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KENTUCKY WEEKLY CROP & WEATHER REPORT



In Cooperation with:
Univ. of Ky – Agr'l Weather Center
U.S. Dept. of Commerce - NOAA
Kentucky Department of Agriculture
Cooperative Extension Service

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Agricultural News: Unseasonably cool temperatures have limited pasture and small grain growth as Kentucky recorded its sixth straight week of below normal temperatures. Below freezing temperatures were experienced over most of the state early in the week. Temperatures averaged 41 degrees for the week, 9 degrees below normal. Soils remain too cool and too wet for most fieldwork. Moisture totals for the week ranged from .10 to 1.45 inches with an average of .50 inches statewide. **Topsoil moisture** was rated 2 percent short, 54 percent adequate and 44 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 1 percent very short, 4 percent short, 69 percent adequate and 26 percent surplus. Days suitable for fieldwork averaged 2 out of a possible seven. Farm activities this week were limited to securing supplies and preparing farm equipment for planting, and in some cases, finding hay to feed livestock.

Tobacco: As of Sunday, March 31, 57 percent of the greenhouse and plant bed seedings had been completed compared with 71 percent last year and the five year average of 60. A few growers have begun transplanting tobacco.

Small Grains and Legumes: Fall seeded wheat was in mostly good to excellent

condition. Winter kill for wheat was estimated at 2 percent. Condition of the wheat crop was rated 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 60 percent good and 18 percent excellent. Little growth has taken place so far this spring with some yellowing reported. Alfalfa stand loss was reported at 5 percent, while red clover stand loss was reported at 4 percent.

Pasture and Hay Pasture condition was reported as 6 percent very poor, 19 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 34 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. Pastures were meeting about 23 percent of livestock roughage requirements. Farmers statewide had approximately 30 percent of their winter hay supply still on hand, but many operators were looking for additional hay supplies. Most livestock came through the winter in good shape, with only minor loss reported.

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 04/01/12

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|---------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | Percent | | | |
| Topsoil | 0 | 2 | 54 | 44 |
| Subsoil | 1 | 4 | 69 | 26 |

CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 04/01/12

| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Ex |
|---------|-----------|------|------|------|----|
| | Percent | | | | |
| Wheat | 1 | 2 | 19 | 60 | 18 |
| Pasture | 6 | 19 | 37 | 34 | 4 |

KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, MARCH 25 – MARCH 31, 2013:

Well Below Normal Temperatures and Below Normal Rainfall

The Commonwealth ended the month of March with its 6th straight week of below normal temperatures. While the state did see highs back into the lower 60s by the weekend, it was not enough to offset highs earlier in the week in the mid 30s to low 40s. Overall, the Bluegrass State ended the week on average, 9 degrees below normal. Normal highs for this time of the year are supposed to be in the low to mid 60s. While it was cool, Kentucky finally saw some dry conditions. Only a few notable systems passed through the state over the course of the week. The period started off with a surge of snow showers along the backside of a low pressure system moving through the area on Monday. Although there were some heavier snow bands, surface temperatures kept any accumulations to a minimum. An upper level disturbance then passed through on Friday across mainly western and central portions of the Commonwealth, just before a more statewide event Saturday night. Over the course of the weekend, the state averaged 0.33 inches with higher totals out west. The rest of the week was dry with surface high pressure in place and resulted with the state below normal by a half inch.

Temperatures for the period averaged 41 degrees across the state which was 9 degrees cooler than normal and 2 degrees warmer than the previous period. High temperatures averaged from 51 in the West to 48 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 12 degrees cooler than normal in the West to 14 degrees cooler than normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 36 degrees in the West to 32 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 4 degrees cooler than normal in the West to 3 degrees cooler than normal in the East. The extreme high temperature for the period was 68 degrees at CARBONDALE ASOS and the extreme low was 18 degrees at MONTICELLO AWOS.

Precipitation (liq. equ.) for the period totaled 0.50 inches statewide which was 0.52 inches below normal and 49% of normal. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 0.66 inches, Central 0.45 inches, Bluegrass 0.30 inches and East 0.60 inches, which was 0.44, 0.63, 0.62 and 0.4 inches below normal. By station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.08 inches at FORT KNOX to a high of 1.45 inches at PADUCAH ASOS.

Tom Priddy

KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 7:00 P.M.

| Weather Station | Precipitation | | Deviation | Temperatures | | | | | Air Temp. | |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|------|-----|------|-----------------------|------|
| | Last Week | Since Jan 1 | From Normal Since Jan 1 | Soil | | Air | | | Deviation From Normal | |
| | | | | 4 In. | Grass | High | Low | High | Low | Avg. |
| | (I n c h e s) | | | (D e g r e e s F a h r e n h e i t) | | | | | | |
| Bardstown | 0.48 | 12.01 | +1.54 | 51 | 39 | 60 | 22 | 40 | | -10 |
| Berea | 0.24 | 11.17 | +1.12 | 51 | 39 | 61 | 22 | 39 | | -9 |
| Bowling Green | 0.65 | 13.05 | 0.00 | 51 | 39 | 61 | 26 | 44 | | -6 |
| Bristol | 0.75 | 16.15 | +5.78 | 51 | 39 | 60 | 23 | 40 | | -8 |
| Buckhorn Lake | 0.76 | 10.97 | -0.50 | 50 | 40 | 61 | 28 | 40 | | -8 |
| Cape Girardeau | 0.75 | 9.27 | -1.98 | 46 | 41 | 65 | 23 | 45 | | -7 |
| Campbellsville | 0.35 | 12.13 | -0.40 | 51 | 39 | 58 | 22 | 40 | | -10 |
| Covington | 0.24 | 8.97 | -0.55 | 51 | 39 | 60 | 24 | 40 | | -8 |
| Cumberland Gap | 0.84 | 14.64 | +1.26 | 51 | 39 | 59 | 23 | 40 | | -8 |
| Dix Dam | 0.28 | 11.01 | +0.29 | 51 | 39 | 59 | 25 | 40 | | -8 |
| Evansville | 0.29 | 13.64 | +3.15 | 50 | 40 | 64 | 25 | 43 | | -9 |
| Glasgow | 0.64 | 12.92 | -0.19 | 46 | 41 | 58 | 25 | 42 | | -8 |
| Grayson | 0.55 | 11.46 | +2.30 | 51 | 39 | 60 | 24 | 40 | | -8 |
| Hardinsburg | 0.88 | 13.48 | +1.51 | 51 | 39 | 62 | 24 | 42 | | -8 |
| Henderson | 0.48 | 14.60 | +3.72 | 51 | 39 | 64 | 26 | 43 | | -9 |
| Huntington | 0.32 | 9.32 | +0.21 | 51 | 39 | 62 | 27 | 42 | | -6 |
| Jackson | 0.70 | 12.26 | +1.03 | 50 | 40 | 62 | 29 | 41 | | -7 |
| Lexington | 0.35 | 11.41 | +0.94 | 46 | 41 | 61 | 27 | 41 | | -7 |
| London | 0.47 | 12.25 | +0.75 | 51 | 39 | 57 | 24 | 39 | | -9 |
| Louisville | 0.10 | 11.40 | +0.58 | 50 | 40 | 63 | 29 | 43 | | -7 |
| Mayfield | 0.70 | 15.28 | +1.50 | 51 | 39 | 60 | 25 | 44 | | -8 |
| Nashville | 0.79 | 13.45 | +1.19 | 51 | 39 | 62 | 28 | 44 | | -6 |
| Nolin Lake | 1.25 | 13.20 | +1.18 | 50 | 40 | 58 | 26 | 43 | | -7 |
| Paducah | 1.45 | 16.10 | +4.01 | 46 | 41 | 63 | 22 | 45 | | -7 |
| Princeton | 0.72 | 13.74 | +0.57 | 51 | 39 | 61 | 22 | 43 | | -9 |
| Quicksand | 0.49 | 11.97 | +0.74 | 50 | 40 | 63 | 24 | 41 | | -7 |
| Somerset | 0.53 | 13.69 | +1.60 | 51 | 39 | 57 | 22 | 39 | | -9 |
| Spindletop | 0.19 | 13.65 | +3.18 | 49 | 37 | 61 | 25 | 40 | | -8 |
| Williamstown | 0.24 | 10.85 | +0.84 | 46 | 41 | 59 | 27 | 40 | | -8 |

The above information is provided by Tom Priddy, Kentucky Extension Agricultural Meteorologist, University of Kentucky Agr'l Weather Center (859)257-3000 ext 245. E-mail: priddy@uky.edu Additional Ky weather data available on Internet at: <http://www.wagwx.ca.uky.edu/>