



Crop Progress and Condition



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Agricultural News (February): February brought above normal temperatures and well below normal precipitation. The trend of higher than average temperatures continues, as this past winter was the eight warmest ever recorded in Kentucky. Rainfall for the month was lower than normal but still enough was received to keep most of the state out of the drought monitor. However, portions of western Kentucky are marked as abnormally dry. Precipitation for the month totaled 2.00 inches, 1.43 inches below normal. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 1.29 inches, Central 1.95 inches, Bluegrass 2.51 inches, and East 2.26 inches, which was -2.35, -1.66, -0.59, and -1.10 inches from normal respectively. Temperatures averaged 51 degrees for the month, 5 degrees above normal. High temperatures averaged from 62 degrees in the West to 58 degrees in the Bluegrass region. Low temperatures averaged from 39 degrees in the Bluegrass to 42 degrees in the West.

The overall condition of winter wheat has increased slightly across the state, especially in areas receiving adequate rainfall. Currently the wheat condition is rated 1% very poor, 1% poor, 10% fair, 70% good, and 18% excellent. There is still a possibility that dry weather and the potential for low temperatures to negatively impact the crop.

The warmer and drier than expected weather has allowed producers to begin preparing for the planting season, or doing work to improve their pastures. The spring calving season is also well under way. The current hay supply is rated as 10% very short, 35% short, 51% adequate, and 4% surplus. Livestock condition is rated as 1% very poor, 7% poor, 26% fair, 55% good, and 12% excellent.