



Weekly Weather Crop Report



Mississippi
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

Phone:601-965-4575
Facsimile:601-965-5622
www.nass.usda.gov/ms/
nass-ms@nass.usda.gov/

Week Ending April 11, 2004

Released: 3:00 P.M., April 12, 2004

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending April 11, 2004**. Producers throughout north and central Mississippi embraced weekend rainshowers. Even though this precipitation has halted fieldwork for a few days, it will greatly benefit early-planted row crops and pasture. Those in the southeastern portion of the State could still use some additional rain. Soil moisture was rated 10 percent very short, 20 percent short, 50 percent adequate and 20 percent surplus.

| Progress In Percentages | | | | | | Conditions in Percentages | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------|----------|---------------------------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Item | Event | This Week | Last Week | 2003 | 5-Yr Avg | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
| Corn | Planted | 92 | 75 | 80 | 65 | 2 | 4 | 36 | 50 | 8 |
| | Emerged | 60 | 27 | 47 | 42 | | | | | |
| Cotton | Planted | 1 | -- | 0 | 1 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Rice | Planted | 19 | 9 | 10 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 66 | 33 | 1 |
| | Emerged | 2 | -- | 1 | 2 | | | | | |
| Sorghum | Planted | 27 | 17 | 5 | 8 | 0 | 5 | 18 | 76 | 1 |
| | Emerged | 16 | -- | 1 | -- | | | | | |
| Soybeans | Planted | 39 | 21 | 13 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 57 | 38 | 4 |
| | Emerged | 12 | 5 | 5 | 3 | | | | | |
| Wheat | Jointing | 90 | 77 | 86 | 84 | 0 | 7 | 35 | 43 | 15 |
| | Heading | 35 | 8 | 4 | 25 | | | | | |
| Hay (Cool Season) | Harvested | 15 | -- | 14 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Watermelons | Planted | 47 | 36 | 55 | 44 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Cattle | | | | | | 4 | 10 | 24 | 52 | 10 |
| Pasture | | | | | | 5 | 11 | 44 | 36 | 4 |

County Agent Comments

“Most of the south end of the county received up to two inches of rain over the weekend, while the north end of the county received less than a half inch. Soybean planting has progressed well and the rain was needed for the wheat that is beginning to head.”

— Anthony Bland, Tunica

“We got 1 ½ inches of rain after 5 weeks. The pecan, oak and ash trees are leafing out and turf is in the transition stage (green up).”

— Donna Beliech, Yazoo

“Last week’s rain was very helpful in getting the latest planted corn up to a suitable stand. Livestock producers also needed the rain for previous fertilizer applications made to pastures. Soybean planting will resume as soon as it dries up.”

— Charlie Stokes, Monroe

“The Sunday rain ended a long dry spell. As soon as it is dry enough, cotton and early soybean planting will begin in earnest. Seedling corn has been hanging in there, but needed the rain. Wheat is looking good, as it usually does in a dry spring.”

— Terry Rector, Warren

“Producers and farmers received some much needed rain over the weekend. This will help the condition of gardens and pastures in the area.”

— Amanda Woods, Marion

“Moisture is very short. What rain we've had seems to be gone in less than 24 hours. Some ryegrass is beginning to joint so hay harvest should start soon.”

— Roy Higdon, Clarke

“Weekend rains were welcomed by growers. We are off to a great start. All we need is for it to warm up after this rain so we can finish planting rice, cotton, and soybeans.”

— Don Respess, Bolivar

“The rainshowers at the end of the week should help early-planted corn and soybeans. The showers settled the seedbeds good on the land that had been prepared for cotton. We just need some warm weather now.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Rain delayed all field activities over the weekend. Producers will be planting corn as soon as the weather improved.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Rain Wednesday night dropped about an inch. We will be able to get back in the field by late Friday. If the rain misses us Saturday and Sunday, we will be through with all but the late beans by the end of Monday.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Both tillage and planting have continued. Crop emergence has been slow due to dry seed beds and cool temperatures.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Cool ground temperatures have slowed germination of planted seeds. Rain late in the week halted planting. Winter hay and pastures were in need of showers because they were beginning to get dry.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah

“Glyphosate has drifted into most wheat fields. At this stage of growth, the damage appears to be minimal in most fields. A few fields and edges of other fields have severe damage. Rain which fell over the weekend will limit field work for a few days.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Rains Sunday and cool weather put a damper on all crops. Hopefully, this weather system will not damage what has been planted. Soybeans are emerging and some cotton has been planted.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Prior to the rains over the weekend, most field work had stopped because of lack of soil moisture. The rains have replenished the upper portion of the soil profile, but excess surface moisture will further delay planting until the surface dries enough to support equipment. Continued rains could further delay plantings.”

— Ernie Flint, Attala

“The recent rains that accumulated to about 1 inch were a blessing for row crop and cattle farmers. Ryegrass, pastures and row crop land had become severely dry.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“This rain was certainly needed! If temperatures can warm back up now that we have moisture, crops will emerge properly and we'll be off and running again.”

— Dr. Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

“Cool, wet weather prevailed throughout much of the week. About 2 inches of rain fell during the week. Cool temperatures and wet topsoil conditions have halted row crop field work. Moisture was a welcome relief to pastures, but cool temperatures have slowed growth.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“Corn growers have stopped planting due to dry conditions. Rain during the weekend, and the prospect of additional rainfall early this week, should allow remaining acres to be planted. Low-level rust has been observed in many fields of wheat; but in certain fields, rust is at high levels and will result in some yield loss.”

— Mike Howell, Covington

“We are still waiting for significant rainfall. Parts of the county received a few sprinkles on Wednesday, April 7, but not enough to settle the dust. We thought we would get some good rain out of the front that moved through Sunday, April 11, but only got a few light sprinkles then as well. Our dry soil moisture conditions are beginning to get critical.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

“It is dry in most areas. A few areas have reported rainfall in excess of ½ inch. Weekend rains amounted to less than .25 of an inch in most areas. Winter grazing is starting to head out and will not last as long as most years. A good soaking rain would serve to lift everyone's spirits.”

— Mike Keene, Forrest

“We are in severe need for rainfall. The rain started on Saturday night and has continued.”

— Patty Swearingen, Lauderdale

“Most field operations have been halted due to drought-like conditions. Soil moisture is just not adequate for farmers to plant. Ryegrass growth and summer pastures are in need of rain. A light shower during the week brought hopes up, but it was not enough to make a difference.”

— Victor Lee, Newton

“Rain moved into the area giving crops much needed moisture.”

— Billy Joe Lee, Pearl River

“Lack of rainfall continues to be a problem. If predictions hold, rainfall should help eliminate some of the problems with crops.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

**U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Cooperative
Extension Service
Dr. Joseph H. McGilberry, Director**

**Southern Regional Climate Center
Louisiana State University
Elizabeth Mons
Service Climatologist**

**U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Agricultural
Statistics Service
Thomas L. Gregory, State Statistician**

Weather Summary from April 5, 2004 to April 11, 2004 for Mississippi

| District/Station | Air Temperature | | | | | Precipitation | | | | 4 Inch Soil Temperature | | | Avg Pan Evap |
|------------------|-----------------|-----|-----|------|-----|---------------|-------|-----------|------------|-------------------------|-----|-----|--------------|
| | Max | Min | Avg | Norm | DFN | One Week | DFN | Rain Days | Four Weeks | Max | Min | Avg | |
| 1. Upper Delta | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Charleston | | | | | 60 | 2.03 | +0.63 | 3 | 3.57 | | | | |
| Cleveland | | | | | 59 | 1.38 | +0.12 | 3 | 3.59 | | | | |
| Tunica | | | | | 60 | 0.66 | -0.69 | 3 | 2.55 | | | | 0.18 |
| Extreme/Average | | | | | 61 | 1.71 | +0.40 | 3 | 3.58 | | | | |
| 2. North-Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| HickoryFlat | 80 | 31 | 56 | 57 | -1 | 1.10 | -0.18 | 3 | 2.04 | | | | |
| Calhoun City | 77 | 35 | 58 | 59 | -1 | 2.40 | +1.07 | 3 | 4.76 | | | | |
| Independence | 78 | 31 | 54 | 58 | -4 | 0.82 | -0.30 | 3 | 3.43 | | | | |
| Oxford | 80 | 33 | 59 | 58 | +1 | 1.49 | +0.28 | 3 | 2.63 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 80 | 31 | 57 | 59 | -2 | 1.45 | +0.18 | 3 | 3.22 | | | | |
| 3. Northeast | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Booneville | 76 | 38 | 57 | 58 | -1 | 0.43 | -0.79 | 4 | 2.40 | | | | |
| Iuka | 77 | 27 | 53 | 55 | -2 | 0.58 | -0.64 | 3 | 3.60 | | | | |
| Ripley | 78 | 31 | 55 | 57 | -2 | 0.58 | -0.75 | 3 | 1.50 | | | | |
| Tupelo | 78 | 38 | 59 | | | 1.31 | | 3 | 3.14 | | | | |
| Verona | | | | | 59 | 1.30 | +0.04 | 3 | 2.85 | | | | 0.19 |
| Extreme/Average | 78 | 27 | 56 | 59 | -3 | 0.73 | -0.53 | 3 | 2.66 | | | | |
| 4. LowerDelta | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Moorhead | 80 | 44 | 64 | 62 | +2 | 1.30 | -0.03 | 3 | 2.60 | | | | |
| RollingFork | 87 | 42 | 63 | 61 | +2 | 0.55 | -0.79 | 2 | 1.68 | 76 | 62 | 68 | |
| Stoneville | | | | | 61 | 1.53 | +0.27 | 2 | 2.80 | | | | 0.25 |
| YazooCity | 84 | 43 | 63 | 62 | +1 | 1.13 | -0.31 | 2 | 1.86 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 87 | 42 | 63 | 62 | +1 | 1.13 | -0.20 | 2 | 2.24 | 76 | 62 | 68 | 0.25 |
| 5. Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Canton | 85 | 36 | 62 | 62 | 0 | 0.92 | -0.44 | 2 | 1.22 | | | | |
| Carthage | 83 | 35 | 61 | 61 | 0 | 1.32 | -0.08 | 2 | 1.57 | | | | |
| Lexington | 81 | 38 | 61 | 60 | +1 | 1.10 | -0.23 | 2 | 2.07 | | | | |
| Eupora | 79 | 35 | 59 | 59 | 0 | 1.09 | -0.26 | 2 | 2.02 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 85 | 35 | 61 | 61 | 0 | 1.11 | -0.29 | 2 | 1.72 | | | | |
| 6. East-Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aberdeen | 78 | 35 | 59 | 59 | 0 | 1.52 | +0.25 | 3 | 2.12 | | | | 0.18 |
| Houston | 77 | 28 | 57 | 58 | -1 | 1.71 | +0.43 | 4 | 3.49 | | | | |
| Louisville | 80 | 35 | 59 | 59 | 0 | 0.51 | -0.89 | 2 | 0.63 | | | | |
| StateUniversity | 81 | 37 | 60 | 60 | 0 | 1.55 | +0.21 | 3 | 3.63 | 70 | 59 | 64 | 0.17 |
| Extreme/Average | 81 | 28 | 59 | 61 | -2 | 1.32 | -0.03 | 3 | 2.47 | 70 | 59 | 64 | 0.16 |
| 7. Southwest | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CrystalSprings | 85 | 37 | 63 | 63 | 0 | 1.00 | -0.47 | 1 | 1.78 | 83 | 62 | 71 | |
| Natchez | 82 | 42 | 62 | 64 | -2 | 0.52 | -0.95 | 2 | 1.92 | | | | |
| Oakley | | | | | 61 | 0.70 | -0.77 | 2 | 1.46 | | | | |
| Vicksburg | 84 | 41 | 64 | | | 1.18 | | 1 | 1.64 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 85 | 37 | 63 | 63 | 0 | 0.85 | -0.60 | 2 | 1.70 | 83 | 62 | 71 | |
| 8. South-Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Collins | | | | | 62 | 0.23 | -1.09 | 2 | 1.37 | | | | |
| Columbia | 86 | 41 | 67 | 63 | +4 | 0.25 | -1.16 | 1 | 0.77 | | | | |
| Tylertown | 85 | 41 | 65 | 64 | +1 | 0.28 | -1.05 | 1 | 0.79 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 86 | 41 | 66 | 63 | +3 | 0.25 | -1.15 | 1 | 0.98 | | | | |
| 9. Southeast | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Beaumont | 88 | 36 | 67 | | | 0.10 | | 3 | 0.68 | | | | |
| Hattiesburg | 85 | 42 | 66 | 64 | +2 | 0.00 | -1.33 | 0 | 0.51 | | | | |
| Laurel | 86 | 38 | 63 | 62 | +1 | 0.17 | -1.05 | 1 | 0.37 | | | | |
| Newton | | | | | 60 | 1.10 | -0.37 | 2 | 1.30 | | | | 0.20 |
| Extreme/Average | 88 | 36 | 65 | 62 | +3 | 0.34 | -0.97 | 2 | 0.72 | | | | 0.20 |
| 10. Coastal | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| BayStLouis | 83 | 39 | 64 | 64 | 0 | 0.31 | -0.99 | 2 | 0.80 | | | | |
| Gulfport | 81 | 53 | 68 | 66 | +2 | 1.78 | +0.59 | 3 | 1.89 | | | | |
| Pascagoula | 80 | 42 | 65 | 63 | +2 | 0.45 | -0.62 | 1 | 1.08 | | | | |
| Poplarville | 85 | 43 | 66 | 64 | +2 | 0.52 | -0.76 | 2 | 1.47 | 87 | 64 | 74 | |
| Waveland | 81 | 51 | 66 | 64 | +2 | 0.83 | -0.58 | 2 | 1.77 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 85 | 39 | 66 | 65 | +1 | 0.78 | -0.43 | 2 | 1.40 | 87 | 64 | 74 | |
| State | 88 | 27 | 62 | 61 | +1 | 0.94 | -0.39 | 2 | 1.97 | 87 | 59 | 69 | 0.20 |

DFN = Departure from Normal.