

# Tennessee Crop Situation For 2010

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## JACKSON, TENN.

The corn crop got off to an excellent start with warm April weather allowing for rapid planting progress. Roughly 85 percent of the crop was in the ground by the end of April which was 20 percent more April planted acres than the Tennessee 5 year average for planting progress. Heavy May rains led to flooding and some replanted acres. Corn acreage dropped slightly where some flooded fields could not dry down fast enough to allow corn replanting in May. Corn had more early season insect pressure than was typical – mainly from sugarcane beetle. Stand damage was observed in multiple fields across the state leading to more foliar insecticide treatments to prevent additional stand loss. The continued heat in July, August and September coupled with lack of adequate rainfall caused yields to be lower than expected where corn was planted late in April and into May. Dry fall weather helped producers harvest earlier in August and complete harvest quickly. More aflatoxin was reported than is typical for the state. Reported corn yields ranged from less than 100 bushels in areas that had limited June rainfall regardless of planting date to above 180 bushels in areas that had more early April planted acres and

some rainfall in June. The statewide average yield is expected to be around 115-120 bushels per acre.

Soybean planting was hampered by frequent rains in early May. Less than half of the crop was planted by the end of May which was about 15 percent behind the 5 year average for planting progress. The soybean crop struggled in areas that received little rainfall in June. Producers dealt with more mid-season worm pressure than is typical for Tennessee. Some double crop soybeans were treated for control of armyworm and multiple insecticide treatments were made in hot spots to control soybean looper and corn earworm. Continuous heat throughout much of the growing season and below normal rainfall caused significant crop development problems. Producers reported poor pod set, low seed set and poor quality seed at harvest. Due to lack of adequate seed set, several areas dealt with plants staying green and difficulty with combining. The dry fall weather has expedited soybean harvest. More than 90 percent of the crop has been harvested with many counties in the western part of the state reporting average yields in the upper 20's to low 30 bushel range. Δ

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