



Tennessee Crop Weather

Tennessee Field Office • PO Box 41505 • Nashville, TN 37204 • (615) 781-5300 or (615) 891-0903 • www.nass.usda.gov

Issued Monday 3:00 PM; September 23, 2019

For the Week Ending September 22, 2019

FARMERS HOPE FOR RAIN

Dry conditions persisted over the state last week, leaving farmers hoping for rain. Corn harvest continued with producers continuing to report favorable yields. Cotton and soybean growers expressed concerns over the effects the hot, dry weather was having on their crops. Many farmers were holding off on planting fall cover crops until rains brought an increase in soil moisture. Baling of hay neared its conclusion for the year due to near perfect harvesting conditions. Pasture conditions continued to deteriorate as soil moisture decreased. There were 6.9 days suitable for field work. Topsoil moisture was rated 43 percent very short, 46 percent short, and 11 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture was rated 26 percent very short, 56 percent short, and 18 percent adequate.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2018	5 Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent					Percent				
Corn – Dented	98	97	100	99	Corn	1	2	13	56	28
Corn – Mature	95	84	92	91	Cotton	4	7	29	46	14
Corn – Harvested	58	38	57	54	Soybeans	2	8	31	49	10
Cotton – Bolls Opening	69	47	91	70	Tobacco	3	17	35	34	11
Cotton – Harvested	6	0	9	4	Pasture	10	30	41	18	1
Soybeans – Dropping Leaves	57	39	57	53						
Soybeans – Harvested	18	9	15	9						
Tobacco – Cut	90	80	83	74						
Winter Wheat – Planted	4	1	8	N/A						

County Agent Comments

No rain for 20 plus days has really set the late planted cotton and soybeans back.

Jake Mallard, Madison County

The farmers in Fayette County had a good week harvesting corn, cotton and beans. A lot of cotton has been defoliated and harvest will get into full swing by the end of this week/next week. Yields have been great for all crops to this point.

Jeff Via, Fayette County

We are extremely dry to say the least. Corn harvest is winding down. Yields have been great with a dry land average 170+. Beans are dropping leaves rapidly from the heat and dryness. Everyone has started defoliating cotton. Farmers are getting their last cutting of hay for the year.

Joshua German, Hardeman County

Extremely dry.

Brian White, Henderson County

Corn harvest continues with good to excellent yields. Soybean harvest of early maturing soybeans is occurring with several producers switching back and forth between corn headers and soybean platforms. Heat has subsided for a few days. Forage harvest is ongoing. Lime applications are being made and cover crops planted in hopes of receiving rain.

Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

We are getting very dry. Need some rain.

Ronnie Barron, Cheatham County

No rain in 7 weeks.

Laurie Mobley, Houston County

Very dry conditions have made for lots of time for harvest. Corn yields are looking really good for our area several producers having yields in the mid 200 bushel/acre. Tobacco crop is just average - fertility has played out in a lot of fields and with dry conditions plants burned/dried up. Pastures starting to see the effects of lack of rain. Industrial hemp may be the one crop that has benefited from the extremely dry time lately. However, crops on plastic are having to irrigate/water daily with the 90+ degree temps. Harvesting is in full swing and so far crop is looking really good and barns are filling up. There will be many acres harvested in early to mid-October as well.

Keith Allen, Macon County

We have had little rain in the last two months. September has had essentially no measurable rain and the soil is dry and plants are burned up. Corn looks to be doing well with harvest of 200 bushels per acre. Late soybeans have not developed due to lack of rain. Rain is needed. However, it is more than likely too late to help with the late planted or wheat beans.

Dill Hughes, Maury County

We are dry. Corn harvest is coming along great and we have not cut any beans but some are ready. Corn harvest, hay baling are the main work going on. Corn yields are going to be under last year unless something changes.

Larry Moorehead, Moore County

Dry, Dry! Last cutting hay going up this week. Most producers waiting to seed winter annuals until significant rain in the forecast. Corn and Tobacco harvest continues with the dry weather. Pastures are beginning to need rain.

Jason Evitts, Trousdale County

Range and pasture conditions continue to decline due to continued lack of rainfall and above high temperatures.

David Cook, Davidson County

Corn harvest going well with very good yields. Some soybean fields beginning to drop leaves with a few acres harvested. Conditions continue to be very dry.

Kevin Rose, Giles County

Dry weather is drying pastures and stopping forage growth in most areas. Some producers now concerned about water. Corn harvest progressing and soybean harvest just getting started good. Have some soybeans that will be late and dry weather will probably affect production.

A. Ruth Correll, Wilson County

Very dry.

Jason Garrett, Overton County

Still very dry. Corn harvest began this week. Soybeans are drying down.

Billy Garrett, Pickett County

Conditions are very dry! Rain is needed. Early planted crops have done well. Late planted soybeans are suffering.

Steve Harris, Coffee County

Corn, soybean and hay all harvesting this week. Need rain!

John Goddard, Loudon County

Dry conditions have slowed forage growth and hastened crop harvest.

Chris Ramsey, Sullivan County

Still DRY and HOT!

John Wilson, Blount County

Crop harvest continues, most producers reporting good yields so far. Extremely dry conditions throughout the area.

Jason Debusk, Bradley County

A surplus hay situation is changing in a hurry. Cattle producers on thin soils are torn between selling at low prices and feeding hay earlier than normal and risking running short in late winter. Corn yields are good. Fall over seeding of pastures and hay and sowing wheat will ramp up big time once we get moisture.

Mannie Bedwell, Hamblen County

It's really dry! Need rain!

James Blake Ramsey, Hawkins County

Jefferson County has dried up. Rain is much needed but possibly too late to do much good. Hemp, pumpkins and other fall crops are suffering unless they are on irrigation.

Steven Huff, Jefferson County