

Issued 4:00 P.M., October 27, 2003

JAO 31-03

**AGRICULTURAL NEWS:** The week started off favorably for harvesting with relatively mild temperatures, but ended cold after some weekend rain. Temperatures for the period averaged 59 degrees across the State which was 4 above normal. Precipitation averaged 0.68 inches for the week which was 0.02 inches above normal. Major farm activities last week included stripping tobacco, fall tillage, sowing winter wheat, and harvesting corn and soybeans. **Topsoil moisture** as of Friday, October 24, was rated 1 percent very short, 10 percent short, 84 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 3 percent very short, 10 percent short, 81 percent adequate, and 6 percent surplus. Days suitable for fieldwork averaged 6 out of a possible seven.

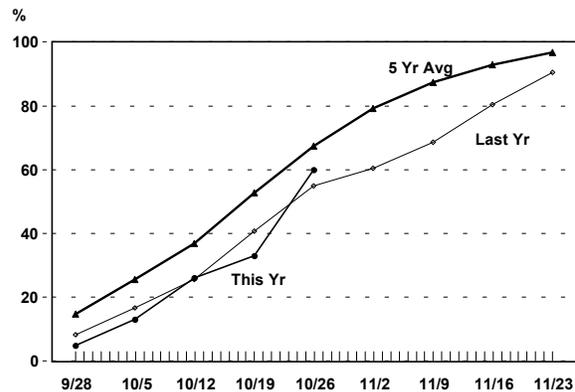
**TOBACCO:** As of Sunday, October 26, **burley tobacco** was 20 percent stripped. This compared with 26 percent last year and a five-year average of 23 percent. Tobacco stripping continued throughout the week with producers reporting good to excellent quality and weight. Farmers also continue to monitor the condition of hanging tobacco which seems to be curing well and has shown little sign of houseburn. As of Friday, October 24, the quality of stripped tobacco condition was reported as 3 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 17 percent excellent.

**CORN:** Corn harvest had reached 89 percent complete as of Sunday, October 26. This compared to 92 percent the previous year, and 94 percent for the five-year average. As harvest comes to a close, farmers are reporting good corn crop quality and high yields.

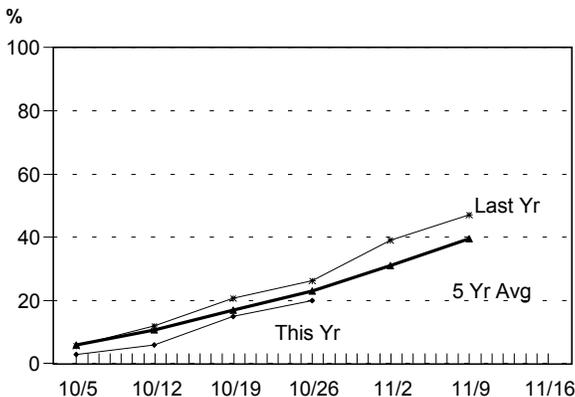
**SOYBEANS:** As of Sunday, October 26, soybean harvest had reached 60 percent complete. This compared to 55 percent last season, and the five-year average of 68 percent. Farmers are reporting better than expected yields with little frost damage to late maturing soybeans.

**OTHER CROPS:** **Winter wheat** seeding was 65 percent complete as of Sunday, October 26. This compared to 54 percent for 2002 and the five-year average of 64 percent. The crop was rated at 2 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 75 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. **Pasture** condition was rated as 2 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. About 95 percent of farmers expect local hay supplies to be adequate for the winter. Kentucky farmers also report the State's livestock being in good to excellent condition

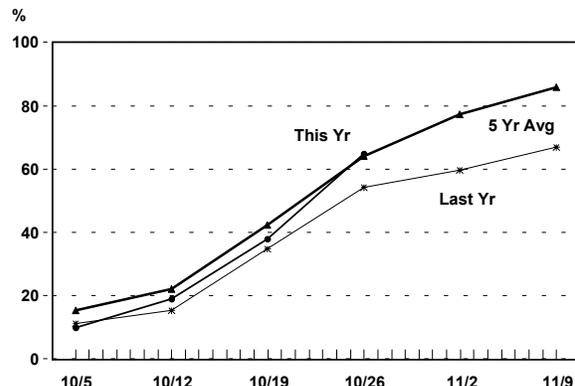
**SOYBEANS HARVESTED PROGRESS**



**BURLEY TOBACCO PERCENT STRIPPED**



**WHEAT PERCENT SEEDING COMPLETE**



**KENTUCKY CROP PROGRESS**  
WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 26, 2003  
WITH COMPARISONS

Crop Stage	This Week	Previous Year	5-Yr. Avg.	Previous Week	
				KY	U.S.
Percentage					
Soybeans Harvested	60	55	68	33	74
Corn Harvested	89	92	94	82	56
Burley Tobacco Stripped	20	26	23	15	NA
Wheat Seeded	65	54	64	38	82

(NA) Data Not Available.

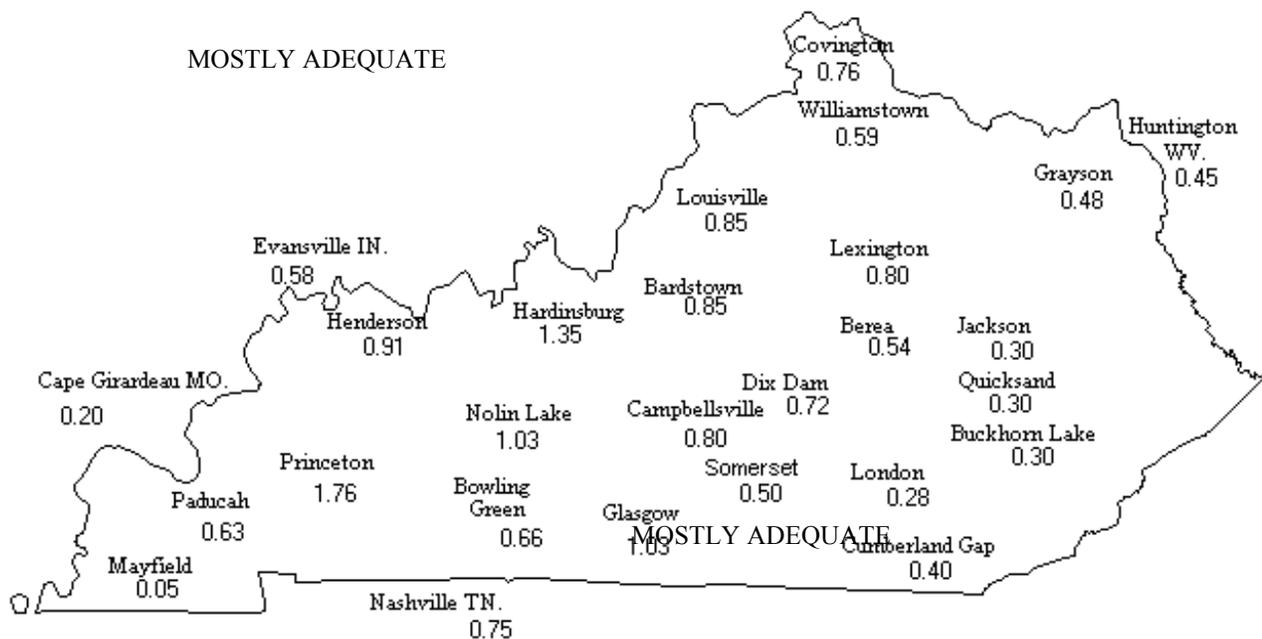
**SOIL MOISTURE**  
WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 24, 2003  
WITH COMPARISONS

	This Week	Previous Week
<b>TOPSOIL</b>		
Very Short	1	1
Short	10	5
Adequate	84	88
Surplus	5	6
<b>SUBSOIL</b>		
Very Short	3	1
Short	10	9
Adequate	81	85
Surplus	6	5

**KENTUCKY CROP CONDITIONS (Percent)**

CROP	WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 24, 2003					WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 17, 2003				
	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
Fall Wheat Seeded	0	2	14	75	9	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pasture	2	4	21	60	13	1	2	22	58	17
Quality of Stripped Tobacco	0	3	26	54	17	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

**PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 7:00 P.M.**  
**TOPSOIL MOISTURE DELINEATION FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2003**



**KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, OCTOBER 20 - 26, 2003:**  
**ABOVE NORMAL TEMPERATURES AND NEAR NORMAL PRECIPITATION**

Temperatures were above normal this past week because of highs well into the 70's and some low 80's at the beginning of the week. Temperatures cooled off in the middle of the week, allowing for scattered frost Thursday night, before a slight warm-up on Saturday. Most of the week was dry. The majority of the rain came late Saturday and Sunday as a front moved across the state.

Temperatures for the period averaged 59 degrees across the state which was 4 degrees above normal. High temperatures averaged from 72 in the West to 71 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 3 degrees above normal in the West to 6 degrees above normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 49 degrees in the West to 48 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 3 degrees above normal in the West to 5 degrees above normal in the East. Extreme high temperatures were in the lower 80's. Extreme low temperatures were in the low 30's

Rainfall for the period totaled 0.68 inches statewide which was 0.02 inches above normal. Rainfall totals by climate division, West 0.69 inches, Central 0.96 inches, Bluegrass 0.71 inches and East 0.38 inches, which was 0.00, +0.30,+0.08 and -0.30 inches respectively from normal. By station, rainfall totals ranged from a low of 0.05 inches at Mayfield to a high of 1.76 inches at Princeton.

Tom Priddy

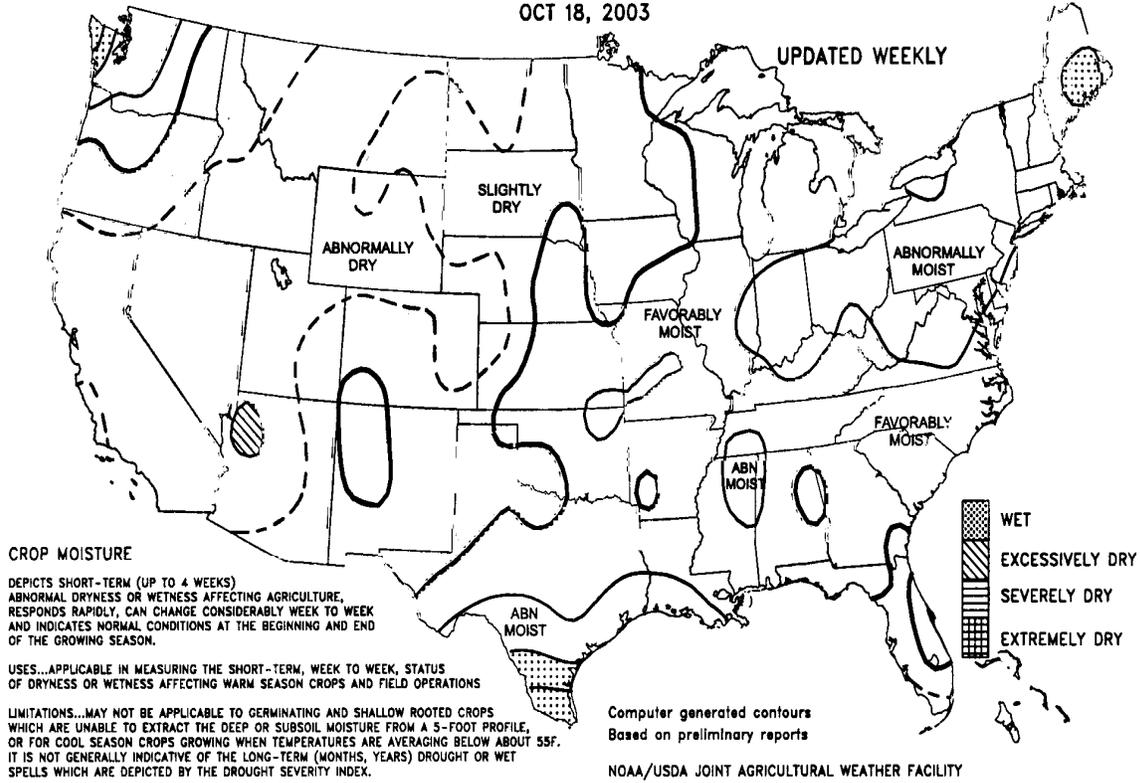
**KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL  
 FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 7:00 P.M.**

Weather Station	Rainfall			Deviation From		Air Temperature				Relative Humidity			
	Last Week	Since April 1	Last Four Wks	Norm Since Apr. 1	Norm Last 4 Wks	High	Low	Wkly Avg.	Dev. From Norm	Average			
	(Inches)			(Degrees Fahrenheit)								High	Low
Bardstown	0.85	37.55	1.77	+11.25	-0.60	76	37	61.5	+6	96	57		
Berea	0.54	34.99	1.34	+7.21	-1.28	76	35	58.1	+4	93	58		
Bowling Green	0.66	35.27	1.32	+7.34	-1.46	80	39	59.4	+4	--	--		
Bristol	0.31	43.21	0.98	+19.55	-1.41	77	32	54.4	+0	--	--		
Buckhorn Lake	0.30	36.61	1.70	+10.08	-0.91	78	35	61.7	+8	--	--		
Cape Girardeau	0.20	36.84	2.06	+10.63	-0.69	82	42	59.8	+2	--	--		
Campbellsville	0.80	38.09	1.58	+6.78	-1.37	79	38	63.2	+8	97	60		
Covington	0.76	28.59	2.18	+3.85	-0.41	76	35	53.9	-0	--	--		
Cumberland Gap	0.40	41.59	1.40	+12.99	-1.57	76	35	59.6	+6	96	60		
Dix Dam	0.72	36.37	1.63	+9.07	-1.00	76	36	61.7	+8	--	--		
Evansville	0.58	23.16	1.77	-1.63	-0.84	79	40	58.7	+1	--	--		
Glasgow	1.03	40.98	1.81	+11.02	-0.97	81	39	61.1	+6	99	63		
Grayson	0.48	35.50	1.48	+9.90	-1.21	79	32	61.5	+8	96	60		
Hardinsburg	1.35	36.43	2.54	+8.70	-0.26	79	42	60.1	+5	95	58		
Henderson	0.91	35.64	2.10	+9.99	-0.46	81	40	62.6	+5	96	59		
Huntington	0.45	35.67	1.42	+9.96	-1.25	80	30	56.0	+2	--	--		
Jackson	0.30	32.39	1.44	+4.77	-1.24	79	36	57.7	+4	--	--		
Lexington	0.80	34.63	1.77	+8.33	-0.60	76	36	56.2	+2	--	--		
London	0.28	42.05	1.91	+16.39	-0.64	76	34	56.3	+2	--	--		
Louisville	0.85	36.61	2.43	+10.82	-0.05	80	36	58.3	+3	--	--		
Mayfield	0.05	23.26	0.65	-5.49	-2.64	78	38	59.7	+2	96	60		
Nashville	0.75	35.09	1.81	+9.23	-0.61	80	44	62.4	+7	--	--		
Nolin Lake	1.03	36.46	1.96	+6.85	-0.98	80	43	62.9	+8	--	--		
Paducah	0.63	31.03	2.35	+3.29	-0.41	82	42	61.9	+4	94	54		
Princeton	1.76	32.87	3.05	+5.07	+0.27	80	39	60.7	+3	98	67		
Quicksand	0.30	38.53	1.73	+10.91	-0.95	79	36	59.3	+5	96	60		
Somerset	0.50	43.74	1.79	+14.53	-1.22	77	35	61.6	+8	96	60		
Spindletop	0.85	28.27	1.66	+1.97	-0.71	75	34	56.1	+2	92	56		
Williamstown	0.59	33.85	1.16	+7.56	-1.56	78	37	54.9	+1	96	60		

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

**Crop Moisture**  
**SHORT TERM, CROP NEED VS. AVAILABLE WATER IN 5-FT. SOIL PROFILE**  
**OCT 18, 2003**

UPDATED WEEKLY



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