +0.70 inches respectively from normal. By Kentucky station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of TRACE amounts at London to an estimated high of 4.85 inches at Grayson.

Tom Priddy

KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 20, 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	0.94	4.99	3.18	-1.77	-0.74	85	48	71.6	+5	150	775	+175
Berea	0.29	2.50	1.04	-4.86	-3.20	85	42	70.1	+4	143	784	+164
Bowling Green	0.03	4.05	2.17	-3.46	-2.17	88	48	73.8	+7	162	834	+214
Bristol	0.57	3.00	1.42	-2.82	-1.98	86	36	68.7	+3	136	670	+120
Buckhorn Lake	0.75	3.59	1.71	-2.81	-1.94	86	40	69.5	+4	140	754	+204
Cape Girardeau	0.63	3.51	1.98	-4.27	-2.55	90	53	74.7	+6	166	840	+200
Campbellsville	0.46	4.09	1.92	-4.00	-2.69	87	45	71.7	+5	151	798	+178
Covington	2.14	5.07	3.58	-1.44	-0.18	85	43	68.3	+3	130	711	+191
Cumberland Gap	0.30	3.25	0.97	-3.93	-3.22	89	39	70.1	+4	144	759	+209
Dix Dam	1.00	3.97	2.45	-3.31	-1.73	85	45	70.9	+5	148	774	+174
Evansville	1.47	3.23	1.89	-3.85	-2.25	91	56	74.6	+6	167	834	+244
Glasgow	0.41	4.18	2.01	-3.63	-2.47	89	46	73.0	+6	157	826	+266
Grayson	4.85	6.86	5.50	+0.48	+1.78	84	39	69.0	+3	136	746	+246
Hardinsburg	0.55	4.74	3.28	-2.71	-1.01	87	52	73.6	+7	162	827	+207
Henderson	0.78	3.74	1.79	-3.46	-2.28	90	56	75.4	+7	170	850	+230
Huntington	6.05	7.95	6.53	+1.60	+2.82	84	37	68.3	+3	133	742	+192
Jackson	0.67	2.93	1.52	-4.06	-2.46	85	44	70.6	+5	145	761	+211
Lexington	2.56	5.01	3.90	-1.75	-0.02	85	45	71.4	+6	151	767	+247
London	0.00	2.33	0.59	-4.34	-3.20	87	40	69.8	+4	142	704	+154
Louisville	0.73	5.78	4.91	-1.43	+0.80	86	51	72.5	+6	155	817	+227
Mayfield	0.50	2.17	1.14	-6.11	-3.44	86	46	71.5	+3	150	786	+116
Nashville	0.01	3.43	1.34	-4.09	-2.97	88	50	73.8	+7	162	850	+180
Nolin Lake	0.21	4.49	2.84	-3.58	-1.90	87	49	73.6	+7	161	829	+229
Paducah	0.36	2.68	1.10	-5.52	-3.42	91	57	75.3	+6	168	858	+218
Princeton	0.00	2.67	1.00	-5.33	-3.48	89	47	74.0	+5	162	902	+252
Quicksand	0.88	3.66	1.96	-3.33	-2.02	86	40	69.4	+4	140	752	+202
Somerset	0.13	3.53	1.14	-4.09	-3.29	86	42	70.6	+5	146	760	+160
Spindletop	1.92	4.69	3.05	-2.07	-0.87	84	46	70.9	+5	146	728	+208
Williamstown	2.55	4.77	3.80	-2.23	-0.15	85	51	69.9	+4	138	767	+247

The above information is provided by Tom Priddy, Kentucky Extension Agricultural Meteorologist, University of Kentucky Agr'1 Weather Center (859)257-3000 ext 245. E-mail: tpriddy@ca.uky.edu Additional Ky weather data available on Internet at: <http://www.wagwx.ca.uky.edu/>

A GUIDE TO GROWING DEGREE DAYS

For the 2001 growing season, the Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service in cooperation with the National Weather Service will provide weekly accumulated growing degree days (GDD) data.

These GDD are calculated according to the definition:

$$\text{GDD} + = \frac{\text{Daily Max } (\leq 86^\circ \text{ F}) + \text{Daily Min } (\geq 50^\circ \text{ F})}{2} - 50^\circ \text{ F}$$

Maximum temperatures above 86°F are entered as 86° and minima below 50° are entered as 50°. This modification is designed to take into account the differing response of plants to quite high or quite low temperatures. There are several methods of calculating GDD, but the above formula is most widely accepted. This adjusted 50°F method of calculating GDD has been adopted by the Hybrid Seed Corn Industry as a basis for a uniform maturity rating system.

At 50°F corn grows hardly at all. As the temperature rises up to the range of 80° to 86°F, corn grows faster if moisture is adequate. When the temperature rises above 86°F the roots have increasing difficulty taking in water fast enough to keep plant cells turgid (full of water) and working at top speed. When soil moisture is short, the optimum temperature is less than 80°F. With perfect moisture supply the optimum temperature is likely 90° to 95°F.

The concept of growing degree days is still under study and refinement. In its short existence growing degree days has proven to be a much better gauge for rating corn maturity than the old "days of maturity" rating. The use and importance of GDD will improve as information is collected over the years.

Corn Percent Planted Week Ending May 13, 2001

State	May 13 2001	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	65	35	68	73
IL	97	91	97	71
IN	99	90	83	55
IA	67	56	98	85
KS	89	79	91	83
KY	93	88	85	63
MI	71	49	57	50
MN	29	7	96	81
MO	86	80	98	73
NE	76	50	92	77
NC	98	93	92	90
ND	31	10	70	42
OH	94	73	81	56
PA	68	38	50	41
SD	22	13	79	47
TN	99	95	89	88
TX	91	81	94	91
WI	46	29	83	59
ALL	72	58	89	71

These 18 States planted 92% of last year's corn acreage.

Soybean Percent Planted Week Ending May 13, 2001

State	May 13 2001	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg.
AR	44	32	22	21
IL	71	34	63	27
IN	80	52	53	29
IA	13	5	80	33
KS	33	19	43	21
KY	43	30	16	9
LA	74	51	56	46
MI	47	17	24	16
MN	5	0	73	39
MS	85	74	58	54
MO	24	14	52	18
NE	18	6	54	23
NC	12	6	13	13
ND	4	0	32	12
OH	75	42	49	32
SD	3	2	33	14
TN	26	12	9	7
WI	17	0	46	21
ALL	37	20	54	26

These 18 States planted 95% of last year's soybean acreage.

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