



Maryland Agriculture Data

Weekly Crop and Weather Report



MD-CW0204

April 12, 2004

Cool Temperatures Slow Progress

There were 3.4 **days suitable for field work** for the week ending April 11, 2004. Air temperatures for the week averaged around 45 degrees with many areas receiving a half an inch of precipitation. Cool, wet weather delayed some field activities. Farmers made some progress with planting **green peas, potatoes, sweet corn** and **tomatoes**. A small amount of **field corn, watermelons, cucumbers**, and **cantaloups** were planted last week. **Strawberries, apples** and **peaches** made little progress last week due to the cold, damp conditions.

Small grains remain in fair to good condition. **Winter wheat** was rated 14 percent excellent, 57 percent good, 23 percent fair, and 6 percent poor. **Barley** was rated 15 percent excellent, 56 percent good, 24 percent fair, and 5 percent poor. The lack of sunlight and cool weather has delayed the growth and development of small grains.

Pasture is in fair to good condition with 19 percent rated excellent, 51 percent good, 23 percent fair, 5 percent poor and 2 percent very poor. **Hay supplies** are 50 percent adequate, 28 percent short and 22 percent very short.

A new table on the back of this release debuts this week. It shows weekly temperatures, growing degree days, and weekly precipitation for selected Maryland and Delaware weather stations.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 11, 2004 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1999-2003
Planting Progress:				
Green Peas	53	50	58	50
Potatoes	35	25	20	43
Sweet Corn	7	3	6	11
Tomatoes	9	1	1	6
Fruit Crops Blooming:				
Peaches	19	17	29	42
Strawberries	17	10	20	25

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 11, 2004 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	-	-	62	38
Topsoil (2003)	-	-	37	63
Five Year Avg	1	12	55	32
Subsoil Moisture	-	-	74	26
Subsoil (2003)	-	1	71	28
Five Year Avg	7	13	62	18

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CLIMATE REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING 4/11/2004

Maryland	County	Temperature			Departure from Normal
		Max	Min	Avg	
		Degrees F			
FROSTBURG 2	Garrett	65	19	39.9	-3.3
MCHENRY 2 NW	Garrett	-	-	-	-
CUMBERLAND 2	Allegany	71	26	47.1	-3.3
SMITHSBURG 2 NW NW	Washington	-	-	-	-
SHARPSBURG 5 S	Washington	74*	25*	44.4*	-
BALTIMORE/WASH ARPT	Baltimore	74	29	48.8	-1.8
CONOWINGO DAM	Harford	-	-	-	-
SALISBURY AIRPORT	Wicomico	72	28	45.9	-6.1
MECHANICSVILLE 5 NE	St. Marys	77	30	48.3	-4.9
EASTON POLICE BRKS	Talbot	74*	23*	47.7*	-
Delaware					
WILMINGTON AIRPORT	New Castle	71	31	47.6	-2.1
WILMINGTON PORTER RSV Castle	New Castle	68	29	45.5	-4.1
GREENWOOD 2 NE	Sussex	73*	32*	45.0*	-5.0

Maryland	County	Growing Degree Days	Departure From Normal	Precipitation (Inches)	Departure From Normal
FROSTBURG 2	Garrett	16	-12	.24	-0.67
MCHENRY 2 NW	Garrett	-	-	.36	-0.61
CUMBERLAND 2	Allegany	38	-16	.21	-0.49
SMITHSBURG 2 NW	Washington	-	-	.16	-
SHARPSBURG 5 S	Washington	26*	-	.03*	-
BALTIMORE/WASH ARPT	Baltimore	35	-12	.00	-0.70
CONOWINGO DAM	Harford	-	-	.51	-0.33
SALISBURY AIRPORT	Wicomico	30	-21	.94	0.13
MECHANICSVILLE 5 NE	St. Marys	40	-19	.04	-0.80
EASTON POLICE BRKS	Talbot	24*	-	.34*	-
Delaware					
WILMINGTON AIRPORT Castle	New Castle	28	-13	.21	-0.56
WILMINGTON PORTER RSV	New Castle	24	-13	.84	-0.10
GREENWOOD 2 NE	Sussex	23*	-25	.29*	-0.52

*indicates incomplete weekly value

This report was prepared by the Northeast Regional Climate Center at Cornell University, <<http://www.nrcc.cornell.edu>>.