



DRY WEATHER AIDS HARVEST, HAMPERS FALL SEEDING

Tennessee producers took advantage of the dry, cool weather last week and made excellent progress with harvest of row crops. Conversely, a good general rain is needed for fall seedings and late planted soybeans. Corn producers were able to harvest a significant portion of their remaining acreage, bringing the overall total to over 90 percent. Producers were also trying to salvage “down corn” caused by Hurricane Ivan’s wind and rain. Soybeans harvest took a crucial jump last week with a quarter of the acreage harvested before the first full week of October. Cooler weather, especially at night, has caused late planted cotton to open much slower than normal, pushing harvest further away from the 5-year average. Pumpkin harvest is in full swing, while tomato harvest is nearing completion. In addition to harvesting, producers were busy applying fertilizers and defoliants, seeding winter wheat and pastures, and stripping tobacco. Temperatures averaged slightly above normal across East Tennessee and slightly below average elsewhere. Rainfall was well below normal across the entire state last week, allowing an amazing 7 days suitable for field work. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 12 percent very short, 35 percent short, and 53 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 7 percent very short, 29 percent short, and 64 percent adequate.

CROP PROGRESS: Through October 3, 2004					CONDITION: On October 1, 2004					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2003	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
	Percent					Percent				
Corn Grain Harvested	91	77	85	89	Cotton	0	1	10	61	28
Cotton - Bolls Opening	87	75	80	94	Soybeans	2	4	15	53	26
Cotton - Defoliated	65	42	59	75	Pastures	1	6	24	59	10
Cotton - Harvested	15	6	11	31						
Soybeans - Dropping Leaves	68	55	56	65						
Soybeans Harvested	27	15	12	17						
Burley Tobacco Stripped	9	3	12	12						
Burley Tobacco Harvested	91	84	93	93						
Winter Wheat Seeded	5	n/a	7	8						

CORN: With last week’s cool, dry conditions, corn harvest made good progress. Good to excellent yields were being reported in many areas. With a little less than 10 percent of grain acreage left to be harvested, progress is ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. Producers also worked to salvage corn lodged by Hurricane Ivan.

COTTON: Last week’s cool temperatures slowed maturity in some fields. Harvest was at a pace slightly ahead of last year but more than a week behind the 5-year average. Defoliant applications, which have reached about two-thirds of the State’s acreage, remained ahead of last year and the 5-year average. The crop’s condition increased slightly to remain in the good-to-excellent category.

SOYBEANS: Harvest picked up steam as the crop progressed toward maturity. Despite the cooler temperatures, soybean condition improved slightly from the previous week, and remained good-to-excellent. Rain is needed in some areas of the State to help late planted beans.

TOBACCO: The majority of the burley crop had been harvested by week’s end, with most of it now in the barn. Growers continued to prepare the crop for market last week by firing dark types and stripping burley. As of Sunday, less than 10 percent of the crop had been stripped, which lagged behind both last year and the 5-year average. Fair yields have been reported thus far with no major curing problems encountered.

PASTURES AND HAY: Some producers were busy cutting hay, while others continued to wait for rain so that they could overseed and renovate pastures. Forage crops show slight signs of stress due to lack of rain, as most areas are in need of moisture. Armyworms were spotted in some parts of the State.

VEGETABLES: Pumpkins harvest is underway, while late tomato harvest is wrapping up with slightly above average yields being reported. Several disease pressures have been reported in both pumpkins and tomatoes, while weather and lack of rotation is also a concern.

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: October 3rd, 2004(with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending Oct 3 rd , 2004				Current Week 10/4/04	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN				Total	DFN	
Ames_Plantation	84	43	64	-3	0.00	0	42.59	+2.93	2368	-1
Tri-City_RGNL_A	83	52	66	+5	1.45	2	40.30	+8.12	1795	+163
Brownsville_TN	84	45	65	-3	0.00	0	41.14	+1.56	2529	+427
Chattanooga/Lov	83	52	70	+4	0.01	1	41.36	+0.44	2483	+197
Clarksville_Sew	83	43	65	+1	0.01	1	30.16	-8.01	2295	+171
Cookeville	81	45	65	+2	0.04	1	47.07	+3.53	1898	+577
Covington	82	43	63	-4	0.00	0	37.69	-1.16	2244	-170
Crossville_AP	78	47	65	+4	0.05	1	46.99	+4.55	1680	+183
Dickson_AG	79	44	63	-3	0.28	1	45.16	+4.26	1916	-291
Dover_1W	82	42	63	-1	0.08	1	30.69	-9.08	2121	+232
Dyersburg	84	43	65	-3	1.00	1	27.82	-9.95	2421	-140
Erwin_1W	82	54	66	+7	2.46	5	44.42	+5.70	1736	-197
Huntingdon_Wate	82	43	63	-3	0.37	1	39.75	-0.55	2247	+239
Jackson_Exp_Stn	84	42	64	-2	0.01	1	37.77	-1.66	2390	+73
Kingston_AG	80	53	67	+5	0.00	0	44.23	-0.31	2003	+257
Knoxville_AP	82	54	68	+4	0.56	2	39.75	+3.38	2248	+281
Lewisburg	81	46	64	+0	0.05	1	47.28	+5.82	2132	+158
Lexington_TN	83	44	64	-2	0.15	1	41.00	+2.62	2241	+828
Linden	82	43	63	-1	0.00	0	44.13	+2.33	2081	+89
Martin	83	41	63	-3	0.19	1	32.99	-6.89	2323	+113
Mc_Minville_Tn	81	49	66	+2	0.00	0	43.61	+2.88	2169	-291
Memphis_AG	87	46	65	-4	0.00	0	37.60	-1.03	2536	-333
Milan	83	39	63	-2	0.45	1	34.49	-6.72	2238	+78
Murfreesboro_5N	81	44	65	+0	0.21	3	41.03	+0.22	2162	-295
Nashville_Metro	82	50	67	+0	0.15	1	43.28	+6.97	2401	+66
Newcomb	79	52	64	+5	0.25	2	44.59	+2.56	1700	+293
Oneida	79	49	64	+5	0.31	2	41.57	-0.46	1757	-339
Pikeville	80	50	66	+2	0.00	0	42.79	+2.03	2095	+175
Portland_TN	79	45	63	-1	0.13	2	45.45	+6.30	2055	+121
Pulaski_Water_P	82	45	65	-3	0.00	0	52.14	+10.43	2113	-204
Savannah_6SW	83	41	64	-4	0.00	0	51.44	+8.77	2262	+207
Sparta_TN	81	49	66	+4	0.17	2	48.50	+6.50	2207	+538
Springfield	81	41	62	-2	0.32	1	42.40	+4.74	2079	+146
Springhill	83	43	65	+1	0.05	1	45.45	+4.04	2244	+279
Union_City	82	37	62	-4	0.02	1	32.69	-6.18	2080	-58
Waynesboro_TN	82	43	64	+1	0.05	1	52.66	+9.29	2037	-182

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.
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