



**SHOWERS LIMIT FIELDWORK**

Most field activities across Tennessee were limited last week due to numerous showers and thunderstorms, but planting progress on most crops remained on schedule with the five-year averages. Soybean and tobacco producers were slowed in planting and transplanting their crops, but progress was still ahead of last year and in-line with normal. Cotton farmers lag behind their 5-year planting average, however, producers more than doubled their acreage from the week earlier. Hay harvest continued on a limited basis, while still staying ahead of last year and the 5-year average. The winter wheat crop continues to be rated in mostly good condition with one-fifth of the acreage turning color. Other field activities taking place last week, as weather allowed, included: spreading fertilizer, spraying pesticides, and picking strawberries. Temperatures averaged 2 to 6 degrees above normal statewide last week, while rainfall averaged below normal in the East and above normal across all other parts of the state. There were 4 days considered suitable for fieldwork during the past week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 6 percent short, 71 percent adequate, and 23 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 6 percent short, 78 percent adequate, and 16 percent surplus.

<b>CROP PROGRESS: Through May 16, 2004</b>					<b>CONDITION: On May 14, 2004</b>					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2003	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
	Percent					Percent				
Winter Wheat - Turning color	20	N/A	17	17	Wheat	0	2	17	58	23
Corn - Emerged	93	86	86	86	Corn	0	4	19	60	17
Cotton - Planted	48	22	34	61	Alfalfa Hay	0	0	20	63	17
Soybeans - Planted	17	12	8	17	Other Hay	0	5	23	60	12
Soybeans - Emerged	5	N/A	1	7	Pastures	0	4	18	62	16
Tobacco - Transplanted	23	11	14	23						
Alfalfa Hay - First Cutting	48	28	25	41						
Other Hay - First Cutting	28	16	14	26						

**WHEAT:** Nearly all of the wheat crop has headed. The crop continues to be rated in mostly good condition with 20 percent of the acreage turning color.

**CORN:** Despite difficulties with insects and wet fields, the corn crop remained in mostly good condition. Several acres of corn continued to be re-planted, as flooding and wet soil conditions reduced stands and caused poor germination in some fields.

**COTTON:** Wet weather hindered cotton planting progress last week. Fields will have to dry out considerably before many growers can proceed, although producers were able to plant an additional 26 percent of the State's cotton last week between showers. Currently, almost half of the cotton acreage has been planted, lagging less than a week behind the normal pace.

**SOYBEANS:** Almost 20 percent of the State's soybean acreage has been planted. Last week's showers and thunderstorms prevented producers from making any substantial progress. The crop continues to outpace last year but remains in-line with the 5-year average.

**TOBACCO:** Over one-fifth of the tobacco acreage had been transplanted as of Sunday. Growers need drier conditions to continue setting their crop.

**PASTURES & HAY:** Although the State experienced heavy rains last week, hay producers at week's end had completed harvest on almost half of the alfalfa acreage and nearly 30 percent of other hay. Farmers are hoping for drier weather conditions to continue cutting hay before fields become too ripe. Pastures continued to thrive with the frequent rains and were rated in mostly good condition last week. Fly control measures are being implemented with most herds due to heavy populations.

**TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION**  
**For week ending: May 16, 2004 (with comparisons)**

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending 5/16/04				Current Week 5/16/04	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN				Total	DFN	
Ames_Plantation	88	58	71	+3	2.83	4	22.27	-0.14	239	+1
Tri-City_RGNL_A	86	52	70	+8	0.15	3	16.14	+0.36	169	+87
Brownsville_TN	87	57	70	+2	2.94	5	22.82	+0.46	271	+125
Chattanooga/Lov	89	61	73	+8	0.02	2	15.94	-6.58	272	+108
Clarksville_Sew	85	58	71	+6	2.06	6	15.58	-4.91	253	+86
Cookeville	87	56	70	+7	0.22	4	23.46	+0.75	181	+123
Covington	86	56	69	+2	1.55	4	19.39	-2.93	213	+3
Crossville_AP	83	57	69	+7	1.71	6	21.53	-1.19	170	+85
Dickson_AG	82	52	68	+3	3.17	6	24.28	+2.35	175	-1
Dover_1W	85	57	71	+7	2.61	4	17.90	-3.54	224	+91
Dyersburg	90	55	70	+2	3.60	4	18.23	-2.00	263	+20
Erwin_1W	85	52	69	+9	0.83	5	12.81	-5.21	133	+13
Huntingdon_Wate	86	58	70	+5	2.68	3	21.54	+0.23	232	+89
Jackson_TN	87	58	71	+3	2.87	4	22.24	+0.42	255	+26
Kingston_AG	86	58	71	+8	1.14	5	22.14	-1.44	190	+92
Knoxville_AP	87	58	71	+7	0.14	2	15.09	-4.19	239	+116
Lewisburg	89	54	71	+8	1.92	4	21.06	-1.36	212	+86
Lexington_TN	86	59	71	+5	1.70	2	23.12	+2.43	220	+157
Linden	87	53	71	+7	2.66	5	25.03	+2.09	195	+46
Martin	87	54	70	+5	2.05	5	19.36	-1.63	232	+62
Mc_Minnville_Tn	84	59	72	+7	0.45	4	21.58	-0.11	240	+24
Memphis_AG	88	58	71	+1	2.78	3	22.96	+1.11	242	-52
Milan	87	57	70	+5	2.33	4	19.99	-1.58	238	+68
Murfreesboro_5N	88	59	72	+7	1.20	6	20.59	-0.67	223	-24
Nashville_Metro	86	62	72	+6	2.65	6	25.30	+5.96	257	+71
Newcomb	87	52	69	+9	0.28	3	17.21	-4.02	146	+86
Oneida	86	57	70	+10	0.79	5	19.05	-2.18	172	+0
Pikeville	86	58	71	+6	0.45	4	18.69	-3.60	200	+71
Portland_TN	86	59	71	+7	4.22	5	25.00	+4.51	215	+94
Pulaski_Water_P	88	58	71	+4	1.72	5	24.46	+1.78	204	+2
Savannah_6SW	89	62	73	+6	3.46	4	24.91	+0.75	283	+126
Sparta_TN	90	57	74	+11	0.97	5	22.59	+0.44	258	+153
Springfield	87	58	72	+8	2.47	5	23.44	+3.57	218	+99
Springhill	89	59	73	+9	3.48	5	24.57	+1.75	244	+119
Union_City	86	54	70	+4	1.90	5	19.19	-1.52	198	+37
Waynesboro_TN	86	57	72	+8	3.06	5	22.86	-1.46	213	+35

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.