

MD-CW0604

May 10, 2004

### Good Week for Field Work

Sunshine and warm temperatures allowed farmers to plant **corn, sorghum, soybeans, watermelons, cucumbers, snap beans, sweet corn, potatoes, tomatoes, and cantaloups**. There were 5.3 days **suitable for field work** for the week ending May 9, 2004. Field corn was over 60 percent planted and 25 percent has begun to emerge. Farmers are starting to plant full-season soybeans and harvest a small amount of strawberries, green peas and hay.

**Winter wheat** was in good condition with 26 percent excellent, 54 percent good, 17 percent fair, and 3 percent poor. Grain heads have formed in over 30 percent of the winter wheat fields. **Barley** was in good condition with 36 percent excellent, 45 percent good, 14 percent fair and 5 percent poor. Over 85 percent of the barley fields have headed and a few fields are beginning to turn color.

**Pasture** was in good condition with 30 percent excellent, 49 percent good, 15 percent fair, 4 percent poor and 2 percent very poor. **Hay supplies** was rated 53 percent adequate, 31 percent short, and 16 percent very short.

#### MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 9, 2004 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1999-2003
Small Grain Development:				
Barley Headed	86	35	60	81
Wheat Headed	34	2	15	40
Planting Progress:				
Cantaloups	39	21	34	40
Cucumbers	17	13	12	21
Field Corn	61	33	47	52
Lima Beans (Processed)	11	-	14	7
Potatoes	99	80	84	94
Snap Beans	30	12	13	18
Sorghum	15	-	9	4
Soybeans	5	-	4	6
Sweet Corn	50	23	37	48
Tomatoes	44	36	44	45
Watermelons	27	8	27	27
Hay Harvested:				
Alfalfa Hay 1 <sup>st</sup> Cutting	6	-	11	12
Other Hay 1 <sup>st</sup> Cutting	13	4	10	13

#### SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 9, 2004 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	-	2	90	8
Topsoil (2003)	-	3	76	21
Five Year Avg	5	22	66	8
Subsoil Moisture	-	-	89	11
Subsoil (2003)	-	-	89	11
Five Year Avg	4	21	70	5

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**Precipitation and Departures From Normal, Through April 30, 2004**

County	April 2004		Since January 1, 2004	
	Precipitation	Departure From Normal	Accumulated Precipitation	Accumulated Departure
<b>Maryland</b>				
Allegany	4.7	1.4	13.2	0.9
Anne Arundel	5.0	1.8	11.5	-2.0
Baltimore	5.5	2.0	13.2	-0.5
Calvert	5.6	2.4	12.3	-0.9
Caroline	6.2	3.1	13.1	-0.6
Carroll	5.8	2.2	13.3	-0.1
Cecil	5.0	1.6	12.9	-0.5
Charles	4.5	1.4	10.8	-2.3
Dorchester	6.8	3.7	13.6	-0.2
Frederick	6.2	2.6	13.9	0.6
Garrett	1/	1/	1/	1/
Harford	5.4	1.7	14.0	-0.1
Howard	4.7	1.3	11.8	-1.7
Kent	5.0	1.7	12.4	-1.2
Montgomery	5.2	1.9	11.8	-1.1
Prince George's	4.7	1.5	11.6	-1.2
Queen Anne's	5.2	2.0	11.9	-1.5
Somerset	5.1	1.8	12.1	-2.4
St. Mary's	6.0	2.9	12.7	-0.5
Talbot	6.9	3.6	13.8	-0.2
Washington	6.2	2.8	13.7	1.3
Wicomico	5.2	1.9	12.8	-1.9
Worcester	4.7	1.6	11.8	-2.8
<b>Delaware</b>				
New Castle	5.4	2.0	12.4	-0.9
Kent	5.3	1.9	11.8	-2.1
Sussex	5.0	1.7	11.6	-2.7

Source: National Weather Service

1/ Data Unavailable