

AGRICULTURAL NEWS: Temperatures averaged above normal last week for the State while rainfall was below normal. Farmers in north eastern and east central Kentucky are in need of rain to various degrees. Some have even delayed tobacco planting due to the dry soils. The rest of Kentucky has generally adequate moisture. **Topsoil moisture**, as of Friday, May 14 was rated 9 percent very short, 26 percent short, 58 percent adequate and 7 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture**, was rated 10 percent very short, 24 percent short, 58 percent adequate and 8 percent surplus. **Days suitable for fieldwork** averaged 4.8 out of a possible 6 days. Farmers last week 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 16. This compares to 11 percent last year and 10 percent for the five year average. Farmers were busy setting last week but some had slowed or stopped setting due to dry soil conditions. Farmers indicate plants will be short in some areas of the State. No disease problems with bed plants or insect problems with set tobacco have been reported. **Dark tobacco** set was estimated at 13 percent. Condition of all set tobacco is 5 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 55 percent good and 12 percent excellent.

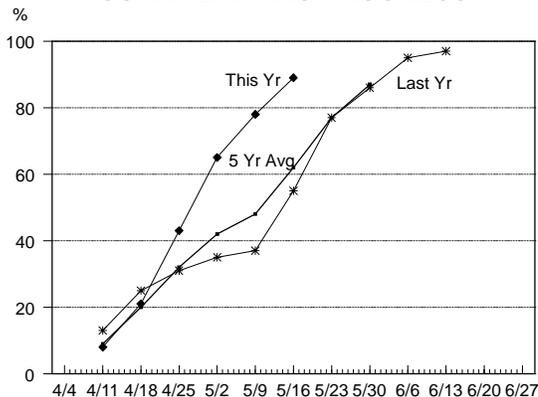
CORN: Corn planting showed good progress last week and continues to be ahead of schedule. Planting was 89 percent complete on Sunday. This compares to 55 percent last year and 62 percent for the five year average. About 71

percent of the intended corn acreage had emerged. This compares to 43 percent last year and 55 percent for the five year average. Some earlier planted corn will need to be replanted due to wet field conditions in western Kentucky. As of Friday, May 22 the condition of emerged corn was 3 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 59 percent good and 18 percent excellent.

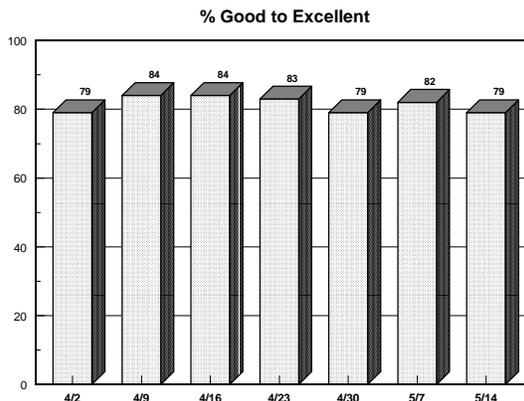
SOYBEANS: Farmers were actively planting single crop soybeans last week and by Sunday 19 percent of the states intended acreage had been planted. This compares to 6 percent last year and 7 percent for the five year average. About 3 percent of the crop has emerged.

OTHER CROPS: The **winter wheat** crop continues to be very promising with only scattered disease and lodging reported. Some wheat is being harvested as silage due to the low anticipated wheat price at harvest. Condition was rated 3 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 58 percent good and 21 percent excellent. **Pasture** condition was 1 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 50 percent good and 12 percent excellent. Farmers have enjoyed good grazing this spring and some have commented rain was needed to keep pasture in good condition. Farmers are starting to cut **hay**. Hay condition was 1 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 46 percent good and 14 percent excellent. **Grain sorghum** was 19 percent planted. **Strawberry** producers reported that 43 percent of the berries were small in size, 40 percent were medium and 17 percent were large. One grower reported he expected a good **peach** crop.

CORN PLANTING PROGRESS



WHEAT CONDITION



KENTUCKY CROP PROGRESS
WEEK ENDING MAY 16, 1999
WITH COMPARISONS

Crop Stage	This Week	Previous Year	5-Yr. Avg.	Previous Week	
				KY	U.S.
Percentage					
Corn					
Planted	89	55	62	78	55
Emerg'd	71	43	55	54	11
Soybeans					
Planted	19	6	7	10	12
Burley Tobacco Set	16	11	10	5	NA
Dark Tobacco Set	13	9	10	3	NA

(NA) Data Not Available

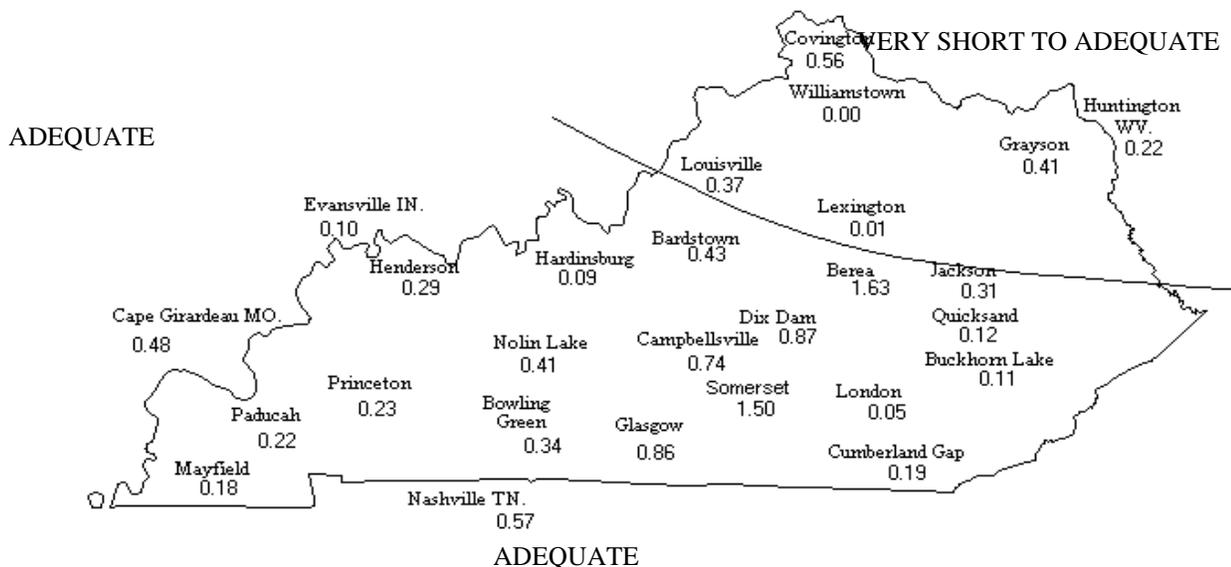
SOIL MOISTURE
WEEK ENDING MAY 14, 1999
WITH COMPARISONS

	This Week	Previous Week
TOPSOIL		
Very Short	9	3
Short	26	17
Adequate	58	51
Surplus	7	29
SUBSOIL		
Very Short	10	2
Short	24	21
Adequate	58	56
Surplus	8	21

KENTUCKY CROP CONDITIONS (Percent)

CROP	WEEK ENDING MAY 14, 1999					WEEK ENDING MAY 7, 1999				
	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
Corn Emerg'd	0	3	20	59	18	1	3	26	54	16
Wheat	0	3	18	58	21	0	2	16	59	23
Pasture	1	8	29	50	12	1	3	27	54	15
Hay Crops	1	9	30	46	14	1	4	30	53	12
Tobacco Set	0	5	28	55	12	0	0	0	0	0

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 16, 7:00 P.M.
TOPSOIL MOISTURE DELINEATION FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MAY 14, 1999



KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, MAY 10 - 16, 1999:

ABOVE NORMAL Temperatures and **BELOW NORMAL** Rainfall:

Temperatures for this past week averaged 68 degrees across the state which was 2 degrees ABOVE NORMAL and 3 degrees warmer than the previous week. High temperatures averaged from 79 in the West to 79 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 1 degree BELOW NORMAL in the West to 4 degrees ABOVE NORMAL in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 57 degrees in the West to 54 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 2 degrees ABOVE NORMAL in the West to NEAR NORMAL in the East. Extreme high temperatures were in the low to mid 80's and extreme lows were in the upper 40's to low 50's. Since April 1, Corn growing degree day (base 50 mod.) accumulations ranged from 479 at Covington to 698 at Princeton. Rainfall for the week totaled 0.40 inches statewide which was 0.66 inches BELOW NORMAL. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 0.25 inches, Central 0.42 inches, Bluegrass 0.58 inches and East 0.36 inches, which was 0.86, 0.69, 0.44 and 0.64 inches respectively BELOW NORMAL. By station, rainfall totals ranged from a low of 0.00 inches at Williamstown to a high of 1.63 inches at Berea.

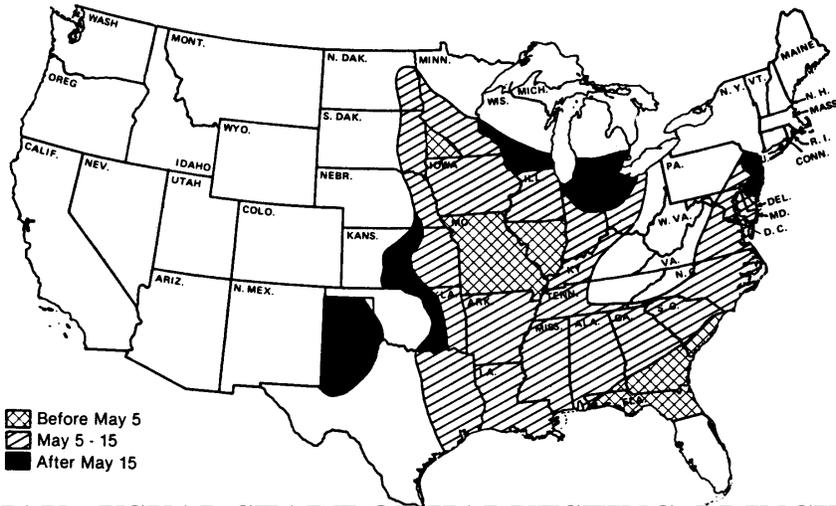
Tom Priddy

KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 16, 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	Dev. Last Since Week Apr. 1	Since Apr. 1	
	(Inches)			(Degrees Fahrenheit)								
Bardstown	0.43	5.88	4.73	-0.31	+0.87	84	53	67.7	+2	122	580	+40
Berea	1.63	5.03	4.19	-1.71	+0.00	84	50	66.9	+2	116	624	+68
Bowling Green	0.34	4.10	2.82	-2.77	-1.46	85	51	68.6	+3	130	636	+80
Bristol	0.09	4.02	2.47	-1.29	-0.86	83	47	63.8	-1	99	542	+48
Buckhorn Lake	0.11	4.97	3.70	-0.90	+0.08	87	48	66.0	+1	112	601	+107
Cape Girardeau	0.48	6.97	2.88	-0.14	-1.57	84	53	67.5	-0	120	589	+17
Campbellsville	0.74	6.43	4.86	-0.99	+0.29	85	52	68.6	+3	128	643	+87
Covington	0.56	3.90	2.13	-2.06	-1.58	84	51	66.7	+2	115	479	+15
Cumberland Gap	0.19	4.87	3.17	-1.69	-0.94	83	49	65.4	+1	107	571	+77
Dix Dam	0.87	4.67	3.69	-2.00	-0.44	84	52	67.4	+3	121	583	+43
Evansville	0.10	6.97	4.47	+0.50	+0.41	84	51	67.6	-0	121	545	+19
Glasgow	0.86	5.26	3.72	-1.90	-0.71	87	53	70.3	+5	139	708	+212
Grayson	0.41	5.03	3.31	-0.80	-0.34	84	52	67.5	+3	121	594	+146
Hardinsburg	0.09	7.18	4.71	+0.36	+0.47	84	52	68.0	+2	123	584	+28
Henderson	0.29	6.89	4.25	+0.28	+0.20	84	52	68.4	+1	127	603	+47
Huntington	0.22	3.08	2.22	-2.72	-1.42	88	48	67.0	+2	116	565	+71
Jackson	0.31	4.78	3.33	-1.63	-0.62	84	50	67.1	+3	118	598	+104
Lexington	0.01	3.01	1.84	-3.18	-2.02	84	51	67.4	+3	120	537	+73
London	0.05	5.39	3.30	-0.73	-0.47	83	49	66.6	+2	115	582	+88
Louisville	0.37	6.24	4.90	-0.37	+0.82	87	54	68.9	+3	129	567	+41
Mayfield	0.18	6.94	3.11	-0.70	-1.50	82	52	67.6	-0	122	627	+25
Nashville	0.57	6.44	4.69	-0.45	+0.42	83	52	68.0	+2	125	695	+93
Nolin Lake	0.41	5.08	3.38	-2.28	-1.26	84	52	68.6	+3	128	620	+80
Paducah	0.22	8.99	3.58	+1.43	-0.97	83	51	67.4	-0	119	622	+50
Princeton	0.23	8.33	4.23	+0.97	-0.25	85	52	69.0	+1	131	698	+112
Quicksand	0.12	4.39	3.37	-2.02	-0.58	88	48	66.1	+2	113	611	+117
Somerset	1.50	9.52	7.16	+2.55	+2.80	82	49	66.2	+2	113	597	+57
Spindletop	0.42	2.89	2.03	-3.30	-1.83	84	50	67.5	+3	121	509	+45
Williamstown	0.00	2.63	1.18	-3.80	-2.76	85	50	68.1	+4	125	551	+87

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/>

SOYBEANS- USUAL START OF PLANTING



ALFALFA HAY - USUAL START OF HARVESTING, PRINCIPAL AREAS

