

MD-CW1404

July 6, 2004

Rain Needed for Advancing Early Progress

Hot, humid weather hindered Maryland crops this week. There were 6.5 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the holiday week ending July 4, 2004. Mid-day air temperatures were in the upper-80's to the lower-90's. Rain was scarce this week and some farmers are beginning to notice the lack of rain showers. The weather did allow farmers to just about complete the harvesting of **barley** and **winter wheat** as well as begin the harvesting of **fruits** and **vegetables**. Last year at this time, only 22 percent of **winter wheat** was harvested, compared to 85 percent this week.

Corn was 47 percent tasseled, compared to 6 percent last year. Farmers were able to advance on the second cutting of **hay** this week due to the dry weather. **Soybeans** were 94 percent planted compared to 55 percent a year ago and already 12 percent were beginning to bloom. **Topsoil moisture** was 10 percent very short, 27 percent short, 61 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 4, 2004 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1999-2003
Planting Progress:				
Soybeans	94	89	55	79
Harvesting Progress:				
Barley	95	84	67	89
Cantaloups	9	-	3	6
Cucumbers	20	8	7	26
Lima Beans (Processed)	15	-	-	3
Potatoes	9	-	2	16
Snap Beans	29	20	6	22
Sweet Corn	11	-	4	9
Tomatoes	12	-	1	7
Wheat	85	49	22	51
Crop Progress:				
Corn Silked	47	-	6	17
Soybeans Blooming	12	-	-	2
Hay Harvested:				
Alfalfa Hay 2nd Cutting	59	33	28	54
Other Hay 2nd Cutting	51	15	18	33

CROP CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 4, 2004 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	-	3	13	44	40
Pasture	2	4	20	51	23
Soybeans	2	7	14	60	17
Tobacco	-	-	8	41	51

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 4, 2004 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	10	27	61	2
Topsoil (2003)	-	1	72	27
Five Year Avg	10	23	59	8
Subsoil Moisture	5	25	68	2
Subsoil (2003)	-	-	72	28
Five Year Avg	10	28	55	7

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**CLIMATE
REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING 7/4/2004**

Maryland	County	Temperature			Departure from Normal
		Max	Min	Avg	
		Degrees F			
FROSTBURG 2	Garrett	80	49	65.0	-2.1
MCHENRY 2 NW	Garrett	-	-	-	-
CUMBERLAND 2	Allegany	89	52	70.4	-2.8
SMITHSBURG 2 NW	Washington	87	53	70.1	-
SHARPSBURG 5 S	Washington	87*	52*	70.0*	-
BALTIMORE/WASH ARPT	Baltimore	91	58	73.4	-1.8
CONOWINGO DAM	Harford	-	-	-	-
SALISBURY AIRPORT	Wicomico	89	52	70.6	-5.1
MECHANICSVILLE 5 NE	St. Marys	87*	56*	70.2*	-5.0
EASTON POLICE BRKS	Talbot	92*	61*	75.8*	-
Delaware					
WILMINGTON AIRPORT	New Castle	89	57	72.9	-2.2
WILMINGTON PORTER RSV	New Castle	87	57	71.9	-2.8
GREENWOOD 2 NE	Sussex	88	57	72.3	-2.1

Maryland	County	Growing Degree Days	Departure From Normal	Precipitation (Inches)	Departure From Normal
FROSTBURG 2	Garrett	107	-17	0.13	-0.71
MCHENRY 2 NW	Garrett	-	-	0.81*	-0.35
CUMBERLAND 2	Allegany	141	-20	0.27	-0.45
SMITHSBURG 2 NW	Washington	142	-	0.19	-
SHARPSBURG 5 S	Washington	120*	-	0.22*	-
BALTIMORE/WASH ARPT	Baltimore	163	-12	0.31	-0.53
CONOWINGO DAM	Harford	-	-	0.30*	-0.61
SALISBURY AIRPORT	Wicomico	145	-30	0.08	-0.81
MECHANICSVILLE 5 NE	St. Marys	123*	-47	0.39*	-0.66
EASTON POLICE BRKS	Talbot	125*	-	0.00*	-
Delaware					
WILMINGTON AIRPORT Castle	New Castle	160	-12	0.06	-0.87
WILMINGTON PORTER RSV	New Castle	155	-14	0.18	-0.88
GREENWOOD 2 NE	Sussex	157	-18	0.00*	-0.98

* indicates incomplete weekly value

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