



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

# Weekly Weather Crop Report



National  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week ending April 13, 2008

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According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 2.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, April 13, 2008**. Wet conditions continue to hamper fieldwork for the state. The excessive rainfall caused rotting in some of the corn crop and planting delays for soybeans. Much of the wheat crop is completely covered by water in some portions of the Delta, and the anticipated frost has some producers apprehensive about their early planted crops. Livestock and pastures are in good shape. Soil moisture was rated 18 percent short, 49 percent adequate and 33 percent surplus.

**Crop progress for week ending 04/13/08**

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Corn, planted	71	58	96	83
Corn, emerged	53	42	89	63
Cotton, planted	0	--	3	2
Hay-Cool Season, harvested	8	2	11	11
Rice, planted	8	1	20	17
Rice, emerged	2	--	7	4
Sorghum, planted	6	3	14	15
Sorghum, emerged	3	--	4	5
Soybeans, planted	8	3	32	30
Soybeans, emerged	4	1	19	14
Watermelons, planted	69	50	63	52
Winter Wheat, jointing	91	85	95	93
Winter Wheat, heading	25	4	61	36

**Crop condition for week ending 04/13/08**

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Blueberries	0	1	15	81	3
Corn	1	12	33	45	9
Livestock	3	14	33	38	12
Pasture	1	7	37	44	11
Winter Wheat	1	5	25	49	20

## Comments

“Backwater and seep water are preventing farm activities in about 30 percent of the county.”

— Robert Martin, Issaquena

“Leaf rust can be found in most wheat fields with many fields needing a fungicide application to control the rust. Corn growers are trying to finish corn planting as fast as the soils will dry enough to plant. Cold weather has slowed soybean planting. Fertilizer applications and tillage work are progressing as fast as the soils are drying.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Concerns about corn seed rot are increasing. Most burndown applications are complete, but planting operations are non-existent. The wheat crop looks good with little disease and insect pressure.”

— Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

“Storms last week halted most of the field activities. The flooding in some of the counties is awful. It will be a while before landowners will be able to return to their property. Farming in these areas has come to a complete HALT!! The forecast calls for more rain the weekend of the 11th. We will have to wait and see what additional effects these rains will have in the state.”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

“The Mississippi River is above flood stage causing all pasture land and farm land along the river in Wilkinson County to be under water. The wheat crop is completely covered by water and soybean producers have been unable to plant.”

— Ann H. Davis, Wilkinson

“Growers were able to get back in the fields last week. Most of our corn will be planted by mid-week, and soybeans are also going in the ground. We need more dry weather and some warmer temperatures. I hope it does not get cold enough tonight to hurt our wheat.”

— Don Respass, Coahoma

“The corn and soybeans that are up are struggling because of the excessive rain. Wheat is suffering because of the wet conditions. We need sunshine.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Some burndown herbicide applications have been made. Rain has delayed any other fieldwork.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“The excessive rain from the previous week caused some corn to rot before coming up. We will be replanting about 20-25% of the corn. The remainder of the corn is anywhere from 3-5 inches tall. The soil is too cool for beans.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Tillage and planting has been delayed by wet field conditions. Winter wheat is heading. No insect or disease problems have been observed in the wheat.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Heavy rains last week stopped all fieldwork until late this week. Threats of more heavy rains slowed planting to a few brave producers.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“It is beginning to get too late for corn planting.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Warmer than normal temperatures stimulated the growth process of summer grasses a little ahead of schedule. Upcoming freezing or near freezing temperatures will damage some early planted crops and vegetable plants.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“The county was spared any destructive weather this week due to the front passing in the middle of the night and lower temperatures not allowing storm systems to build. Widely scattered storms were received throughout the county with rainfall amounts ranging from less than .25 to about 1 inch. Cooler weather arrived on Saturday and Sunday, which slowed crops for the first of this week.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“Dry weather this week has allowed producers to complete work on pasture renovations and prepare fields for planting. Producers are cutting and baling hay.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Livestock are in good shape. Pastures are good but we need some rain soon. Corn planting is almost complete. We are waiting to see what damage this freeze does over the next couple of days.”

— Chuck Grantham, Forrest

“According to leaders of the Wayne County Blueberry Growers Association, damage caused by the late March frost was about 15 percent. The crop is progressing along and if damage does not occur this week from the predicted cold and frost, growers believe they will be safe. At the present time, growers are in a “wait and see” mode for this week’s forecast. There were 2+ inches of rain received in the county on Friday, and the rain has halted all fieldwork for several days. Farmers are preparing to harvest cool season forages. Cattle are coming out of winter and performing well. When field conditions permit, the remainder of the corn will be planted.”

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

**(Additional comments appear 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  
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U.S. Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural  
Statistics Service - Mississippi FO  
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**Mississippi Weather Summary for Week Ending 04/13/08**

Division/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Plan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
<b>Upper Delta</b>													
Lambert	87	38	66			0.05	-1.07	1	7.09				
Tunica	82	41	64	60	4	6.41	5.04	3	9.78				
Extreme/Average	87	38	65	60	5	3.23	1.99	2	8.44				
<b>North-Central</b>													
Calhoun City	85	36	66	60	6	0.30	-1.03	1	4.27				
Hickory Flat	82	34	61	58	3	0.74	-0.52	2	4.61				
Independence	82	36	62	58	4	0.80	-0.32	3	6.47				
Oxford	84	34	63	58	5	0.07	-1.12	1	6.05				
Extreme/Average	85	34	63	59	4	0.48	-0.75	2	5.35				
<b>Northeast</b>													
Ripley	80	33	61	58	3	0.67	-0.65	2	6.72				
Tupelo	82	38	63			0.28		2	4.70				
Verona	82	33	63	59	4	0.46	-0.80	1	4.35				
Extreme/Average	82	33	62	59	3	0.42	-0.84	2	5.21				
<b>Lower Delta</b>													
Moorhead	86	47	68	62	6	0.02	-1.31	1	6.56				
Rolling Fork	88	42	68	62	6	0.18	-1.15	1	6.06				
Stoneville	88	40	67	62	5	0.07	-1.19	2	6.00				
Yazoo City	87	42	68	63	5	0.00	-1.42	0	5.80				
Extreme/Average	88	40	68	62	6	0.07	-1.27	1	6.11				
<b>Central</b>													
Canton	85	37	65	63	2	0.11	-1.23	1	5.02				
Carthage	84	44	66	61	5		-1.40	0	2.57				
Eupora	80	33	60	60		0.23	-1.10	1	3.82				
Extreme/Average	85	33	64	61	3	0.11	-1.24	1	3.80				
<b>East-Central</b>													
Aberdeen	82	39	63	60	3	0.73	-0.53	1	3.16				
State University	83	35	64	60	4	0.03	-1.30	1	4.07				
Extreme/Average	85	35	64	60	4	0.38	-0.94	1	3.54				
<b>Southwest</b>													
Crystal Springs	86	41	67	63	4	0.18	-1.29	1	2.29				
Vicksburg	88	47	69			0.15		1	2.40				
Extreme/Average	88	41	69	64	5	0.45	-0.87	1	2.32				
<b>South-Central</b>													
Collins	84	42	67	63	4	0.15	-1.15	1	1.95				
Columbia	86	51	71	64	7	0.35	-1.05	2	3.28				
<b>Southeast</b>													
Beaumont	85	52	70						0.42				
Hattiesburg	86	49	69	64	5	0.19	-1.14	1	2.57				
Laurel	85	41	68	63	5	0.40	-0.80	1	3.02				
Extreme/Average	86	41	69	64	5	0.20	-0.97	1	2.00				
<b>Coastal</b>													
Extreme/Average													
<b>State</b>	88	33	66	61	5	0.61	-0.67	1	4.38				

DFN = Departure from Normal.