



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending October 12, 2008

RECENT RAINS WELCOMED

Rain showers across Tennessee last week were welcomed by farmers, as much needed moisture boosted pasture and soybean conditions and should lead to an increase in fall seedings. Despite only 5 days suitable for fieldwork, farmers continued to make good harvest progress. Virtually, all of the State's corn has been harvested, lagging only slightly behind the 5-year average. Nearly all of the cotton crop's bolls are open with defoliation and harvest activities continuing at a normal pace. Soybean harvest was over a third completed by week's end with the crop currently rated in mostly good condition. Producers also took advantage of improved soil moisture to continue seeding winter wheat and over-seeding pastures. Other activities during the week included applying fertilizers and stripping tobacco.

As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 9 percent very short, 30 percent short, 59 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 25 percent very short, 37 percent short, 37 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Temperatures across the state last week averaged 5 to 8 degrees above normal. Rainfall amounts across Tennessee averaged above normal statewide.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2007	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent					Percent				
Corn – Harvested for Grain	91	85	99	95	Pastures	18	35	32	14	1
Cotton – Defoliated	93	81	97	88	Soybeans	8	17	31	37	7
Cotton – Harvested	42	23	60	39						
Soybeans – Dropping Leaves	90	80	95	89						
Soybeans – Harvested	34	24	51	41						
Winter Wheat – Seeded	11	6	18	17						
Tobacco – Burley Harvested	89	85	99	99						
Tobacco – Burley Stripped	9	n/a	19	22						

n/a = not available

County Agent Comments

“The farmers in Fayette County faced a two edged sword with a recent rain event that took place over a two day period. The pastures needed this moisture but those harvesting could have gotten more harvested without. All crops are being harvested and yields are across the board depending on where it rained. Wheat planting will start in full force soon and the rain will help.”

Jeffery Via, Fayette County

“Welcomed rains were received last week. Amounts varied across the county from 2" to 4". It put some green back in the pastures. We need more, but thankful for what we got.”

Troy Dugger, Hickman County

“We got a good rain on Wednesday which is too late for crops, but it will help pastures and livestock water.”

Larry Moorehead, Moore County

“Late week rainfalls helpful but too late for much pasture recovery. Some growers feeding hay already.”

David K. Glover, Smith County

“What a difference a good rain makes! The corn crop is all but in, just a few scattered acres remain unshelled. Most soybeans producers are concentrating on harvesting their bean crop. Double crop beans are beginning to mature and shed leaves. The rain is too late to greatly improve double crop bean yields. The cotton crop is all but defoliated and harvest efforts got into full swing at the beginning of the week; however, the rain halted efforts. Adequate rain has made a significant change in pastures, especially cool season pastures, which has allowed producers to save hay. Most producers reporting adequate hay stocks provided continued moisture allows for fall grazing.”

Ed Burns, Franklin County

“1/2 inch of rain has allowed many producers the opportunity this week and next to plant wheat. However, conditions remain extremely dry.”

Jerry Lamb, Rhea County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: October 12, 2008 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION						
	Week Ending October 12, 2008				Current Week 10/12/08	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN							
Ames_Plantation	86	49	68	6	1.97	1	47.07	6.59	31.39	4.86	
Tri-City_RGNL_A	81	46	64	6	0.36	2	27.64	-5.31	16.72	-5.75	
Brownsville_TN	85	50	68	5	2.46	3	42.18	1.78	25.93	-0.51	
Chattanooga/Lov	85	53	70	8	1.58	2	33.32	-8.51	19.18	-6.75	
Clarksville_Sew	87	49	69	9	2.19	2	37.38	-1.66	24.25	-0.97	
Cookeville	85	47	66	7	1.14	2	34.01	-10.47	21.09	-8.19	
Covington	83	49	66	4	2.24	3	42.23	2.56	26.57	0.76	
Crossville_AP	79	50	66	9	0.94	2	35.11	-8.23	21.94	-6.20	
Dayton	82	52	67	6	1.69	2	33.20	-10.57	20.90	-6.67	
Dickson_AG	85	50	68	8	1.69	2	38.75	-3.00	23.83	-3.74	
Dover_1W	84	50	66	7	2.38	1	41.03	0.34	23.67	-2.95	
Dyersburg	86	48	69	6	2.81	2	34.49	-4.09	20.95	-4.65	
Erwin_1W	81	46	64	9	0.34	2	29.34	-10.20	19.55	-8.34	
Huntingdon_Wate	84	43	66	6	1.40	1	39.17	-2.14	22.57	-4.82	
Jackson_Exp_Stn	86	50	68	6	3.15	3	49.59	9.25	30.87	3.96	
Kingston_AG	84	53	68	10	1.01	2	35.18	-10.35	22.32	-6.96	
Knoxville_AP	84	51	68	9	0.87	2	34.27	-2.91	22.05	-1.67	
Lewisburg	85	47	67	8	3.02	2	37.18	-5.36	25.38	-2.42	
Lexington_TN	85	52	68	6	3.07	2	50.71	11.40	33.35	7.39	
Linden	84	50	67	8	1.93	2	46.57	3.90	29.48	1.97	
Martin	85	45	67	6	1.67	2	39.73	-1.14	21.89	-5.57	
Mc_Minnville_Tn	84	53	69	9	1.74	2	27.57	-14.14	17.48	-9.64	
Memphis_AG	86	49	68	3	1.79	3	50.05	10.61	32.75	6.98	
Milan	86	46	67	7	1.31	1	43.39	1.26	26.24	-2.10	
Murfreesboro_5N	85	45	68	8	1.60	3	32.22	-9.54	20.07	-7.75	
Nashville_Metro	86	54	70	8	2.90	2	37.82	0.79	25.00	0.36	
Newcomb	82	43	64	9	0.52	2	29.50	-13.61	18.97	-10.12	
Oneida	83	46	65	10	0.30	2	25.38	-17.73	19.65	-9.44	
Portland_TN	84	48	67	8	2.44	2	41.64	1.66	27.33	0.81	
Pulaski_Water_P	84	48	66	4	2.26	2	41.77	-0.95	27.70	0.55	
Savannah_6SW	85	50	68	6	2.11	2	48.95	5.39	31.90	3.98	
Sparta_TN	84	50	68	10	1.39	2	36.46	-6.53	24.44	-3.83	
Springfield	85	49	68	9	2.22	2	40.38	1.91	26.92	1.48	
Springhill	84	50	67	8	3.90	2	38.20	-4.20	26.57	-1.04	
Union_City	86	43	65	5	1.83	1	36.72	-3.14	20.52	-5.99	
Waynesboro_TN	84	50	67	9	2.38	2	40.88	-3.47	26.68	-1.71	

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

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