

Arkansas

Crop Progress and Condition



Arkansas
Field Office

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U. S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

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Reporting for the week ending March 30, 2008.

General

It was a wet week last week across most of Arkansas as all reporting stations recorded some rainfall, with Conway reporting the most at 3.82 inches. Some parts of the state were well ahead of normal due to the large amounts of rainfall associated with severe storms over the past week. For year to date precipitation totals, the reporting station at Gilbert was almost 13 inches above normal, while another 17 stations recorded more than 8 inches of rainfall for the last four weeks. Southeast and south central Arkansas received the least amount of precipitation for the week, as totals ranged from 0.04 inch in Eudora to 0.50 inch in El Dorado. These districts were also well behind in year to date precipitation. Topsoil moisture supplies were 1 percent short, 40 percent adequate, and 59 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were 48 percent adequate and 52 percent surplus. On average, there were 3.0 days suitable for field work. Last week, high temperatures in Arkansas ranged from 73 to 83 degrees Fahrenheit while low temperatures ranged from 23 to 35 degrees Fahrenheit.

Crop

Excessive rainfall during March has delayed planting of crops. Producers have planted only 24 percent of the corn crop and 1 percent of the sorghum crop. The majority of these plantings were in the southeastern corner of the state. Both corn and sorghum plantings are well behind the 2007 crops and the 5-year averages. Producers have just begun planting rice with 2 percent in the ground. This is slightly behind both last year's planting progress and the 5-year average. Winter wheat was in mostly fair to good condition with reports of potential crop losses due to flooding. Producers were waiting for fields to dry to assess the damage done to the wheat crop. Some producers were still able to fertilize wheat fields in areas where rainfall was light.

Livestock

Cattle were in good condition as of March 30 despite some reports of cattle losses and problems with livestock feeding due to flooding and overall wet conditions. In some locations, the warm season grasses are beginning to emerge from dormancy.

Percent of Progress

Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	2007	5-Year Avg
Corn	Planted	24	n/a	45	38
	Emerged	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rice	Planted	2	n/a	3	4
Sorghum	Planted	1	n/a	12	4

Condition in Percentages

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	2	12	44	36	6

Temperatures and Precipitation Week Ending March 30, 2008

District	Station	Temperatures			Rainfall				
		High	Low	Dep from Normal *	Wk Ending Mar. 30	4 wk	4 wk	Year to Date	
						Accum	Normal	2008	Normal
Northwest	Fayetteville	78	25	4	0.79	7.26	3.80	14.61	8.77
	Harrison	81	28	2	1.19	9.39	3.91	14.45	9.58
N. Central	Calico Rock	79	24	1	0.85	13.04	4.19	19.49	10.51
	Gilbert	80	23	0	1.35	16.30	3.72	22.73	9.86
	Greers Ferry	76	27	-1	0.87	9.14	4.58	16.43	12.04
	Mtn. Home	80	29	0	2.03	14.30	4.08	21.68	10.31
Northeast	Batesville	77	26	1	1.09	12.40	4.11	17.97	11.19
	Blytheville	73	27	1	1.44	7.92	4.45	13.06	12.35
	Jonesboro	74	27	1	0.99	9.03	4.02	14.32	11.40
	Keiser	75	32	-1	1.96	6.85	4.41	12.68	12.46
	Newport	75	33	-3	1.52	10.62	4.38	17.39	11.72
W. Central	Booneville	81	28	-2	1.34	13.68	3.69	19.45	10.49
	Clarksville	82	31	2	2.06	12.22	4.09	18.17	10.29
	Dardanelle	82	35	2	2.35	14.95	4.18	20.28	11.04
	Ft. Smith	82	32	3	0.54	5.79	3.58	13.96	8.96
	Mena	78	26	2	1.93	13.11	4.70	18.48	12.24
	Ozark	82	30	1	1.03	8.90	4.06	15.92	10.13
Central	Conway	80	32	0	3.82	9.82	4.12	18.55	11.30
	Hot Springs	83	28	0	1.60	9.90	4.83	17.38	13.07
	Little Rock	81	34	4	0.41	6.68	4.42	11.95	11.90
	Morrilton	81	30	2	1.86	11.62	4.08	17.53	11.25
	N. Little Rock	80	35	-1	0.81	7.53	4.44	12.52	11.62
E. Central	Brinkley	77	33	1	0.83	6.85	4.31	11.77	12.57
	Marianna	77	29	1	2.31	7.57	5.01	14.46	13.75
	Stuttgart	79	31	1	0.23	4.34	4.45	11.01	12.42
	West Memphis	76	30	1	0.65	6.31	5.00	11.39	13.94
Southwest	Dequeen	83	29	5	1.11	8.09	4.70	11.41	12.54
	Hope	80	29	1	0.73	8.51	4.51	16.40	13.24
	Texarkana	82	31	1	1.00	5.19	3.70	11.55	11.10
S. Central	Camden	82	34	0	0.39	2.78	4.64	9.73	13.97
	El Dorado	81	30	2	0.50	3.21	4.67	9.63	14.48
	Warren	79	29	1	0.14	3.94	5.43	11.24	15.64
Southeast	Eudora	81	32	1	0.04	2.59	5.42	11.33	16.89
	Monticello	81	30	3	0.26	2.94	5.17	9.77	15.60
	Pine Bluff	80	31	2	0.09	3.39	4.61	8.28	13.43
	Rohwer	79	33	2	0.09	4.02	4.83	10.20	14.77

* Departure from normal = $\frac{(\text{high} - \text{low})}{2}$ - 30 year average.

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