



College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

Kentucky Nursery LISTSERV Bulletin

University of Kentucky Nursery Crops Team

End of March 2021

Warmer than Average April, Variably Wet

The NOAA's Climate Prediction Center is calling for a drier than average conditions in the eastern portion of the commonwealth in the 1st week of April, then wetter than average conditions in the west for the 2nd week of April. After that, the picture for precipitation is less certain with forecasts calling for an equal chance of wetter and drier than average conditions for the month.

The forecast for temperatures is somewhat simpler: warmer than average. This pattern is predicted to hold for not just April, but the next 3 months. This trend is simply an average of the climate picture and does not exclude the possibility of short term cold weather events.

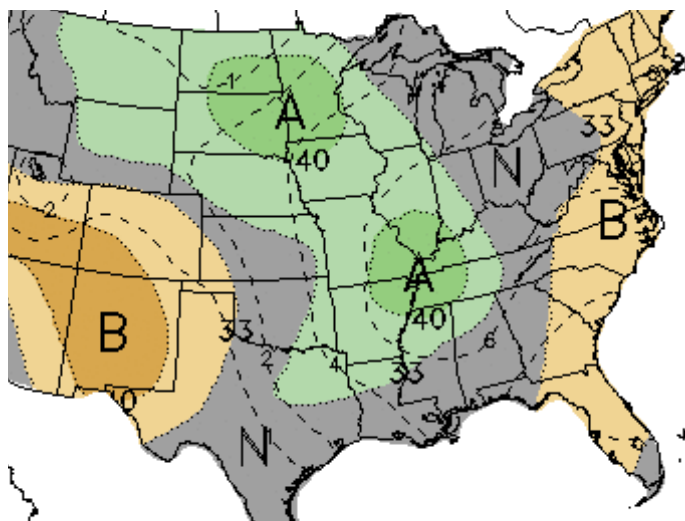
See [UKAg Weather's Long Range Outlooks](#) for a variety of forecasts of temperature and precipitation probabilities.

Nursery Crops Extension & Research Team

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April 07-13, 2021 Precipitation Probability
Image: NOAA Climate.gov, 30 MAR 2021

Joshua Knight, Senior Extension
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• Spring Pre-Emergent Herbicide Applications

Spring Pre-Emergent Herbicide Applications

*Joshua Kight, Extension Associate, Nursery Crops
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Spring is here and its one of the busiest times for a nursery. Between digging and shipping orders, receiving and getting liners set out into the field, and days lost to bad weather, this time of year can make it easy to fall behind and makes management a challenge to anyone in the industry.

That said, **pre-emergent herbicide application** needs to be as important as digging and loading trucks and should not be put off as an after-thought. It is important to remember that **every dollar spent in management of weeds saves about five dollars in labor**, just like the adage “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure”. Remember to watch the weather: most pre-emergents need about an .5 inch to 1 inch of rain to activate. Try to time applications before a rain event.

Spring is busy, stressful, and seems never ending. The take-away from this, **do not overlook the importance of the Spring application of PRE.**



Valley Hill Nursery

Photo: Josh Kight, UK Horticulture



Valley Hill Nursery

Photo: Josh Kight, UK Horticulture

Additional Resources

2021 Virginia Tech Pest Management Guide: Horticulture and Forest Crops includes weed control, diseases and insects (click on Preview button for downloadable PDF)

<https://resources.ext.vt.edu/contentdetail?contentid=2376>

2017 Southeastern US Pest Control Guide for Nursery Crops and Landscape Plantings

<https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/southeastern-us-pest-control-guide-for-nursery-crops-and-landscape-plantings>

The University of Kentucky's **Nursery Crop Extension Research Team** is based out of two locations across the bluegrass to better serve our producers.

The **University of Kentucky Research and Education Center (UKREC)** in **Princeton** serves western Kentucky producers while our facilities and personnel on main campus in **Lexington** serve central and eastern Kentucky producers.

Check out our [YouTube Channel!](#)

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