



Delaware

Weekly Crop and Weather Report

DE-CW0506

May 1, 2006

Another Dry Week

Less than a half an inch of rain fell across Delaware this week, not doing much to ease dry soil conditions. **Topsoil moisture** is 65 percent short or very short and **subsoil moisture** is 18 percent very short and 36 percent short. Producers reported **6 days suitable** for fieldwork, though winds delayed spraying and cool temperatures delayed setting out vegetable transplants. **Winter wheat** was 19 percent headed while **barley** was 74 percent headed. The small grain crops are in generally fair to good condition, but are short this year due to the dry conditions.

Potato planting is virtually complete and **green pea** planting is wrapping up. **Corn** planting made significant progress this week with 45 percent now in the field, up from 21 percent last week. The first cutting of **alfalfa** and **other hay** have just started to be made with 3 and 9 percent cut, respectively.

Pasture condition is rated 10 percent very poor, 13 percent poor, 45 percent fair, 30 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. **Hay supplies** are 15 percent very short, 34 percent short, and 51 percent adequate.

DELAWARE'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 30, 2006 (PERCENT)

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average 2001-2005
Small Grain Development:				
Barley Headed	74	35	49	53
Winter Wheat Headed	19	15	9	11
Planting Progress:				
Corn	45	21	27	31
Cucumbers	7	4	5	6
Green Peas	83	82	82	83
Potatoes	99	94	67	71
Snap Beans	26	11	14	21
Sweet Corn	23	18	24	26
Tomatoes	5	3	6	8
Watermelons	6	5	2	6
Fruit Crops Blooming:				
Apples	86	67	40	72
Peaches	96	93	89	88
Strawberries	49	39	24	44

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 30, 2006 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	9	56	34	1
Topsoil (2005)	-	20	76	4
Five Year Average	1	8	83	8
Subsoil Moisture	18	36	46	-
Subsoil (2005)	-	2	95	3
Five Year Average	3	10	80	7

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Delaware Agricultural Statistics cooperating.

For more information call: Delaware Agricultural Statistics , 2320 South DuPont Hwy., Dover DE 19901, 302-698-4537 or 800-282-8685

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 30, 2006

Weather Station	Precipitation			Temperatures			
	Total this week	Total Since Jan 1	Departure from Normal Since Jan 1	High	Low	Average	Departure from Normal
Maryland							
Baltimore/Washington Airport	0.63	9.58	-3.06	76	36	56	-2
Easton	0.16	9.24	-2.45	75	32	54	3
Frederick	0.38	11.77	-2.78	70	28	51	1
Frostburg	0.32	7.17	-4.34	72	35	53	-3
Hagerstown	0.21	8.08	-6.14	76	34	55	-4
Mechanicsville	0.00	6.94	-5.70	74	39	56	-3
Patuxent River	0.13	6.24	-8.68	72	37	54	-5
Ocean City	0.09	7.59	-6.87	76	31	54	-4
Salisbury	0.27	8.64	-3.05	75	32	53	2
Sharpsburg	0.04	8.51	-4.45	75	38	56	-3
Washington, DC (Reagan National)	0.03	8.86	-2.45	76	44	59	-2
Delaware							
Dover	0.46	8.83	-4.52	70	37	55	-4
Georgetown	0.01	6.78	-7.47	77	37	56	1
Wilmington	0.38	10.50	-2.26	72	35	54	-2

Weather Data is provided by the Agricultural Weather Information Service, Auburn, Alabama and is considered preliminary.