



Maryland Agriculture Data

Weekly Crop and Weather Report



MD-CW3004

October 25, 2004

Cool and Damp Conditions Delay Grain Harvest

There were **3.5 days suitable for field work** for the week ending October 24, 2004. Cloudy, cool and wet weather hampered harvesting progress for **corn, soybeans, and alfalfa and other hay**. Farmers were finishing up corn harvest and moving toward harvesting soybeans. Soybean harvest was 29 percent complete, slightly above last year and the five-year average. **Sorghum** harvest increased 25 percent from 55 percent to 78 percent complete. Farmers were wrapping up their **apple** harvest with 91 percent complete, up 9 percent from last week.

Slow progress was made on alfalfa and other hay harvest due to rainy weather. Farmers were finishing up their fourth cutting of alfalfa hay and some are making a fifth cutting. **Pasture** was rated 20 percent excellent, 52 percent good, 19 percent fair, 7 percent poor and 2 percent very poor. **Hay supplies** were rated 8 percent surplus, 72 percent adequate, 13 percent short, and 7 percent very short.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 24, 2004 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1999-2003
Harvesting Progress:				
Apples	91	82	88	89
Corn for Grain	82	78	75	79
Sorghum	78	55	71	61
Soybeans	29	21	24	34
Crop Progress:				
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	88	79	77	89
Hay Harvested:				
Alfalfa Hay 4 th Cutting	86	85	73	86
Alfalfa Hay 5 th Cutting	31	25	9	38
Other Hay 4 th Cutting	75	72	87	86
Planted Progress:				
Barley	80	64	74	81
Winter Wheat	54	37	52	47

CROP CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 24, 2004 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	2	7	19	52	20
Barley	3	4	10	53	30
Winter Wheat	2	3	11	55	29

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 24, 2004 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	0	9	73	18
Topsoil (2003)	0	6	85	8
Five Year Avg	3	18	72	7
Subsoil Moisture	2	6	83	9
Subsoil (2003)	0	3	86	12
Five Year Avg	7	23	65	5

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CLIMATE REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING 10/24/2004

Maryland	County	Temperature			Departure from Normal
		Max	Min	Avg	
		<i>Degrees F</i>			
FROSTBURG 2	Garrett	52	33	44.5	-2.8
MCHENRY 2 NW	Garrett	-	-	-	-
CUMBERLAND 2	Allegany	60*	32*	49.5*	-2.5
SMITHSBURG 2 NW	Washington	61	32	48.1	-
SHARPSBURG 5 S	Washington	63	31	49.0	-
BALTIMORE/WASH ARPT	Baltimore	61	33	49.8	-3.5
CONOWINGO DAM	Harford	-	-	-	-
SALISBURY AIRPORT	Wicomico	69	29	54.1	-1.6
MECHANICSVILLE 5 NE	St. Marys	66*	34*	51.6	-3.1
EASTON POLICE BRKS	Talbot	67*	37*	54.7*	-
Delaware					
WILMINGTON AIRPORT	New Castle	61	34	50.1	-3.6
WILMINGTON PORTER RSV	New Castle	59	38	49.1	-4.6
GREENWOOD 2 NE	Sussex	68*	32*	53.4*	-0.9

Maryland	County	Growing Degree Days	Departure from Normal	Precipitation (Inches)	Departure from Normal
FROSTBURG 2	Garrett	2	-29	1.10	0.40
MCHENRY 2 NW	Garrett	-	-	0.94*	0.18
CUMBERLAND 2	Allegany	14*	-44	1.01*	0.42
SMITHSBURG 2 NW	Washington	21	-	0.57	-
SHARPSBURG 5 S	Washington	27	-	1.20	0
BALTIMORE/WASH ARPT	Baltimore	23	-36	0.44	-0.24
CONOWINGO DAM	Harford	-	-	0.70	-0.00
SALISBURY AIRPORT	Wicomico	49	-18	0.33	-0.50
MECHANICSVILLE 5 NE	St. Marys	31*	-29	0.48*	-0.36
EASTON POLICE BRKS	Talbot	38*	-	0.45*	-
Delaware					
WILMINGTON AIRPORT	New Castle	23	-32	0.93	0.30
WILMINGTON PORTER RSV	New Castle	18	-33	1.18	0.46
GREENWOOD 2 NE	Sussex	30*	-33	1.19*	0.52

*indicates incomplete weekly value

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