

AGRICULTURAL NEWS: Above average temperatures from the previous week held for the first full week of April. Rainfall was below normal for much of the state. **Topsoil moisture**, as of Friday, April 9 was rated 10 percent short, 73 percent adequate and 17 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture**, was rated 2 percent very short, 9 percent short, 73 percent adequate and 16 percent surplus. **Days suitable for fieldwork** averaged 3.8 out of a possible 6 days. Primary farming activities included seeding of traditional and greenhouse tobacco beds, preparing fields and machinery for planting, and working cattle. Corn planting continued slowly this week throughout most of the State.

TOBACCO: Seeding of float and conventional tobacco beds advanced to 86 percent complete by Sunday, April 11. This compares with 81 percent in 1998, and 80 percent for the five year average. Greenhouses and floatbeds continue to produce the majority of plants. The number of beds having plants up was 48 percent. This compares to 36 percent last year and 33 percent for the five year average. Some areas reported starting a 2nd greenhouse seeding.

CORN: Planting was on schedule with 8 percent of the intended acreage complete as of Sunday, April 11, compared to 13 percent last year and 9 percent for

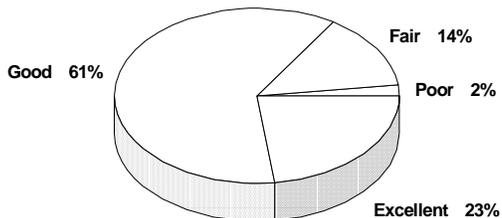
the five year average. Soil temperatures continue to rise, improving field conditions. Corn planting continued throughout most of the State; however, the western portions of the State reported soils were too wet for planting in some areas.

SMALL GRAINS & LEGUMES: Reports of damage to winter wheat were minimal. The average height of winter wheat was 11 inches. As of Friday, April 9 wheat condition was rated as 2 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 61 percent good, and 23 percent excellent. Barley condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 4 percent fair, 78 percent good, and 14 percent excellent.

OTHER CROPS: Pasture condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 16 percent excellent. The warm weather has supported strong pasture growth. A good hay crop is expected with minimal disease problems being reported at this time. Approximately 60 percent of the fruit trees throughout the State are budding or are in bloom, with peaches and plums leading the apples in bloom stage. After a relatively mild winter temperature wise, the spring weather has followed the trend with warm temperatures and little to no damage reported on this years fruit crops.

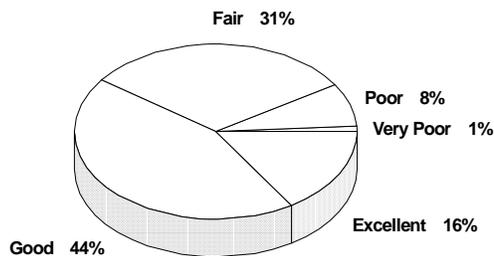
WHEAT CONDITION

(Apr. 12)



PASTURE CONDITION

(Apr. 12)



KENTUCKY CROP PROGRESS
WEEK ENDING APRIL 11, 1999
WITH COMPARISONS

Crop Stage	This Week	Previous Year	5-Yr. Avg.	Previous Week	
				KY	U.S.
Percentage					
Tobacco Transplants					
Seeded	86	81	80	72	NA
Emerged	48	36	33	NA	NA
Corn					
Planted	8	13	9	1	3

(NA) Data Not Available

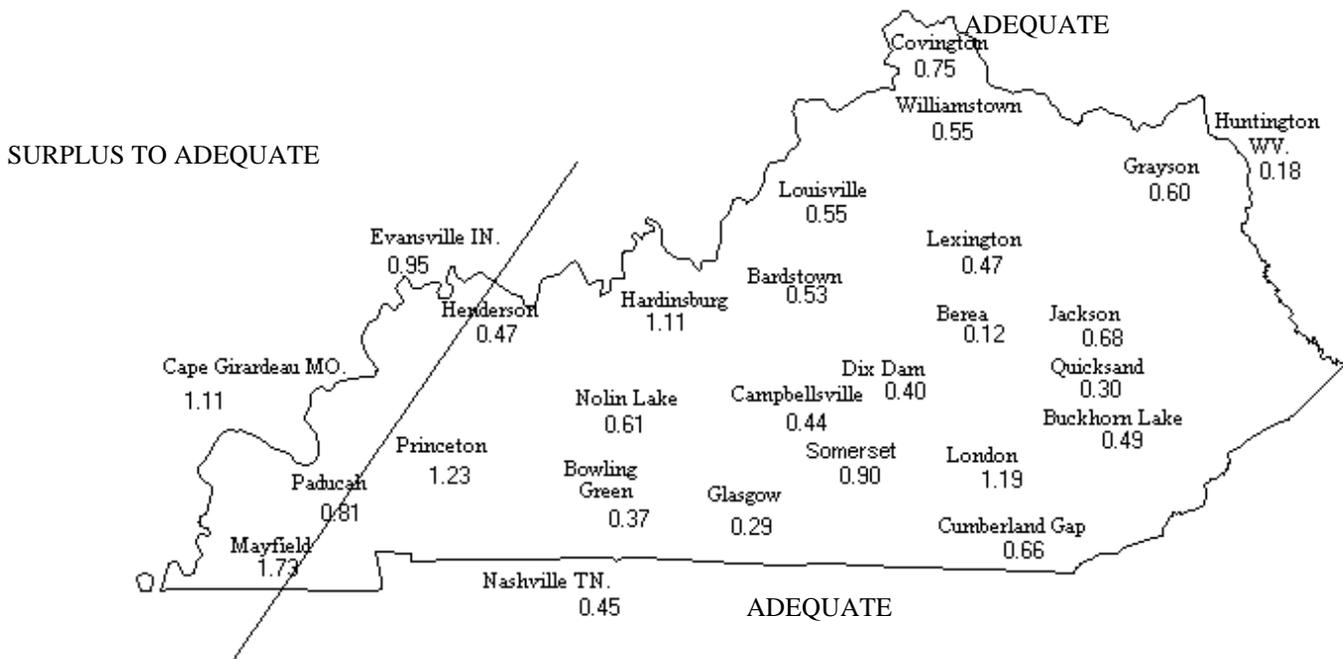
SOIL MOISTURE
WEEK ENDING APRIL 9, 1999
WITH COMPARISONS

	This Week	Previous Week
TOPSOIL		
Very Short	0	0
Short	10	10
Adequate	73	71
Surplus	17	19
SUBSOIL		
Very Short	2	0
Short	9	10
Adequate	73	72
Surplus	16	18

KENTUCKY CROP CONDITIONS (Percent)

CROP	WEEK ENDING APRIL 9, 1999					WEEK ENDING APRIL 2, 1999				
	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
Wheat	0	2	14	61	23	0	1	20	63	16
Barley	1	3	4	78	14	0	0	21	69	10
Pasture	1	8	31	44	16	2	14	38	38	8

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 7:00 P.M.
TOPSOIL MOISTURE DELINEATION FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 1999



KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, APRIL 5 - 11, 1999:

Continued Mild Temperatures with BELOW NORMAL Rainfall...Except NEAR NORMAL Rainfall West:

Temperatures for this past week averaged 64 degrees across the state which was 10 degrees ABOVE NORMAL and 5 degrees milder than the previous week. High temperatures averaged from 76 in the West to 78 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 7 degrees ABOVE NORMAL in the West to 16 degrees ABOVE NORMAL in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 54 degrees in the West to 53 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 10 degrees ABOVE NORMAL in the West to 11 degrees ABOVE NORMAL in the East. Extreme high temperatures were in the low 80's and extreme low temperatures were in the upper 30's to low 40's. Alfalfa weevil degree day accumulations ranged from a low of 248 at Covington to a high of 530 at Princeton. 4 inch soil temperatures for last week averaged in the upper 50's to low 60's across the state.

Precipitation (liq. equ.) for the week totaled 0.67 inches statewide which was 0.31 inches BELOW NORMAL. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 1.05 inches, Central 0.58 inches, Bluegrass 0.43 inches and East 0.63 inches, which was 0.02, 0.43, 0.51 and 0.29 inches respectively BELOW NORMAL. By station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.12 inches at Berea to a high of 1.73 inches at Mayfield.

Tom Priddy

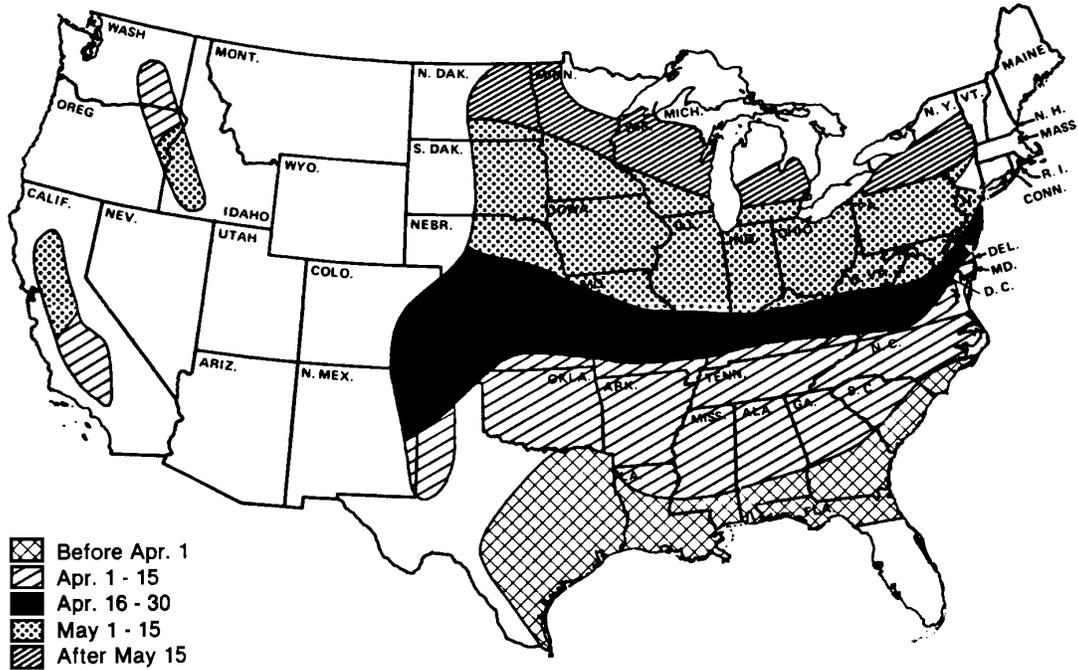
KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 7:00 P.M.

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	0.53	13.46	+1.57	63	58	76	42	63.4	+10
Berea	0.12	8.19	-3.42	65	55	80	39	64.3	+12
Bowling Green	0.37	15.29	+0.66	--	--	82	43	65.6	+12
Bristol	0.56	10.92	-0.66	--	--	82	45	64.1	+12
Buckhorn Lake	0.49	11.10	-1.75	--	--	81	45	66.2	+14
Cape Girardeau	1.11	18.14	+5.27	--	--	76	49	63.1	+7
Campbellsville	0.44	14.38	+0.11	61	52	81	43	65.7	+12
Covington	0.75	11.51	+0.62	--	--	77	37	57.9	+5
Cumberland Gap	0.66	12.74	-2.14	63	54	82	47	65.9	+14
Dix Dam	0.40	10.82	-1.45	--	--	78	43	63.5	+11
Evansville	0.95	14.35	+2.39	--	--	76	42	60.6	+4
Glasgow	0.29	17.77	+2.99	59	53	83	43	67.6	+14
Grayson	0.60	13.19	+2.70	63	54	78	44	64.6	+12
Hardinsburg	1.11	16.89	+3.34	65	56	78	43	62.6	+9
Henderson	0.47	11.00	-1.44	63	54	77	44	64.1	+8
Huntington	0.18	12.69	+2.26	--	--	82	44	64.8	+12
Jackson	0.68	13.57	+0.84	--	--	82	47	67.4	+15
Lexington	0.47	12.54	+0.65	--	--	76	42	62.0	+10
London	1.19	13.79	+0.85	--	--	81	43	65.4	+13
Louisville	0.55	14.05	+1.68	--	--	76	44	62.6	+9
Mayfield	1.73	15.12	-0.51	64	53	81	45	66.3	+10
Nashville	0.45	16.56	+2.70	--	--	85	48	70.6	+17
Nolin Lake	0.61	15.97	+2.29	--	--	79	43	64.8	+11
Paducah	0.81	15.29	+1.36	62	58	79	46	65.6	+9
Princeton	1.23	18.19	+3.26	68	54	82	49	68.0	+12
Quicksand	0.30	10.92	-1.81	64	54	88	41	66.5	+14
Somerset	0.90	15.57	+1.89	63	47	80	40	64.9	+13
Spindletop	0.31	11.76	-0.13	65	54	77	42	60.5	+8
Williamstown	0.55	12.10	+0.57	63	54	78	37	60.6	+8

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/>

CORN FOR GRAIN

Usual Start of Planting, Principal Areas in the United States



DEFINITIONS OF:

WHEAT PHENOLOGICAL STAGES USED IN SUBSEQUENT RELEASES

- Emerged - As soon as plants are visible.
- Headed - The head is present, visible and fully emerged.