

# Maryland

## Weekly Crop and Weather Report

**MD-CW2705**
**OCTOBER 3, 2005**

### Still Dry

Maryland farmers experienced some light spotty rains, but overall conditions are still dry. Bright sunny skies and no measurable precipitation have allowed farmers to make good quality **hay**, plant small grains, harvest corn and prepare fields and farm equipment for the upcoming winter. There were **6.8 days suitable for field work** for the week ending October 2, 2005.

**Corn** for grain harvest is more than 42 percent complete and **corn** chopped for silage is 95 percent complete. **Corn** harvest should wrap up in the next few weeks. A few full-season **soybean** fields are being harvested. Most of the soybean crop is turning color and dropping their leaves. Fourth cutting **alfalfa hay** is 84 percent complete, 9 percent ahead last year and 14 percent ahead of the five-year average. Some farmers are starting a fifth cutting of alfalfa hay.

**Pastures** are rated 8 percent very poor, 28 percent poor, 45 percent fair 18 percent good and 1 percent excellent. **Hay supplies** were 2 percent very short, 22 percent short, 74 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus.

#### MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 2, 2005 (PERCENT)

| Item                              | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | Average 2000-2004 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|
| <b>Harvesting Progress:</b>       |           |           |           |                   |
| Apples                            | 78        | 68        | 60        | 54                |
| Corn for Silage                   | 95        | 88        | 88        | 82                |
| Corn for Grain                    | 42        | 25        | 49        | 41                |
| <b>Planting Progress:</b>         |           |           |           |                   |
| Barley                            | 41        | 17        | 34        | 22                |
| Winter Wheat                      | 19        | 10        | 17        | 8                 |
| <b>Crop Progress:</b>             |           |           |           |                   |
| Corn Mature                       | 92        | 77        | 92        | 90                |
| Soybeans Turning Color            | 78        | 70        | 68        | 66                |
| Soybeans Dropping Leaves          | 57        | 45        | 38        | 37                |
| <b>Hay Harvested:</b>             |           |           |           |                   |
| Alfalfa Hay 4 <sup>th</sup>       | 84        | 78        | 75        | 70                |
| Other Hay 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cutting | 54        | 17        | 45        | 47                |

#### SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 2, 2005 (PERCENT)

| Condition         | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|-------------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| Topsoil Moisture  | 64         | 28    | 8        | -       |
| Topsoil (2004)    | -          | 6     | 70       | 24      |
| Five Year Average | 2          | 17    | 66       | 15      |
| Subsoil Moisture  | 38         | 34    | 28       | -       |
| Subsoil (2004)    | 4          | 3     | 83       | 10      |
| Five Year Average | 10         | 15    | 64       | 11      |

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**WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 2, 2005**

| Weather Station                  | Precipitation   |                   |                                   | Temperatures |     |         |                       |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----|---------|-----------------------|
|                                  | Total this week | Total Since Jan 1 | Departure from Normal Since Jan 1 | High         | Low | Average | Departure from Normal |
| <b>Maryland</b>                  |                 |                   |                                   |              |     |         |                       |
| Baltimore/Washington Airport     | 0.12            | 34.08             | 2.83                              | 82           | 41  | 64      | 2                     |
| Easton                           | 0.13            | 32.14             | -1.84                             | 83           | 44  | 65      | -1                    |
| Frederick                        | 0.00            | 28.28             | -1.76                             | 80           | 41  | 63      | 5                     |
| Frostburg                        | 0.52            | 28.24             | -8.16                             | 79           | 36  | 59      | 4                     |
| Hagerstown                       | 0.22            | 21.83             | -7.52                             | 77           | 41  | 64      | 3                     |
| Mechanicsville                   | 0.10            | 29.56             | -5.11                             | 83           | 43  | 63      | -1                    |
| Patuxent River                   | 0.20            | 30.29             | -2.22                             | 84           | 48  | 68      | 5                     |
| Ocean City                       | 0.12            | 31.46             | -3.37                             | 81           | 42  | 67      | 3                     |
| Salisbury                        | 0.18            | 33.86             | -1.44                             | 86           | 34  | 63      | -1                    |
| Sharpsburg                       | 0.11            | 25.81             | -4.23                             | 80           | 36  | 61      | 3                     |
| Washington, DC (Reagan National) | 0.10            | 29.31             | -0.26                             | 84           | 50  | 69      | 3                     |
| <b>Delaware</b>                  |                 |                   |                                   |              |     |         |                       |
| Dover                            | 0.16            | 35.43             | 1.00                              | 84           | 45  | 66      | 1                     |
| Georgetown                       | 0.15            | 30.68             | -3.40                             | 88           | 43  | 67      | 5                     |
| Wilmington                       | 0.20            | 26.08             | -5.33                             | 83           | 42  | 65      | 3                     |

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