

Crop Progress

As reported by NASS on May 5, 2014

SOYBEAN AND COTTON PLANTING SLOWED BY RAIN

Strong, tornado producing storms in the State almost brought field work to a full halt, and limited the days suitable for field work to 3.0. The most devastating weather effects by far, however, were to the people of Tennessee. Agricultural producers expected to make more progress on planting but those plans were again interrupted by strong storms. Wheat, pastures, and cattle continue to flourish from adequate moisture. The strawberry crop remained in primarily fair to good condition. The first offerings of hot house tomatoes in East Tennessee were smaller than normal due to cool temperatures. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 5 percent short, 72 percent adequate and 23 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 4 percent short, 81 percent adequate, and 15 percent surplus.

Percent Planted					
		May 4, 2014	April 27, 2014	May 4, 2013	5 Year Average
Corn	TN	68%	53%	55%	70%
	US	29%	19%	11%	42%
Soybeans	TN	5%	2%	1%	7%
	US	5%	3%	2%	11%
Cotton	TN	6%	3%	1%	8%
	US	16%	13%	17%	25%

Crop Condition % May 4, 2014						
		Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	TN	0%	2%	18%	58%	22%
	US	17%	21%	31%	26%	5%
Pasture	TN	1%	6%	29%	57%	7%
	US	7%	15%	39%	35%	4%

Crop Progress					
		May 4, 2014	April 27, 2014	May 4, 2013	5 Year Average
Winter Wheat - Jointed	TN	90%	76%	93%	96%
Winter Wheat- Headed	TN	30%	21%	48%	68%
	US	29%	18%	19%	35%
Corn Emerged	TN	35%	12%	28%	47%
	US	7%	3%	3%	13%

County Agent Comments

Producers are continuing to plant corn and a few are planting cotton and soybeans. If the weather holds, this should be a good week for planting. Tomatoes are being transplanted, and pastures and cattle are in good condition. **J.C. Dupree, Lauderdale County**

The farmers in Fayette County have been busy planting their crops. Weather has cooperated and the fields are dry. Corn planting has finished for the most part. Beans and cotton planting are in progress. **Jeff Via, Fayette County**

A five inch rain basically put a stop to all planting. The rains have pushed the wheat crop and pastures to another level of maturity/growth, ensuring some good yields and hay production. The rains are ensuring that proper soil moisture levels to get the crop germinated will not be an issue.

Walter Battle, Haywood County

Rainfall started in Weakley County around noon on Sunday, bringing all field work to a halt.

Producers had enjoyed a good 7-8 day run and managed to plant 50%-60% on the expected acreage.

Rainfall amounts averaged between 2 and 4 inches across the county. **Jeff Lannom, Weakley County**

Areas of the county received 6+'' of rain last Monday and Tuesday, putting any planting of crops on hold. With the sun at the start of this week, planting should pick up again and also allow for planting in the Duck River bottoms. **Troy Dugger, Hickman County**

A strawberry grower opened a field of Chandler berries for picking Wednesday afternoon; not in full production, but enough ripe berries to warrant opening. **Mitchell Mote, Rutherford County**

Thunderstorms and showers the first half of the week produced from two to nearly three inches in a few areas, keeping field activities at a minimal. about 75% of the corn has been planted with a little over half of the crop emerged and progressing slowly due to cool nights. **Jared Goad, Marion County**

Early-week, severe storms brought 2.5 or more inches of rain plus wind and lightning. Hay feeding of livestock continues on several farms but pasture growth is improving with the rain and warmer temperatures. **John Wilson, Blount County**

First round of greenhouse tomatoes were small due to cold temperatures. The tomatoes are now starting to size. **Anthony Carver, Grainger County**

Buttercup is in full bloom. Rains this week have helped hay and pasture. Today I saw the first fescue cut for hay. **John Goddard, Loudon County**



