

MD-CW2003

August 18, 2003

### THUNDERSTORMS HAMPER HAY PRODUCTION

Mostly sunny with scattered thunderstorms resulted in 5.2 **days suitable for field work** for the week ending August 17, 2003. Air temperatures ranged from the low 90's for daytime highs to the low 70's for nighttime lows. Soil temperatures averaged in the mid 70's and subsoil moisture was adequate to surplus.

Farmers are almost finished with their second cutting of **other hay** and a few fields are ready for a third cutting. **Alfalfa hay** is over 40 percent complete for its third cutting and will start the fourth cutting soon. A fair amount of hay was made last week. However, many farmers were not able to get all of their hay in before afternoon storms at the end of the week soaked the crop laying in the field.

**Corn** made good progress with over 45 percent in the dough stage and 17 percent in the dent stage. A few corn fields are being harvested for corn silage. Over 40 percent of **soybeans** are in bloom and some fields are beginning to set pods. Over 20 percent of the **tobacco** has been topped.

### MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 17, 2003 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1998-2002
Harvesting Progress:				
Cantaloups	56	40	73	72
Cucumbers	41	38	67	72
Lima Beans (Processed)	16	15	25	32
Potatoes	60	41	62	86
Snap Beans	67	52	70	69
Sweet Corn	74	55	64	71
Tomatoes	46	37	53	60
Watermelons	43	27	59	57
Crop Progress				
Corn, dough	47	25	76	64
Corn, dent	17	4	41	31
Soybeans, bloomed	42	34	82	76
Soybeans, setting pods	15	4	61	57
Tobacco, topped	21	14	63	62
Hay Harvested				
Alfalfa Hay 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cutting	45	28	74	71
Other Hay 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cutting	84	73	95	91
Other Hay 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cutting	12	3	51	44

### CROP CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 17, 2003 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	6	10	18	44	22
Soybeans	7	17	29	34	13
Tobacco	7	4	31	33	25
Pasture	2	6	22	46	24

### SOIL MOISTURE CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 17, 2003 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	-	3	76	21
Topsoil (2002)	62	33	5	-
Subsoil Moisture	-	-	79	21
Subsoil (2002)	68	26	6	-

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