Agricultural News: Kentucky experienced above normal temperatures and rainfall over the past week. Precipitation for the week totaled 1.12 inches, 0.13 inches above normal. Temperatures averaged 78 degrees for the week, 2 degrees above normal. Topsoil moisture was rated 2 percent very short, 14 percent short, 70 percent adequate, and 14 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated 3 percent very short, 14 percent short, 75 percent adequate, and 8 percent surplus. Days suitable for fieldwork averaged 5.1 out of a possible seven.

Primary activities for this week included the monitoring of field crops, cutting hay, and some topping of tobacco. Hot, humid conditions this week produced scattered thunderstorms and rain. The rain was heavy at times and led to some flash flooding in certain areas. There have been some failed acres of corn and soybeans reported due to excess rain. In some instances soybeans are being planted behind failed corn. The flooding was not widespread as parts of the state actually needed rain and received optimal amounts. Fifty-two percent of corn is in the silking stage while 14 percent of the crop is milking. Four percent of corn is in the dough stage, just slightly behind last year and the five year average. The soybean crop is 96 percent emerged. Twenty-five percent of soybeans are blooming with 10 percent setting pods. Tobacco is 14 percent blooming and farmers are beginning to top the crop.

Both corn and soybeans remain in mostly good condition, however damage from flooding will be assessed in the coming weeks in the affected areas. Tobacco is doing well with 68 percent of the crop rated as in good condition. Pastures are in mostly good condition at this time, however there may be stress from heavy rain. In some areas dry conditions coupled with heat could cause some issues with pasture growth.
Above Normal Temperatures and Rainfall:

This past week featured a ‘rinse and repeat’ pattern. Weather conditions were essentially the same between Monday and Thursday. Highs jumped into the upper 80s to middle 90s with humid conditions in place. Isolated to scattered storms formed each day during the heat of the afternoon hours and dissipated later in the evening and overnight. Once again, any storm that developed was capable of producing very heavy rainfall and flash flooding. The pattern changed a bit Friday and into the weekend as a couple cold fronts worked through Kentucky. The state saw several rounds of rainfall, some with widespread coverage in place. Overall, the state averaged a little over an inch for the week. This now makes the third straight week that the state rainfall average has run above normal. Over those 21 days, data at the Ag Weather Center shows the state has averaged 4.45 inches, which is about 1.5 inches above normal.

Temperatures for the period averaged 78 degrees across the state which was 2 degrees warmer than normal and no change to the coverage in place. Overall, the state averaged a little over an inch for the week. This now makes the third straight week that the state rainfall average has run above normal. Over those 21 days, data at the Ag Weather Center shows the state has averaged 4.45 inches, which is about 1.5 inches above normal. Low temperatures averaged from 70 degrees in the West to 66 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperatures ranged from near normal in the West to 1 degree cooler than normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 70 degrees in the West to 66 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 3 degrees warmer than normal in the West to 3 degrees warmer than normal in the East. The extreme high temperature for the period was 95 degrees at CAPE GIRARDEAU ASOS and the extreme low was 61 degrees at BRANDENBURG 4SW.

Precipitation (liq. equ.) for the period totaled 1.12 inches statewide which was 0.13 inches above normal and 113% of normal. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 1.24 inches, Central 1.21 inches, Bluegrass 1.27 inches and East 0.77 inches, which was 0.26, 0.21, 0.30 and 0.23 inches respectively from normal. By station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.00 inches at CAPE GIRARDEAU ASOS to a high of 4.05 inches at HARRODSBURG 3N.