

MD-CW1904

August 9, 2004

Farmers Enjoying Cool, Dry Week

Maryland farmers could finally get into the fields this week with 4.6 **days suitable for field work** for the week ending August 8, 2004. Average air temperatures were in the mid 60's with minimum temperatures reported in the low 50's. Farmers were able to dry **hay** and resume harvesting a decent third cutting of hay. **Alfalfa hay** third cutting is 70 percent compared to 50 percent the previous week. **Corn** is 71 percent dough, 20 percent dent, and is in mostly good to excellent condition. **Soybeans** are 68 percent bloomed and 45 percent has set pods, while only 3 percent this time last year was setting pods.

Tobacco is 80 percent bloomed in fair to excellent condition. Harvesting is 20 percent complete. **Fruits** and **vegetables** are half way complete in the harvesting process as **watermelons** are 55 percent harvested and **cucumbers** are 60 percent harvested. **Topsoil moisture** is 74 percent adequate and 26 percent surplus.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 8, 2004 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1999-2003
Harvesting Progress:				
Apples	18	13	6	9
Cantaloups	70	51	35	51
Cucumbers	60	48	37	58
Lima Beans (Processed)	55	50	14	25
Peaches	35	32	32	43
Potatoes	45	25	39	68
Snap Beans	80	54	51	58
Sweet Corn	95	71	51	56
Tomatoes	66	42	34	41
Watermelons	55	27	25	33
Crop Progress:				
Corn Dough	71	53	22	46
Soybeans Setting Pods	45	39	3	32
Hay Harvested:				
Alfalfa Hay 3rd Cutting	70	50	27	59
Other Hay 3rd Cutting	25	15	3	30

CROP CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 8, 2004 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	-	-	22	43	35
Pasture	-	4	15	51	30
Soybeans	-	-	18	60	22
Sorghum	-	-	-	100	-
Tobacco	-	5	20	50	25

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 8, 2004 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	-	-	74	26
Topsoil (2003)	-	8	66	26
Five Year Avg	20	24	42	14
Subsoil Moisture	-	-	78	22
Subsoil (2003)	-	6	72	22
Five Year Avg	26	18	48	8

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**CLIMATE
REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING 8/8/2004**

Maryland	County	Temperature			Departure from Normal
		Max	Min	Avg	
		<i>Degrees F</i>			
FROSTBURG 2	Garrett	82	47	65.9	-2.6
MC HENRY 2 NW	Garrett	-	-	-	-
CUMBERLAND 2	Allegany	91	51	72.1	-2.1
SMITHSBURG 2 NW	Washington	89	49	70.2	-
SHARPSBURG 5 S	Washington	91*	48*	72.4*	-
BALTIMORE/WASH ARPT	Baltimore	90	53	72.1	-3.9
CONOWINGO DAM	Harford	-	-	-	-
SALISBURY AIRPORT	Wicomico	90	50	70.5	-6.5
MECHANICSVILLE 5 NE	St. Marys	87*	53*	73.6*	-2.4
EASTON POLICE BRKS	Talbot	86	-	51.1	-
Delaware					
WILMINGTON AIRPORT	New Castle	89	53	71.6	-4.9
WILMINGTON PORTER RSV	New Castle	86*	54*	71.3*	-4.4
GREENWOOD 2 NE	Sussex	89*	51*	69.8*	-5.6

Maryland	County	Growing Degree Days	Departure From Normal	Precipitation (Inches)	Departure From Normal
FROSTBURG 2	Garrett	117	-15	0.10	-0.79
MCHENRY 2 NW	Garrett	-	-	0.54	-0.53
CUMBERLAND 2	Allegany	149	-18	0.07	-0.77
SMITHSBURG 2 NW	Washington	140	-	0.62	-
SHARPSBURG 5 S	Washington	130*	-	0.02*	-
BALTIMORE/WASH ARPT	Baltimore	155	-25	0.60	-0.24
CONOWINGO DAM	Harford	-	-	0.19*	-0.72
SALISBURY AIRPORT	Wicomico	142	-38	2.50	1.34
MECHANICSVILLE 5 NE	St. Marys	142*	-33	0.85*	-0.06
EASTON POLICE BRKS	Talbot	107	-	1.05	-
Delaware					
WILMINGTON AIRPORT Castle	New Castle	151	-29	0.45	-0.36
WILMINGTON PORTER RSV	New Castle	130*	-46	0.47*	-0.42
GREENWOOD 2 NE	Sussex	99*	-76	0.66*	-0.30

* indicates incomplete weekly value

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