Agricultural News: Kentucky experienced below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation over the past week. Precipitation for the week totaled 1.16 inches, 0.17 inches above normal. Temperatures averaged 49 degrees for the week, 4 degrees below normal. Topsoil moisture was rated 2 percent short, 75 percent adequate, and 23 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated 3 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 18 percent surplus. Days suitable for fieldwork averaged 2.6 out of a possible seven.

Primary activities for this week included seeding tobacco transplants, planting corn, and preparing fields for the planting season. Persistent precipitation kept farmers out of the fields for much of the week. Temperatures dipped at the end of the week leading to some light snow and freeze. Farmers are spraying whenever weather permits as they do not want to fall behind on planting. There was a very small increase in corn planted as weather stymied progress. Seeding of tobacco transplants continues to track with recent history.

The average height of winter wheat is 12 inches at this juncture. The wheat crop remains in mostly good condition and has avoided major freeze damage. Many farmers have made their second application of nitrogen to wheat. Although pasture condition remains good overall, recent cold weather has been a detriment to regrowth. Some forage is coming up despite the adverse conditions, but progress is slow. The cost of fertilizer is factoring in as farmers are less likely to take on that expense. Thirty percent of apples are blooming at this time while peaches are 29 percent blooming. Some blueberries are emerging on early varieties.
A very active pattern led to above normal precipitation for much of the Bluegrass State last week. The brunt of the accumulations fell on Wednesday as a cold front worked through the area. Thereafter, the focus was on a large disturbance to the north with quick-hitting rounds of scattered to numerous showers. Most activity fell as light rain, but temperatures were cold enough Friday night and into Saturday morning for a changeover to snow. Cloud cover by day kept temperatures below normal for much of the week. Freeze warnings were once again issued Saturday night as lows fell into the middle 20s to low 30s throughout Central Kentucky and points east. This was followed by a quick warmup on Sunday with highs ranging from the middle 60s across Eastern KY to 80 for extreme Western KY.

Temperatures for the period averaged 49 degrees across the state which was 4 degrees cooler than normal and 2 degrees warmer than the previous period. High temperatures averaged from 60 in the West to 58 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 7 degrees cooler than normal in the West to 8 degrees cooler than normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 42 degrees in the West to 39 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 1 degree cooler than normal in the West to 1 degree warmer than normal in the East. The extreme high temperature for the period was 80 degrees at FORT CAMPBELL and the extreme low was 25 degrees at BRANDENBURG 4SW.

Precipitation (liq. equ.) from normal. By station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.42 inches at YELLOW CREEK to a high of 2.27 inches at WILLIAMSTOWN. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 1.17 inches, Central 1.25 inches, Bluegrass 1.34 inches and East 0.86 inches, which was 0.06, 0.23, 0.44 and -0.07 inches respectively from normal. By station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.42 inches at YELLOW CREEK to a high of 2.27 inches at WILLIAMSTOWN.

**Kentucky Climate Summary**

**For the Period April 4, 2022 to April 10, 2022**

Below Normal Temperatures and Above Normal Precipitation:

The above information is provided by Matthew Dixon, Senior Meteorologist, University of Kentucky April Weather Center (859) 218-4364.