



Maryland & Delaware

Weekly Crop and Weather Report

CW 06-08

5/12/2008

Heavy Rains Delay Field Activity

For the week ending, May 11, 2008, the **days suitable for fieldwork** were **4.3** days in Maryland and **4.7** days in Delaware. Cool temperatures and heavy rain at the end of the week helped to relieve water concerns for the corn crop while delaying early plantings. One crop reporter on the Eastern Shore reported: "Field conditions are getting sloppy for working ground/planting. The weather is starting to hold things up. Rain is either feast or famine, nothing in between. Fertilizer and fuel prices are out of control.

Saturated field conditions left some **hay** fields unharvestable. Hay supplies were low at short to very short throughout Maryland and Delaware. **Fruit** crops have continued to bloom above average, with **apples** and **peaches** having reached nearly 100% in both states. **Strawberries** were heading into the main season with early harvesting having already commenced in some greenhouse operations. A number of **small grain** fields have experienced severe lodging. The possibility of late frosts has delayed vegetable planting for 2-3 weeks in several areas. Early plantings of **sweet corn** and **snap beans** were in the ground. **Barley** and **wheat** fields remain in good condition in Maryland and Delaware despite heavy rains. Wet and cold weather delayed early planting of **corn** and **soybeans**. In fields where **corn** is still to be planted, the delay may impact crop yields. **Pasture** conditions were rated fair to good in both states.

CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 11, 2008

Item	Maryland				Delaware			
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Average	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Average
Apples, bloomed	99	80	99	94	92	80	99	95
Barley, headed	89	77	79	84	98	94	94	88
Barley, turned	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Cantaloup, planted	34	23	31	33	11	5	21	23
Corn, emerged	27	13	22	28	48	27	41	31
Corn, planted	64	37	61	63	81	65	75	68
Cucumbers, planted	27	21	14	20	8	4	17	18
Green Peas, planted	93	90	47	60	100	100	73	66
Lima Beans, planted	16	5	44	21	0	0	0	0
Other Hay, 1st cutting	17	7	24	18	23	7	16	17
Peaches, bloomed	99	97	93	94	100	100	100	98
Potatoes, planted	99	99	97	96	98	96	98	94
Snap Beans, planted	22	16	12	20	23	8	33	35
Soybeans, planted	10	7	9	9	13	4	11	9
Strawberries, bloomed	85	85	93	88	77	72	90	86
Strawberries, harvested	10	2	3	4	8	6	4	4
Sweet Corn, planted	49	37	61	53	38	34	39	36
Tomatoes, planted	57	44	22	39	18	8	24	26
Watermelon, planted	45	29	25	32	21	10	27	25
Winter Wheat, headed	70	64	35	37	62	41	53	41

CROP CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 11, 2008

Item	Maryland					Delaware				
	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent					Percent				
Barley	0	0	13	54	33	0	1	5	73	21
Pasture	0	9	25	48	18	2	8	41	46	3
Winter Wheat	0	0	16	50	34	0	1	6	72	21

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SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING May 11, 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	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Short	6	14	21	28	0	4	5	10
Adequate	61	75	64	68	91	96	94	89
Surplus	32	10	14	3	9	0	1	1

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING May 11, 2008

Weather Station	Precipitation ¹			Temperatures			
	Total this week	Since Jan 1		High	Low	Average	Depart from Normal
		Total	Depart				
		from	from				
week	Total	Normal	High	Low	Average	Normal	
Maryland							
Baltimore/Washington Airport	2.46	14.73	0.70	82	42	61	1
Frederick	1.36	16.79	3.71	80	42	59	3
Frostburg	1.58	17.56	1.18	78	37	55	2
Hagerstown	0.62	12.37	-0.66	80	42	60	0
Mechanicsville	1.80	12.63	-3.11	82	44	62	1
Patuxent River	1.63	10.80	-3.25	80	43	64	3
Ocean City	1.60	12.65	-3.59	74	42	62	1
Salisbury	1.37	13.68	-2.14	82	38	61	-1
Sharpsburg	0.87	14.76	1.58	82	39	58	1
Stevensville	3.23	17.02	2.32	80	45	62	2
Washington, DC (Reagan National)	3.76	17.06	4.37	82	50	65	2
Delaware							
Dover	1.87	13.33	-1.81	82	45	62	0
Georgetown	1.04	11.06	-4.56	83	42	63	3
Wilmington	1.96	13.82	-0.41	81	42	60	0

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.