

MD-CW2004

August 16, 2004

Tropical Systems Bring Wet Weather to Maryland Farmers

Hurricane season is here and is already affecting Maryland farmers. There were **3.7 days suitable for field work** for the week ending August 15, 2004. Rain fell upon most of the state as a result of the two tropical systems that hit the eastern part of the country. Precipitation ranged from about 0.5 inches to anywhere from 3" to 5" for the week. Despite the rain, **soybeans** are in fair to excellent condition. **Soybeans** setting pods jumped to 78 percent compared to 45 percent the previous week. **Corn** is 75 percent dough, 39 percent dent and 6 percent mature. Some **corn** may be ready for harvest as soon as next week if the weather cooperates.

The rain has affected **vegetables** most of all, resulting in quality and disease problems. **Hay** was baled in some parts of the state, while others were unable to dry hay because of the rain showers. **Tobacco** is in good condition with 93 percent bloomed, 78 percent topped and 24 percent harvested. **Top soil moisture** is 67 percent adequate and 33 percent surplus.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 15, 2004 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1999-2003
Harvesting Progress:				
Apples	19	18	8	12
Cantaloups	75	70	51	64
Cucumbers	64	60	40	63
Lima Beans (Processed)	60	55	16	29
Peaches	70	35	51	59
Potatoes	58	45	55	76
Snap Beans	85	80	63	65
Sweet Corn	96	95	69	66
Tomatoes	70	66	43	52
Watermelons	62	55	38	48
Crop Progress:				
Corn Dough	75	71	41	58
Corn Dent	39	20	13	24
Soybeans Setting Pods	78	45	12	43
Hay Harvested:				
Alfalfa Hay 3rd Cutting	75	70	40	66
Other Hay 3rd Cutting	45	25	9	35

CROP CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 15, 2004 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	3	3	12	35	47
Pasture	-	3	16	45	36
Soybeans	-	6	17	42	35
Sorghum	-	-	37	53	10
Tobacco	3	7	11	40	39

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 15, 2004 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	-	-	67	33
Topsoil (2003)	-	3	73	24
Five Year Avg	24	19	45	12
Subsoil Moisture	-	4	73	23
Subsoil (2003)	-	1	76	23
Five Year Avg	30	14	48	8

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**CLIMATE
REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING 8/15/2004**

Maryland	County	Temperature			Departure from Normal
		Max	Min	Avg	
		<i>Degrees F</i>			
FROSTBURG 2	Garrett	79	48	62.4	-5.6
MC HENRY 2 NW	Garrett	-	-	-	-
CUMBERLAND 2	Allegany	88*	52*	72.2*	-1.5
SMITHSBURG 2 NW	Washington	86	54	69.1	-
SHARPSBURG 5 S	Washington	89	50	69.1	-
BALTIMORE/WASH ARPT	Baltimore	86	57	73.1	-2.1
CONOWINGO DAM	Harford	-	-	-	-
SALISBURY AIRPORT	Wicomico	87	53	72.5	-3.6
MECHANICSVILLE 5 NE	St. Marys	84	58	71.5	-3.9
EASTON POLICE BRKS	Talbot	85*	55*	73.0*	-
Delaware					
WILMINGTON AIRPORT	New Castle	85	59	73.1	-2.6
WILMINGTON PORTER RSV	New Castle	84*	56*	71.8*	-3.2
GREENWOOD 2 NE	Sussex	86	54	72.7	-2.0

Maryland	County	Growing Degree Days	Departure From Normal	Precipitation (Inches)	Departure From Normal
FROSTBURG 2	Garrett	89	-39	1.54	0.70
MCHENRY 2 NW	Garrett	-	-	0.89*	-0.10
CUMBERLAND 2	Allegany	111*	-52	0.72*	-0.09
SMITHSBURG 2 NW	Washington	135	-	0.38	-
SHARPSBURG 5 S	Washington	134	-	0.54	-
BALTIMORE/WASH ARPT	Baltimore	164	-13	1.36	0.52
CONOWINGO DAM	Harford	-	-	2.56	1.58
SALISBURY AIRPORT	Wicomico	157	-20	2.93	1.75
MECHANICSVILLE 5 NE	St. Marys	153	-17	1.04	0.19
EASTON POLICE BRKS	Talbot	117*	-	3.14*	-
Delaware					
WILMINGTON AIRPORT Castle	New Castle	164	-12	2.04	1.27
WILMINGTON PORTER RSV	New Castle	133*	-39	0.63*	-0.21
GREENWOOD 2 NE	Sussex	160	-10	1.44	0.53

* indicates incomplete weekly value

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