



KENTUCKY WEEKLY CROP & WEATHER REPORT



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Prepared in Cooperation with:
Univ. of Ky - Agr'l Weather Center
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AGRICULTURAL NEWS: The first week of April started the month with above normal temperatures. Average temperatures were 5 degrees above normal at 57 degrees. Precipitation was still below normal even with showers late in the week across the State. **Topsoil moisture** as of Friday, April 4 was rated 5 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 19 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 3 percent short, 80 percent adequate, and 17 percent surplus. Days suitable for fieldwork averaged 4.8 out of a possible 7 days. Farmers were busy top-dressing winter wheat and a few have started planting corn. Approximately 36 percent of plowing and field preparation for planting was reported as completed. Farmers also reported fixing fences and general repairs to machinery as current activities. Some farmers are still cleaning up debris left from winter ice storms.

TOBACCO: Traditional plant beds and greenhouse tobacco plants are well on their way towards seeding being completed. Plant bed and greenhouse seeding was 68 percent complete by Sunday, April 6. This was 1 percent behind last year.

SMALL GRAINS & LEGUMES: A colder winter has not significantly hurt Kentucky's winter wheat crop with most of the crop in good condition. Producers reported 4 percent of the wheat lost due to winter kill. As of Sunday, April 6 winter wheat condition was 3 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 57 percent good, 20 percent excellent. Barley acreage lost to winter kill was reported at 2 percent. Barley was rated 1 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 27 percent excellent. Losses to alfalfa and red clover stands were 5 percent and 4 percent respectively.

PASTURE AND LIVESTOCK: Pasture condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. Only 48 percent of the current roughage requirements were being met from pastures. Some 61 percent of the state's farms with livestock were still using winter feed. Hay supplies in some areas are running short. Producers report that 19 percent of the winter hay supply was still on hand. Cattle and calf loss were up from previous years due to the colder and wetter winter conditions.

MARCH 1, 2003 PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS-PLANTED ACRES, KENTUCKY & UNITED STATES

CROPS	KENTUCKY			UNITED STATES		
	2002	Ind. 2003	2003 % of 2002	2002	Ind. 2003	2003 % of 2002
	(Thousand Acres)		Percent	(Thousand Acres)		Percent
All Tobacco <u>1/</u>	112.2	106.5	95	430.3	417.5	97
Burley Tobacco <u>1/</u>	104.0	98.0	94	159.6	151.1	95
Corn	1,130	1,250	111	79,054	79,022	100
Soybeans	1,290	1,170	91	73,758	73,182	99
All Sorghum	12	14	117	9,580	9,451	99
All Wheat <u>2/</u>	550	480	87	60,358	61,697	102
All Hay <u>1/</u>	2,400	2,400	100	64,497	63,552	99
Barley <u>2/</u>	10	9	90	5,073	5,379	106

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

KENTUCKY CROP PROGRESS

WEEK ENDING APRIL 6, 2003

WITH COMPARISONS

Crop Stage	This Week	Previous Year	5-Yr. Avg.	Previous Week	
				KY	U.S.
Percentage					
Tobacco					
Beds Seeded	68	69	70	NA	NA

(NA)Data Not Available.

SOIL MOISTURE

WEEK ENDING APRIL 4, 2003

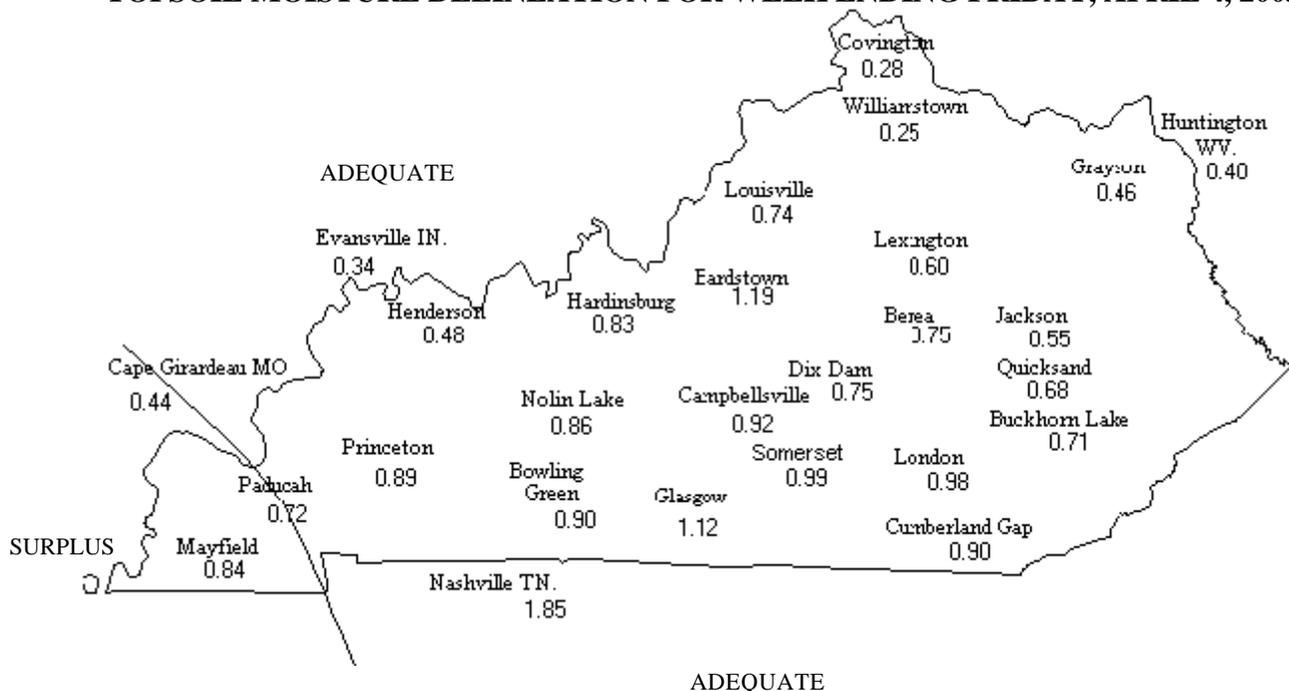
WITH COMPARISONS

	This Week	Previous Week
TOPSOIL		
Very Short	0	NA
Short	5	NA
Adequate	76	NA
Surplus	19	NA
SUBSOIL		
Very Short	0	NA
Short	3	NA
Adequate	80	NA
Surplus	17	NA

KENTUCKY CROP CONDITIONS (Percent)

CROP	WEEK ENDING APRIL 4, 2003					WEEK ENDING MARCH 28, 2003				
	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
Wheat	0	3	20	57	20	No Survey Conducted				
Barley	0	1	20	52	27					
Pasture	1	7	23	55	14					

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 7:00 P.M. TOPSOIL MOISTURE DELINEATION FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2003



KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, MARCH 31 - APRIL 6, 2003:

ABOVE NORMAL TEMPERATURES AND BELOW NORMAL PRECIPITATION:

The workweek started off cold, with a hard freeze in some parts of the State - Lexington 24 degrees. Through the workweek, temperatures surged upward into the mid-70s for much of the week. Very cold and wet conditions occurred through the weekend. Two separate rain events late this week - both the result of only one frontal boundary. Friday night through Saturday morning, a low pressure system ushered a fairly active cold front through the region. The result was heavy rain, and reports of severe weather statewide. Despite the period's late-week precipitation and cool-down, this week marked the 6th in a row with below normal statewide precipitation totals, and the 3rd week in a row with above normal temperatures.

Temperatures for the period averaged 57 degrees across the State which was 5 degrees above normal. High temperatures averaged from 67 in the West to 68 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from near normal in the West to 7 degrees above normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 46 degrees in the West to 46 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 5 degrees above normal in the West to 6 degrees above normal in the East. Soil temperatures under a 4 inch grass cover averaged in the low 50s, with soil temperatures highs near 60 and lows in the low 40s.

Rainfall for the period totaled 0.71 inches statewide which was 0.29 inches below normal. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 0.62 inches, Central 0.94 inches, Bluegrass 0.55 inches and East 0.71 inches, which was 0.46, 0.07, 0.39 and 0.22 inches respectively below normal. By station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.25 inches at Williamstown to a high of 1.12 inches at Glasgow. For the last 30 days, rainfall deficits ranged from 1 to 2 inches below normal across the State.

Tom Priddy

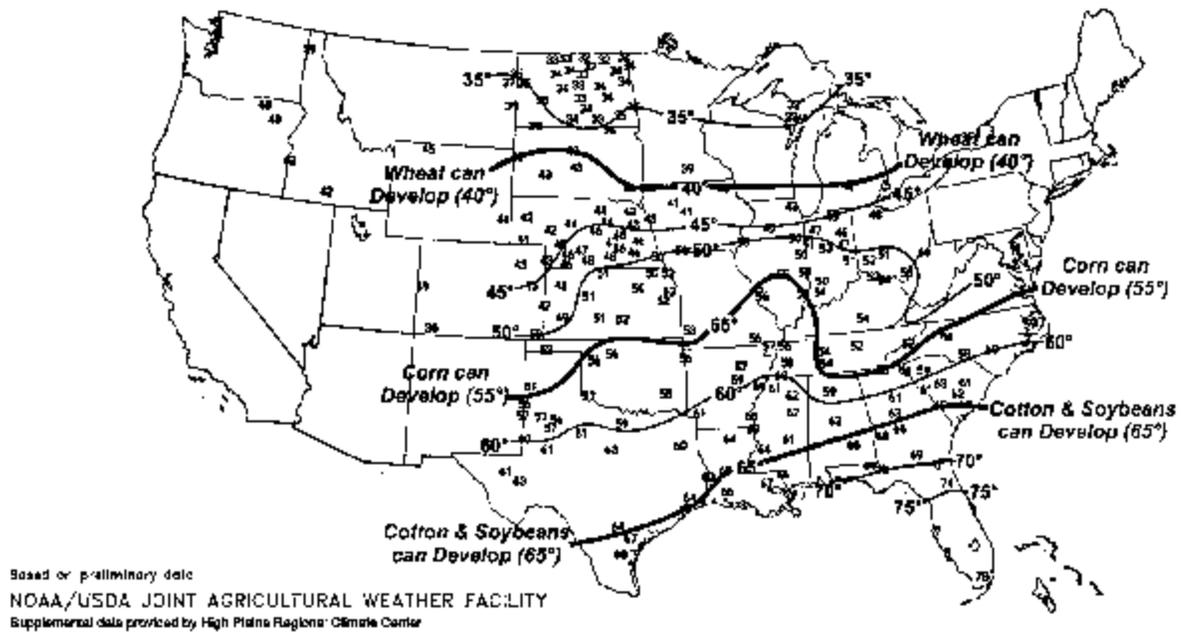
KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 7:00 P.M.

Weather Station	Precipitation		Deviation From Normal Since Jan. 1	Temperatures					Air Temp.
	Last Week	Since Jan 1		Soil 4 In. Grass High	Low	High	Air Low	Wkly. Avg	Deviation From Normal
	(Inches)			(Degrees Fahrenheit)					
Bardstown	1.19	12.37	+1.12	61	46	75	25	57.4	+5
Berea	0.75	12.89	+1.99	60	45	76	28	58.1	+8
Bowling Green	0.90	9.60	-4.31	--	--	78	29	57.6	+6
Bristol	0.45	11.68	+0.65	--	--	74	26	53.5	+3
Buckhorn Lake	0.71	12.27	+0.05	--	--	79	25	56.2	+6
Cape Girardeau	0.44	6.38	-5.76	--	--	74	25	56.3	+2
Campbellsville	0.92	13.70	+0.22	56	46	77	25	58.1	+6
Covington	0.28	6.93	-3.34	--	--	75	27	53.9	+3
Cumberland Gap	0.90	12.01	-2.19	60	47	75	26	55.4	+5
Dix Dam	0.75	11.14	-0.42	--	--	76	26	56.6	+6
Evansville	0.34	8.76	-2.53	--	--	76	27	55.8	+1
Glasgow	1.12	14.33	+0.31	54	46	78	25	58.4	+6
Grayson	0.46	9.33	-0.56	60	47	80	28	57.6	+7
Hardinsburg	0.83	11.72	-1.11	58	50	79	27	57.1	+5
Henderson	0.48	11.99	+0.26	61	49	76	27	57.3	+3
Huntington	0.40	9.14	-0.69	--	--	81	29	58.4	+8
Jackson	0.55	11.78	-0.27	--	--	79	25	57.4	+7
Lexington	0.60	8.11	-3.14	--	--	76	24	54.0	+3
London	0.98	11.77	-0.51	--	--	78	24	57.0	+6
Louisville	0.74	9.35	-2.32	--	--	77	27	55.2	+3
Mayfield	0.84	6.76	-8.03	60	47	76	26	56.4	+2
Nashville	1.85	12.73	-0.40	--	--	77	27	57.6	+6
Nolin Lake	0.86	10.46	-2.47	--	--	78	27	57.6	+6
Paducah	0.72	9.83	-3.26	57	39	76	28	56.9	+3
Princeton	0.89	12.96	-1.17	64	52	77	23	57.3	+3
Quicksand	0.68	12.66	+0.61	66	47	80	25	56.4	+6
Somerset	0.99	13.49	+0.53	60	47	77	25	57.6	+7
Spindletop	0.69	7.33	-3.92	58	43	74	27	54.9	+4
Williamstown	0.25	7.21	-3.63	63	42	75	25	55.0	+4

The above information is provided by Tom Priddy, Kentucky Extension Agricultural Meteorologist, University of Kentucky Agr1 Weather Center (859)257-3000 ext 245. E-mail: priddy@uky.edu Additional Ky weather data available on Internet at: <http://www.wagwx.ca.uky.edu/>

Average Soil Temperature (°F, 4" Bare)

MAR 25 - 29, 2003



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