



## COTTON PLANTING AND HAY HARVEST ON THE MOVE

Cotton planting was in full swing this past week, as producers advanced 18 percentage points ahead of the previous week. As of Sunday, a little over one-fifth of the State's acreage had been planted, on pace with last year but behind the 5-year average. Producers took advantage of the good curing weather to cut and bale hay last week. Corn planted, at 95 percent, continued to surpass last year and the normal pace, with 86 percent of the crop emerged. Virtually, all of the State's wheat has headed. Soybean planting continued with 12 percent of the acreage planted as of last week. Other field activities last week included transplanting tobacco, harvesting strawberries, and applying fungicides and insecticides to crops. Temperatures averaged above normal in the Western half of the State last week and near normal in the East, while rainfall amounts averaged well below normal. There were 5 days considered suitable for fieldwork last week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 10 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 10 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus.

CROP PROGRESS: Through May 9, 2004					CONDITION: On May 7, 2004					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2003	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
	Percent					Percent				
Winter Wheat - Headed	96	75	80	90	Winter Wheat	0	1	18	56	25
Corn - Planted	95	87	86	90	Alfalfa Hay	0	1	18	61	20
Corn - Emerged	86	70	80	76	Other Hay	0	3	22	62	13
Cotton - Planted	22	4	22	40	Pastures	0	3	19	60	18
Soybeans - Planted	12	4	4	9						
Tobacco - Transplanted	11	3	4	9						
Alfalfa Hay - First Cutting	28	3	8	21						
Other Hay - First Cutting	16	3	6	12						

**WHEAT:** Virtually, all of the State's winter wheat is now headed. The wheat crop remains in good condition despite insects and diseases in some areas. Insect and disease damage to wheat acreage is assessed at 25 percent none, 51 percent light, 20 percent moderate, and 4 percent severe. Growers continued to apply fungicides and insecticides as needed.

**CORN:** As of Sunday, 95 percent of the corn acreage had been planted, about a week ahead of last year and the 5-year average. Eighty-six percent of the acreage planted has emerged. Some fields were re-planted, as flooding and cool, wet soil conditions from previous weeks have reduced stands and caused poor germination.

**COTTON:** Cotton planting advanced last week as producers made big strides getting seed in the ground. Over twenty percent of the acreage has been planted, behind of the 5-year average and in line with last year.

**SOYBEANS:** Currently, 12 percent of the soybean acreage has been planted, slightly ahead of the normal pace. Farmers will need drier soil conditions before kicking planting into high gear.

**TOBACCO:** Tobacco transplanting continued this past week with 11 percent of the acreage set, ahead of last year and the normal pace. Some tobacco diseases, including stem rot, have been seen in a few greenhouses across the middle part of the State.

**PASTURES, HAY & CATTLE:** The first cutting of both alfalfa and other hay was fully underway last week, with both surpassing the 5-year average. Seventy-eight percent of the pasture acreage was rated in good-to-excellent condition. Pastures and hay fields have benefitted from the recent moisture. Livestock producers are actively working cattle.

**TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION**  
**For week ending: May 9, 2004 (with comparisons)**

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending 5/9/04				Current Week 5/9/04	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN					Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	89	42	66	-1	0.13	1	19.44	-1.80	163	-15
Tri-City_RGNL_A	85	34	60	-2	0.60	1	15.99	+1.12	97	+46
Brownsville_TN	87	42	66	-2	0.17	1	19.88	-1.19	199	+98
Chattanooga/Lov	89	39	63	-2	0.17	2	15.92	-5.56	177	+61
Clarksville_Sew	88	39	67	+4	0.52	2	13.52	-5.99	172	+52
Cookeville	87	34	59	-3	0.18	1	23.24	+1.79	106	+72
Covington	86	45	65	-1	0.23	1	17.84	-3.23	147	-4
Crossville_AP	83	32	58	-3	0.33	1	19.82	-1.71	104	+49
Dickson_AG	84	35	62	-3	0.34	1	21.11	+0.37	117	-9
Dover_1W	85	38	64	+2	0.51	1	15.29	-5.10	141	+50
Dyersburg	88	46	67	+1	0.17	1	14.63	-4.48	190	+13
Erwin_1W	84	31	57	-2	0.46	1	11.98	-4.99	68	-14
Huntingdon_Wate	87	40	64	+0	0.27	1	18.86	-1.26	157	+56
Jackson_TN	86	39	65	-2	0.20	1	19.37	-1.19	179	+12
Kingston_AG	87	37	61	-2	1.03	2	21.00	-1.32	114	+49
Knoxville_AP	85	35	62	-2	1.08	2	14.95	-3.38	158	+74
Lewisburg	90	35	62	-2	0.37	2	19.14	-1.95	131	+44
Lexington_TN	86	38	63	-2	0.28	1	21.42	+1.92	144	+105
Linden	87	37	61	-3	0.37	1	22.37	+0.72	115	+10
Martin	87	43	66	+2	0.32	1	17.31	-2.57	158	+39
Mc_Minnville_Tn	86	37	63	-2	0.15	1	21.13	+0.63	154	-2
Memphis_AG	89	45	67	-3	0.12	1	20.18	-0.51	165	-53
Milan	87	40	65	+0	0.32	1	17.66	-2.67	165	+45
Murfreesboro_5N	89	37	63	-1	0.57	2	19.39	-0.61	135	-52
Nashville_Metro	88	38	64	-2	0.40	2	22.65	+4.44	170	+37
Newcomb	86	34	59	+0	0.72	1	16.93	-3.08	78	+42
Oneida	85	34	59	+0	0.50	2	18.26	-1.75	98	-27
Pikeville	87	35	62	-2	0.02	1	18.24	-2.93	124	+34
Portland_TN	87	40	63	+0	0.35	2	20.78	+1.48	136	+54
Pulaski_Water_P	88	37	61	-6	0.38	2	22.74	+1.25	121	-26
Savannah_6SW	90	42	66	-2	0.27	1	21.45	-1.36	190	+79
Sparta_TN	91	36	64	+3	0.05	1	21.62	+0.73	158	+87
Springfield	87	37	62	+0	0.64	2	20.97	+2.22	128	+48
Springhill	90	37	62	-2	0.33	2	21.09	-0.44	153	+67
Union_City	85	43	64	+0	0.32	1	17.29	-2.30	130	+19

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). GDD = Growing Degree Days.  
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.  
Copyright 2004: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved

The Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service gratefully acknowledges contributions to this publication by:  
National Weather Service, and the University of Tennessee's Extension Service.