



# Maryland & Delaware

## Weekly Crop and Weather Report

CW26-08

09/29/2008

### Autumn arrived with improved conditions

Autumn arrived with improved conditions after the third week of regular rainfall in Maryland and Delaware. Many areas reported receiving an inch or more of rainfall last week. This resulted in greener pastures and improved conditions for late season crops. **Days suitable for fieldwork** were **4.7** in Delaware and **4.4** in Maryland for the week ending September 28, 2008. In Delaware, soil moisture was rated short to adequate. Soil moisture was mostly adequate in Maryland. Regular rainfall over the past few weeks in both States reduced the percentage of very short moisture reported in exchange for a small percentage of surplus moisture. **Pasture conditions** in Maryland were rated fair to good while Delaware pasture improved over the previous week, with poor to fair conditions reported.

**Alfalfa hay** harvest, well into the fourth cutting, continued in both States. Maryland reported 65 percent complete and Delaware, 58 percent. Harvest of other hay continued, with the third cutting nearly complete and the fourth cutting under way. Harvest of **corn for grain** was active and progressed well in Delaware and Maryland despite small delays in field work during rain showers. **Corn condition** in Maryland was fair to good, in Delaware, mostly fair. Early **soybean** yields in Delaware were poor because sustained dry conditions over the summer resulted in vines with no pods. Late soybeans looked better and were starting to green up with the recent rainfall. Maryland soybeans were progressing well, though harvest was postponed by rainfall in some areas.

The **apple harvest** was 32 percent complete in Delaware and 72 percent complete in Maryland with good quality. Harvest of **lima beans** for processing was nearly complete at 74 percent in Delaware and 76 percent in Maryland. Harvest of fresh market vegetables continued as autumn arrived. No major problems have been reported.

### CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 28, 2008

Item	Maryland				Delaware			
	This	Last	Last	5 Year	This	Last	Last	5 Year
	Week	Week	Year	Average	Week	Week	Year	Average
Alfalfa Hay, 4th cutting	65	63	87	67	58	55	53	60
Alfalfa Hay, 5 <sup>th</sup> cutting	7	3	6	4	0	0	11	4
Apples, harvested	72	70	79	64	32	26	61	56
Barley, planted	18	12	30	20	16	4	10	8
Corn, mature	88	80	89	86	95	83	95	96
Corn, harvested for grain	55	38	41	35	43	26	51	49
Corn, harvested for silage	91	82	41	75	75	66	4	70
Lima Beans, harvested	76	72	64	75	74	64	56	68
Other Hay, 3 <sup>rd</sup> cutting	81	78	55	76	69	64	77	92
Other Hay, 4 <sup>th</sup> cutting	20	15	11	24	3	2	0	21
Soybeans, turning color	74	66	70	62	71	43	71	66
Soybeans, dropping leaves	58	40	37	34	41	30	41	43
Soybeans, harvested	6	2	3	5	5	2	2	3
Winter wheat, planted	8	7	14	10	0	0	1	2

### CROP CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 28, 2008

Item	Maryland					Delaware				
	VP	P	F	G	EX	VP	P	F	G	EX
	Percent					Percent				
Corn	2	14	35	38	11	7	21	46	17	9
Pasture	4	19	37	37	3	23	39	34	3	1
Soybeans	19	20	24	30	7	13	29	47	8	3

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

**SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 28, 2008**

<b>Condition by Percent</b>	<b>Maryland</b>				<b>Delaware</b>			
	<b>Topsoil Moisture</b>		<b>Subsoil Moisture</b>		<b>Topsoil Moisture</b>		<b>Subsoil Moisture</b>	
	<b>This</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>This</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>This</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>This</b>	<b>Last</b>
	<b>Week</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Week</b>
Very Short	0	4	5	9	3	13	12	38
Short	13	41	27	41	46	41	73	55
Adequate	77	54	67	50	48	46	15	7
Surplus	10	1	1	0	3	0	0	0

**WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 28, 2008**

<b>Station</b>	<b>Precipitation <sup>1/</sup></b>			<b>Temperatures</b>			
	<b>Since Jan 1</b>						
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Depart</b>					<b>Depart</b>
	<b>this</b>	<b>From</b>					<b>from</b>
<b>Week</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Normal</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Normal</b>	
<b>Maryland</b>							
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
<b>Delaware</b>							
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

<sup>1/</sup>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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**In cooperation with**  
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