



Maryland Agriculture Data

Weekly Crop and Weather Report



MD-CW0804

May 24, 2004

The Heat is On for Maryland Farmers

Scattered thunderstorms brought some rain and warm temperatures to Maryland farmers last week. Air temperatures averaged in the mid 80's, with some reports close to 90. Precipitation averaged from .04 inches to 2.4 inches. There were 4.8 **days suitable for field work** for the week ending May 23, 2004.

Planting process was made with **soybeans, corn, sorghum** and some **vegetables**. The warm weather allowed **soybean** planting to increase from to 38 percent this week compared to 13 percent in 2003. About 91 percent of **winter wheat** is headed compared to 55 percent the previous year and there are some reports of wheat turning color. **Sorghum** planted is at 43 percent, double the five-year average of 16 percent. Warm temperatures along with some rain prompted **corn** to emerge quickly, from 61 percent last week to 82 percent this week.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 23, 2004 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1999-2003
Small Grain Development:				
Barley Headed	99	98	95	97
Wheat Headed	91	71	55	80
Planting Progress:				
Cantaloups	61	51	61	68
Cucumbers	29	23	29	42
Field Corn	91	81	77	84
Lima Beans (Processed)	24	16	30	30
Snap Beans	53	37	27	33
Sorghum	43	30	19	16
Soybeans	38	15	13	19
Sweet Corn	70	60	60	71
Tobacco	30	11	16	30
Tomatoes	61	53	67	73
Watermelons	59	46	67	58
Harvesting Progress:				
Green Peas	15	5	12	9
Strawberries	28	9	10	28
Hay Harvested:				
Alfalfa Hay 1 st Cutting	42	22	15	43
Other Hay 1 st Cutting	40	25	15	31

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 23, 2004 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	7	10	67	16
Topsoil (2003)	-	-	37	63
Five Year Avg	8	24	49	19
Subsoil Moisture	2	4	84	10
Subsoil (2003)	-	-	59	41
Five Year Avg	5	29	56	10

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CLIMATE REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING 5/23/2004

Maryland	County	Temperature			Departure from Normal
		Max	Min	Avg	
		<i>Degrees F</i>			
FROSTBURG 2	Garrett	81	53	65.8	8.2
MCHENRY 2 NW	Garrett	-	-	-	-
CUMBERLAND 2	Allegany	88	57	69.9	6.4
SMITHSBURG 2 NW NW	Washington	-	-	-	-
SHARPSBURG 5 S	Washington	89	58	70.4	-
BALTIMORE/WASH ARPT	Baltimore	91	61	73.2	9.1
CONOWINGO DAM	Harford	-	-	-	-
SALISBURY AIRPORT	Wicomico	91	58	72.5	7.8
MECHANICSVILLE 5 NE	St. Marys	86	61	71.8	6.8
EASTON POLICE BRKS	Talbot	89*	63*	74.3*	-
Delaware					
WILMINGTON AIRPORT	New Castle	89	61	72.4	8.6
WILMINGTON PORTER RSV	New Castle	81*	60*	68.3*	4.5
GREENWOOD 2 NE	Sussex	90	47	70.9	7.9

Maryland	County	Growing Degree Days	Departure From Normal	Precipitation (Inches)	Departure From Normal
FROSTBURG 2	Garrett	112	40	2.41	1.31
MCHENRY 2 NW	Garrett	-	-	1.61*	0.62
CUMBERLAND 2	Allegany	139	29	2.25	1.34
SMITHSBURG 2 NW	Washington	-	-	1.43	-
SHARPSBURG 5 S	Washington	142	-	1.03	-
BALTIMORE/WASH ARPT	Baltimore	162	54	0.52	-0.39
CONOWINGO DAM	Harford	-	-	0.33*	-0.72
SALISBURY AIRPORT	Wicomico	156	49	0.04	-0.87
MECHANICSVILLE 5 NE	St. Marys	154	41	1.11	0.13
EASTON POLICE BRKS	Talbot	122*	-	0.00*	-
Delaware					
WILMINGTON AIRPORT Castle	New Castle	157	53	1.29	0.31
WILMINGTON PORTER RSV	New Castle	56*	-45	0.52*	-0.59
GREENWOOD 2 NE	Sussex	148	42	0.09	-0.92

* indicates incomplete weekly value

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