



Maryland & Delaware

Weekly Crop and Weather Report

CW23-08

09/08/2008

Tropical Storm Hanna a big help

A dry week for Maryland and Delaware growers until Tropical Storm Hanna arrived late Friday evening bringing heavy rains that lasted most of Saturday. Most crops, with the exception of early season soybeans, benefitted from the heavy rainfall. Reporters say the rain was good without a lot of runoff or wind. No major damage from the storm was reported. Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.7 in Delaware and 5.8 in Maryland for the week ending September 7, 2008. Rainfall accumulations ranged from 1 to 3 inches, which greatly improved topsoil moisture. Soil moisture was rated short to adequate in Delaware and mostly adequate in Maryland. Pasture conditions improved slightly over last week. Delaware was rated very poor to mostly poor but mostly fair in Maryland.

Hay harvest progressed steadily in both States. Hay supplies were rated mostly adequate. The corn crop was maturing well with 59 percent of the crop in Delaware and 47 percent in Maryland considered mature. Growers in Western Maryland were concerned about late planted corn being affected by a possible early frost in the next few weeks. Late planted soybeans in Maryland and Delaware have responded to the rain received late last week. However, rainfall from Tropical Storm Hanna arrived too late to benefit early planted soybeans. Maryland soybean quality was mostly good while Delaware soybeans were still poor to mostly fair.

Vegetable harvest continued with no reports of damage or flooding from Tropical Storm Hanna. The apple harvest continued in Delaware and Maryland harvest was just over 50 percent complete. Peach harvest was nearly complete but some orchards were concerned that too much rain from Tropical Storm Hanna may damage late peaches.

CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 7, 2008

Item	Maryland				Delaware			
	This	Last	Last	5 Year	This	Last	Last	5 Year
	Week	Week	Year	Average	Week	Week	Year	Average
Alfalfa Hay, 3 rd cutting	98	97	94	90	93	91	100	94
Alfalfa Hay, 4 th cutting	36	31	48	36	23	18	29	33
Apples, harvested	56	44	55	42	18	15	35	30
Cantaloups, harvested	90	86	93	90	94	88	87	89
Corn, dough	95	0	0	16	100	0	0	57
Corn, dent	80	69	87	77	91	85	94	85
Corn, mature	47	37	46	40	59	42	65	55
Corn, harvested for grain	23	15	11	6	10	4	10	10
Corn, harvested for silage	45	15	0	37	10	2	0	44
Cucumbers, harvested	89	88	89	83	87	82	79	83
Lima Beans, harvested	58	57	57	62	49	38	42	51
Other Hay, 3 rd cutting	71	69	49	55	56	51	68	80
Other Hay, 4 th cutting	8	7	6	7	1	1	0	7
Peaches, harvested	90	85	96	94	94	86	94	93
Potatoes, harvested	99	99	98	88	94	93	71	84
Snap Beans, harvested	89	87	90	91	86	80	94	93
Soybeans, setting pods	86	77	86	83	86	83	87	91
Soybeans, turning color	33	17	20	15	18	11	28	16
Soybeans, dropping leaves	18	10	5	5	13	10	14	8
Sweet Corn, harvested	89	84	92	92	88	82	93	88
Tomatoes, harvested	87	73	88	84	83	75	88	81
Watermelons, harvested	93	91	94	89	92	87	89	87

CROP CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 7, 2008

Item	Maryland					Delaware				
	VP	P	F	G	EX	VP	P	F	G	EX
	Percent					Percent				
Apples	0	1	17	79	3	2	5	16	68	9
Corn	8	17	34	31	10	7	21	46	17	9
Pasture	10	23	39	22	6	35	50	10	5	0
Soybeans	22	19	20	35	4	13	34	40	10	3

VP-Very Poor, P-Poor, F-Fair, G-Good, EX-Excellent

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 7, 2008

Condition by Percent	Maryland				Delaware			
	Topsoil Moisture		Subsoil Moisture		Topsoil Moisture		Subsoil Moisture	
	This	Last	This	Last	This	Last	This	Last
	Week	Week	Week	Week	Week	Week	Week	Week
Very Short	8	21	15	23	28	85	45	80
Short	26	44	36	39	33	13	47	17
Adequate	64	35	48	38	39	2	8	3
Surplus	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 7, 2008

Station	Precipitation ^{1/}			Temperatures			
	Since Jan 1						
	Total	Depart					Depart
	this	From					from
	Week	Total	Normal	High	Low	Average	Normal
Maryland							
Baltimore/Washington AP	0.88	30.67	2.91	88	55	73	-1
Frederick	1.40	32.81	6.35	87	57	70	2
Frostburg	2.98	37.33	4.28	85	54	64	-2
Hagerstown	0.87	23.42	-2.79	88	57	71	0
Mechanicsville	0.57	31.38	0.57	88	60	72	-1
Patuxent River	0.63	30.54	1.84	89	65	75	3
Ocean City	0.08	24.56	-6.92	90	56	76	4
Salisbury	0.76	27.80	-3.74	90	48	74	1
Sharpsburg	1.08	31.74	5.18	89	54	70	2
Stevensville	0.20	35.68	6.93	87	58	72	-2
Washington, DC (Reagan National)	0.67	33.53	7.35	92	68	77	2
Delaware							
Dover	0.34	23.06	-6.95	89	55	73	-1
Georgetown	0.18	19.19	-11.43	93	54	76	4
Wilmington	0.06	25.52	-2.37	87	57	73	1

^{1/}Precipitation totals as of 7 A.M. on recorded date.

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

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