



Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending July 29, 2007

Agricultural Summary

Warm and mostly dry weather during the week brought modest deterioration to row crop and pasture conditions. Any rainfall that benefited crops and grasses was very localized. Farmers are looking for a soaking rain, an event that has been absent from most areas for the past month. Even so, corn and soybean condition ratings are slightly better than last year at this time, a year that saw above average yields. Crops at most risk from continued dry weather are late-planted corn in northern areas, especially the northeast, and dryland corn and soybeans in the southeast. Concerns about hay supply and pasture condition are spreading from the north into most other districts as well. **Topsoil moisture** fell 15 points from last week in the adequate and surplus categories to 20 percent very short, 44 percent short, and 36 percent adequate. Every district experienced a decline. There were 6.7 **days suitable for fieldwork**.

Field Crops Report

The **corn** crop is 94 percent silked, 2 days behind last year and even with normal. Fifty percent is in dough stage, about 2 days behind last year and the five-year average of 55 percent. Eight percent is dented compared to 12 percent as normal. Conditions in the western two-thirds of the state were mostly steady, but the three eastern districts showed significant declines. The northeast, east-central, and southeast dropped by 12, 8, and 11 points in good to excellent. Counties in the northeast along the Illinois border are especially showing stress, with one reporter describing second ears aborting and shrinking kernel depth. Overall, condition is rated 3 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 14 percent excellent, a drop of 4 points. Sixty-four percent of the **soybean** crop is blooming, nearly the same as the 5-year average. Twenty-nine percent is setting pods, marginally ahead of normal. Soybean condition dropped 6 points from last week in the good to excellent categories, rated 4 percent very poor, 10 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 43 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. Like corn, the biggest declines in condition were in the three eastern districts. The greatest concern is for double-crop soybeans in the Bootheel, where one report indicated plants are starting to wilt and die on light, sandy soil. Also vulnerable are several thousand acres of soybeans planted very late in the west-central district after flooding. **Sorghum** heading is at 53 percent, 5 days behind last year and slightly behind normal. Seven percent is turning color, the same as average. Sorghum condition is rated 1 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 4 percent excellent, steady from last week. **Rice** heading advanced considerably to 50 percent, at least 5 days ahead of last year and normal. Rice condition is rated 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 26 percent excellent. **Cotton** squaring is complete, while 77 percent is setting bolls, 2 days ahead of normal. Cotton condition is rated 4 percent very poor, 16 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 46 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Second-cutting **alfalfa** is 95 percent harvested, while the third cutting is 25 percent done, 1 week behind normal. **Other hay** is 95 percent cut compared with 97 percent as normal.

Pasture & Livestock

Pasture condition is rated 6 percent very poor, 21 percent poor, 41 percent fair, 27 percent good, and 5 percent excellent, a decline of 7 points in good to excellent. Conditions are worst in the southeast district, where only 1 percent is in good or excellent condition, and the northeast at 11 percent. Meanwhile, condition fell 16 points in the west-central district, as the effects of severe flooding in early July have taken their toll. Cattle producers in the worst areas are concerned about both availability and price of hay.

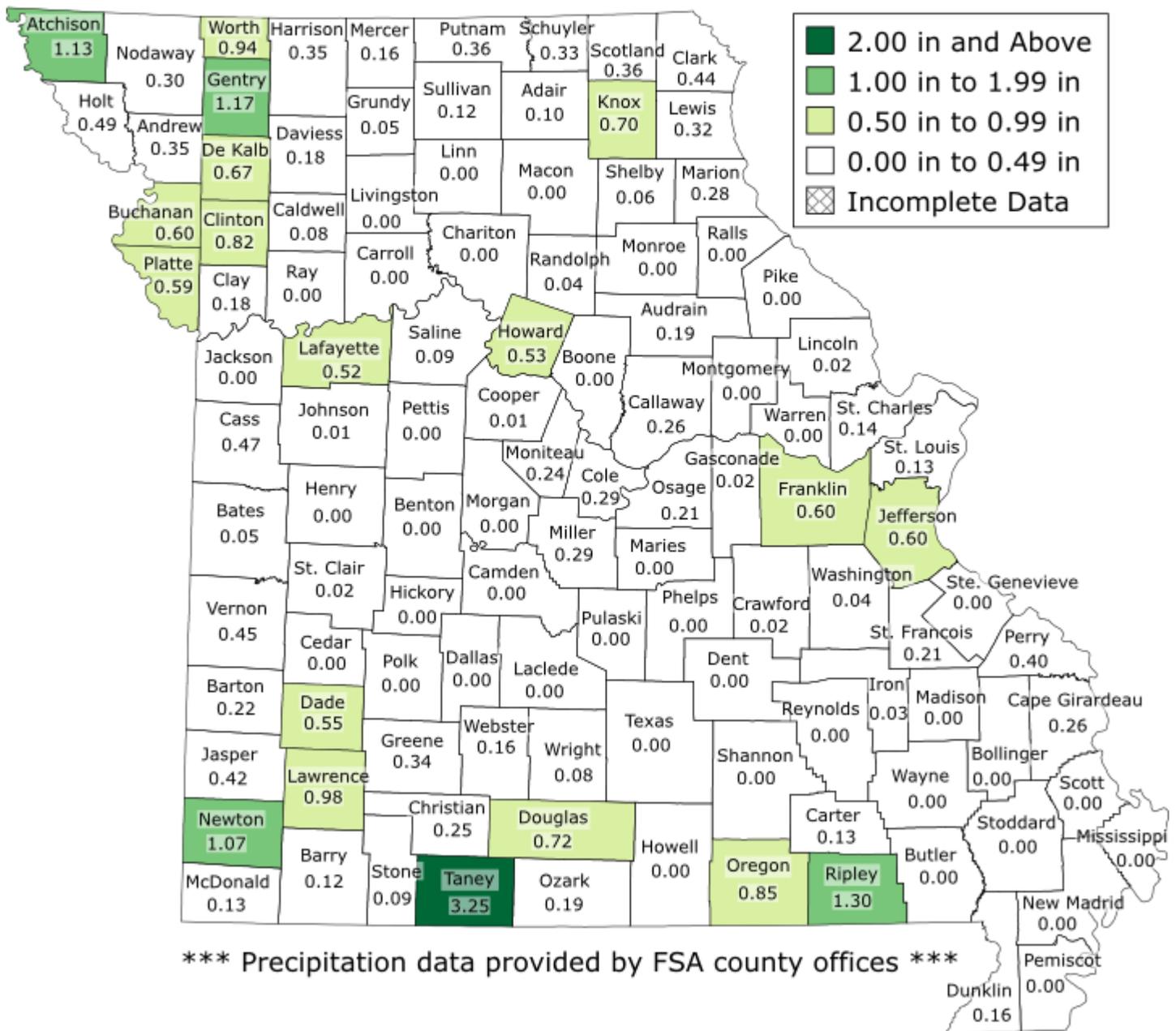
Weather Summary

Temperatures were 1 to 4 degrees below normal over most of the state but 2 to 3 degrees above normal in the northwest. **Rainfall** averaged 0.24 inches, ranging from .05 in the southeast district to .52 in the northwest.

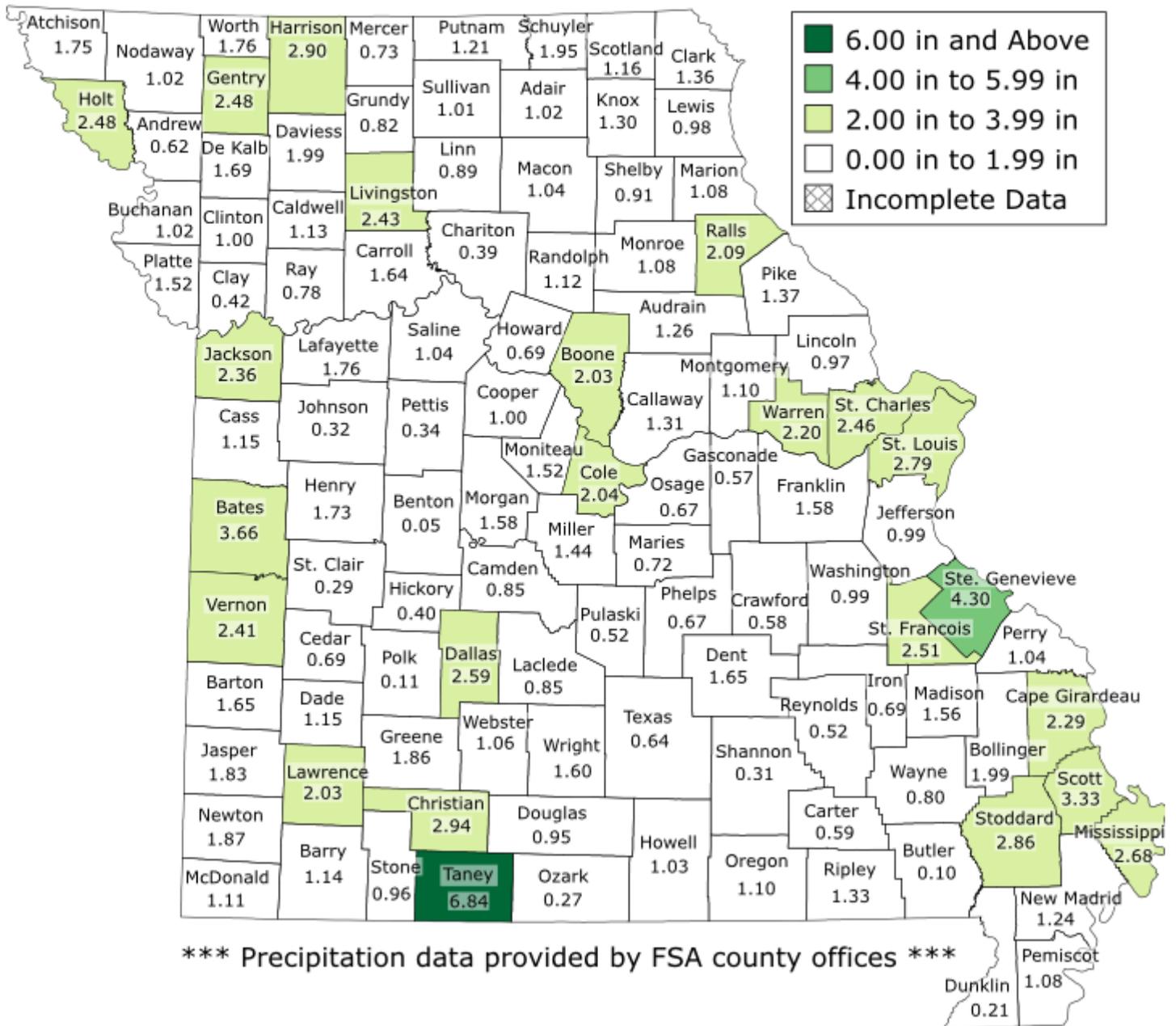
District Summaries As Of July 29, 2007

	Missouri	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE
Days Suitable For Fieldwork										
This Year	6.7	6.5	6.8	6.7	7.0	6.7	6.7	6.5	6.7	7.0
Last Year	6.4	6.8	6.4	6.5	6.7	6.9	6.2	6.9	6.5	5.2
Topsoil Moisture Supply										
Very Short	20	28	30	39	5	5	21	1	18	36
Short	44	46	47	43	42	35	58	52	40	44
Adequate	36	26	23	17	53	60	21	47	40	20
Surplus	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0
Corn Dough Stage and Beyond, Percent										
This Year	50	32	47	50	61	67	52	44	89	65
Last Year	56	35	49	37	78	57	44	84	35	95
Normal	55									
Soybeans Blooming and Beyond, Percent										
This Year	64	43	66	79	45	74	75	16	65	82
Last Year	72	62	74	74	81	79	70	31	54	71
Normal	65									
Sorghum Headed and Beyond, Percent										
This Year	53	49	38	56	58	48	73	55	52	66
Last Year	71	59	64	63	81	59	63	81	49	92
Normal	566									
Alfalfa Hay 3rd Cutting, Percent										
This Year	25	9	8	11	24	33	49	48	53	73
Last Year	53	44	39	33	79	63	42	72	74	98
Normal	40									
Other Hay Cut, Percent										
This Year	95	95	90	97	88	97	99	96	98	100
Last Year	98									
Normal	97									
Corn Condition										
Very Poor	3	2	6	4	4	4	0	0	0	6
Poor	9	12	6	14	4	4	8	0	4	11
Fair	30	39	34	34	19	13	40	27	10	23
Good	44	34	44	38	53	60	46	61	34	45
Excellent	14	13	10	10	20	19	6	12	52	15
Soybean Condition										
Very Poor	4	2	6	2	10	3	0	0	0	9
Poor	10	10	8	11	6	5	3	0	9	19
Fair	36	45	42	36	29	23	46	35	18	34
Good	43	40	39	45	43	64	49	65	27	26
Excellent	7	3	5	6	12	5	2	0	46	12
Sorghum Condition										
Very Poor	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	6
Poor	5	5	3	5	2	0	5	1	17	18
Fair	38	40	58	37	39	21	38	54	22	39
Good	52	52	37	54	53	75	53	41	48	32
Excellent	4	3	1	4	4	4	4	4	13	5
Pasture Condition										
Very Poor	6	10	13	31	4	0	5	0	4	16
Poor	21	38	35	33	8	4	19	4	35	47
Fair	41	35	34	25	61	44	46	45	32	36
Good	27	16	17	10	22	39	30	41	27	1
Excellent	5	1	1	1	5	13	0	10	2	0
Average Precipitation										
	0.24	0.52	0.10	0.23	0.17	0.10	0.17	0.31	0.39	0.05

Precipitation for Week Ending July 29, 2007



Precipitation for Four Weeks Ending July 29, 2007



*** Precipitation data provided by FSA county offices ***