



Crop Progress and Condition

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Agricultural News (December): December brought well above normal temperatures and above normal precipitation. The state experienced one of the top five warmest Decembers dating back to 1895. Christmas day brought record breaking warmth through much of Kentucky. The unseasonably warm weather laid the groundwork for instability as mid-December saw one of the worst tornadic outbreaks in the state's history. Precipitation for the month totaled 6.54 inches, 2.31 inches above normal. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 6.79 inches, Central 7.25 inches, Bluegrass 6.44 inches and East 5.70 inches, which was 2.2, 2.66, 2.74, and 1.65 inches from normal respectfully. Temperatures averaged 49 degrees for the month, 12 degrees above normal. High temperatures averaged from 59 degrees in the West to 59 degrees in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 40 degrees in the West to 39 degrees in the East.

Tobacco stripped is at 83%, putting progress on par with historical levels for this juncture. Winter wheat condition was rated as 1% very poor, 1% poor, 7% fair, 85% good, and 6% excellent.

The warm, wet weather has allowed for some pasture regrowth and eased the need to feed much hay thus far. The current hay supply is rated as 1% very short, 4% short, 80% adequate, and 15% surplus. Livestock were stressed in some areas as heavy rain led to muddy pasture ground, however overall condition was mostly good. The current condition of livestock is rated as 1% very poor, 2% poor, 14% fair, 73% good, and 10% excellent.