

MD-CW1604

July 19, 2004

Rain Finally Arrives for Maryland Farmers

After weeks of wondering when the rain would come, Maryland farmers got what they were wishing for. Rain fell throughout the state this week with some areas receiving over 10" in a single day. There were 4.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending July 18, 2004. The slightly lower air temperatures and much needed rain allowed for better growing condition for stressed crops. The rain deterred farmers from baling **hay** as it was unable to dry between rain showers. Rain did aid the **corn** and **soybeans** with **corn** at 90 percent tasseled compared to 67 percent last week. **Soybeans** were 50 percent bloomed compared to 17 percent the previous week. About 19 percent of **soybeans** were setting pods, compared to a five year average of only 4 percent.

Tobacco bloomed was 41 percent compared to 19 percent the previous week and 6 percent last year. **Topsoil moisture** was 1 percent very short, 18 percent short, 60 percent adequate and 21 percent surplus.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 18, 2004 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1999-2003
Harvesting Progress:				
Cantaloups	28	14	9	20
Cucumbers	34	25	19	39
Lima Beans (Processed)	28	18	1	10
Peaches	18	6	6	15
Potatoes	14	14	4	35
Snap Beans	43	35	21	36
Sweet Corn	38	20	14	27
Tomatoes	24	18	7	16
Watermelons	8	6	5	8
Crop Progress:				
Corn Silked	90	67	31	50
Soybeans Blooming	50	17	1	16
Hay Harvested:				
Alfalfa Hay 2nd Cutting	76	67	60	83
Other Hay 2nd Cutting	63	58	38	59

CROP CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 18, 2004 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	6	6	22	30	36
Pasture	5	6	25	37	27
Soybeans	3	8	20	56	13
Sorghum	-	47	48	5	-
Tobacco	-	1	14	42	43

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 18, 2004 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	1	18	60	21
Topsoil (2003)	-	4	74	22
Five Year Avg	16	26	49	9
Subsoil Moisture	1	10	72	17
Subsoil (2003)	-	-	76	24
Five Year Avg	18	25	51	6

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**CLIMATE
REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING 7/18/2004**

Maryland	County	Temperature			Departure from Normal
		Max	Min	Avg	
		Degrees F			
FROSTBURG 2	Garrett	83	55	68.9	0.1
MC HENRY 2 NW	Garrett	-	-	-	-
CUMBERLAND 2	Allegany	83*	57*	70.0*	-4.9
SMITHSBURG 2 NW	Washington	88	57	73.4	-
SHARPSBURG 5 S	Washington	88	56	73.9	-
BALTIMORE/WASH ARPT	Baltimore	88	64	75.6	-1.4
CONOWINGO DAM	Harford	-	-	-	-
SALISBURY AIRPORT	Wicomico	89	55	74.1	-3.4
MECHANICSVILLE 5 NE	St. Marys	87	63	75.2	-1.8
EASTON POLICE BRKS	Talbot	91	-	72.9	-
Delaware					
WILMINGTON AIRPORT	New Castle	84	63	71.9	-5.1
WILMINGTON PORTER RSV	New Castle	86	62	72.4	-3.9
GREENWOOD 2 NE	Sussex	90*	62*	75.5*	-0.5

Maryland	County	Growing Degree Days	Departure From Normal	Precipitation (Inches)	Departure From Normal
FROSTBURG 2	Garrett	134	0	1.01	0.10
MCHENRY 2 NW	Garrett	-	-	1.24	-0.01
CUMBERLAND 2	Allegany	20*	-148	0.14*	-0.63
SMITHSBURG 2 NW	Washington	163	-	0.29	-
SHARPSBURG 5 S	Washington	167	-	0.51	-
BALTIMORE/WASH ARPT	Baltimore	179	-4	0.96	0.05
CONOWINGO DAM	Harford	-	-	4.04	3.06
SALISBURY AIRPORT	Wicomico	167	-16	2.98	1.96
MECHANICSVILLE 5 NE	St. Marys	178	0	2.16	1.12
EASTON POLICE BRKS	Talbot	183	-	2.60*	-
Delaware					
WILMINGTON AIRPORT Castle	New Castle	155	-26	4.51	3.53
WILMINGTON PORTER RSV	New Castle	158	-20	6.86	5.74
GREENWOOD 2 NE	Sussex	150*	-32	2.45*	1.33

* indicates incomplete weekly value

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