

# Weekly Weather Crop Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending April 17, 2005

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 2.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending April 17, 2005**. Sunny weather during the latter part of the week was welcomed by farmers. Activities put on hold due to wet soils were able to resume for many parts of the state. Certain areas in eastern parts of the state with heavier soils needed a few more days of drier weather before field activities could continue. Corn planting continues to fall behind schedule, but farmers are hopeful that the sunny weather will continue and allow them adequate time in the field. Cotton planting will start for many farmers this week. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent short, 45 percent adequate and 54 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2004	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Planted	63	50	94	83	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	49	32	73	64	--	--	--	--	--
Rice	Planted	11	4	22	19	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	3	--	10	6	--	--	--	--	--
Sorghum	Planted	9	5	34	22	--	--	--	--	--
Soybeans	Planted	15	11	44	22	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	8	2	22	11	--	--	--	--	--
Wheat	Jointing	95	93	97	92	3	6	34	51	6
	Heading	38	13	67	49	--	--	--	--	--
Hay (Cool Season)	Harvested	5	1	19	12	--	--	--	--	--
Watermelons	Planted	59	35	56	58	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle						1	4	25	57	13
Pasture						1	7	30	46	16

## County Agent Comments

“Growers should be in the field today. Cotton and rice planting will be going full blast.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“Rainfall early in the week halted fieldwork. Corn and soybeans planted before the rain have emerged with few problems.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Most corn fields are still wet. Hopefully good progress will be made this week if the rains hold off. Cotton and soybeans may take the place of corn this year due to the lateness of being able to get into the fields.”

— Kay Emmons, Montgomery

“Some pasture spraying has begun to control weeds. Several fields of ryegrass are about ready to be cut for hay and will be laid down if it doesn't rain. As the grasses continue to break dormancy, cattle are beginning to get some grazing in the pastures from forage grasses.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“Sunshine during the last few days has been a welcome site for farmers. Tractors have been in the fields, where possible, trying to finish corn planting. Time is running short for the corn crop. We are getting ready to begin soybean and cotton planting for the 2005 season. Rains have affected pastures in the bottom and low-lying area, but seem to be recovering on the higher parts of the pastures.”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

“Sunshine toward the end of last week and over the weekend was welcomed by local farmers. Some actually had a chance to return to the field after a couple of weeks of rain. Winter pastures were fertilized, additional corn was planted, and other field operations resumed.”

— Victor Lee, Newton

“Tractors should be in the field by Monday. Planting of all crops will resume when producers get back in the field.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“More rain kept us out of the field another week. Most soybeans missed the window of opportunity of getting in early, but we still have plenty of time to get a crop in the ground. If we manage it well and have some cooperative weather, then we should still have a good crop.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“We received 2-4 inches of rain Monday. We finally got back in the fields Friday. The planters ran all weekend to try to catch up.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Planters went back to the field this past weekend. This has been a very slow early planting season due to the wet conditions and poorer than average drying conditions.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“A few farmers were able to resume corn planting at the end of the week, but in most cases fields were still too wet. With good drying weather, they should be able to make progress next week. For most farmers, this is their last opportunity to plant corn. Some producers have already changed their planting intentions away from corn and toward soybeans and cotton.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“With good weather this week, we'll make up for lost planting time. Corn planted before the rain seems to be emerging without serious problems. Fertilizer dealers are pressed to get caught up with demand.”

— Dr. Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

“Producers are back in the fields planting corn and finishing their burndown applications. Four good days of planting should almost complete the corn crop for most producers. Cotton planting is expected to start in the next 7-10 days.”

— Dr. Dennis B. Reginelli, Noxubee

“After over 4 inches of rain this past week, the sunshine is a welcome relief. Heavy clay soils will still need a few days to allow fieldwork in most of the county. Ryegrass is not ready for harvest at this time. Pastures are beginning to pick up.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“Heavy rainstorms and tornadoes have altered most farming activities in the county. The sunshine was a welcomed sight this pass week; and with the high winds, farming activities should be back to normal in most places.”

— Perry Brumfield, Lincoln

“Soils remain saturated from the rain. Some areas received 3 inches. Not much fieldwork has been going on. Cattle are doing well on ryegrass and spring grass. Corn will be late this year. Hay supplies are holding out.”

— Lee Taylor, Forrest

“We are finally drying out!”

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

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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:**

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**U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Mississippi Agricultural  
Statistics Service  
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Weather Summary from April 11, 2005 to April 17, 2005 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	84	46	60	61	-1	2.46	+1.10	1	9.74				
Cleveland	79	49	61	61	0	2.34	+1.10	2	6.47				
Tunica	81	50	64	61	+3	2.19	+0.83	1	5.94				
Extreme/Average	84	46	62	62	0	2.33	+1.07	1	7.38				
2. North-Central													
Hickory Flat	80	42	59	59	0	1.51	+0.25	1	6.90				
Calhoun City	80	43	61	61	0	1.47	+0.14	3	5.49				
Independence	80	43	60	59	+1	2.27	+1.15	1	7.13				
Oxford	82	43	62	59	+3	1.80	+0.61	1	7.09				
Extreme/Average	82	42	61	60	+1	1.76	+0.50	2	6.65				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	77	42	60	59	+1	0.95	-0.24	1	5.84				
Iuka	78	36	58	57	+1	0.56	-0.61	1	5.41				
Ripley	81	44	61	59	+2	1.07	-0.21	2	6.09				
Tupelo	81	48	64			1.10		1	4.73				
Verona	82	46	62	60	+2	1.12	-0.10	2	5.92				
Extreme/Average	82	36	61	60	+1	0.96	-0.24	1	5.60				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	81	51	62	63	-1	2.31	+0.98	3	4.86				
Rolling Fork	84	49	64	63	+1	1.56	+0.23	2	6.33				
Stoneville				63		1.85	+0.59	1	3.96				
Yazoo City	82	46	63	64	-1	1.76	+0.36	2	7.00				
Extreme/Average	84	46	63	64	-1	1.87	+0.54	2	5.54				
5. Central													
Canton	81	43	62	64	-2	2.94	+1.61	1	6.46				
Carthage	82	43	62	62	0	1.08	-0.28	1	5.50				
Lexington	82	44	61	62	-1	1.55	+0.25	2	6.37				
Eupora	80	43	60	61	-1	2.17	+0.88	2	6.33				
Extreme/Average	82	43	61	62	-1	1.94	+0.57	2	6.17				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	79	44	63	61	+2	1.73	+0.49	2	7.03				
Houston	79	41	60	60	0	1.37	+0.14	2	4.74				
State University	80	43	63	61	+2	2.50	+1.17	1	8.00				
Extreme/Average	80	41	62	62	0	1.87	+0.54	2	6.59				
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	80	48	65	64	+1	1.03	-0.40	1	6.58				
Natchez				65		0.80	-0.62	1	5.10				
Oakley				63		0.90	-0.51	1	6.09				
Vicksburg	80	48	64			1.43		2	5.50				
Extreme/Average	80	48	64	64	0	1.04	-0.36	1	5.82				
8. South-Central													
Collins	80	45	64	64	0	1.02	-0.24	1	11.89				
Columbia	81	48	65	64	+1	2.17	+0.77	1	9.67				
Tylertown	82	44	64	65	-1	1.97	+0.64	1	9.30				
Extreme/Average	82	44	64	64	0	1.72	+0.34	1	10.29				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	83	45	65			0.56		1	7.67				
Hattiesburg	81	46	64	65	-1	2.80	+1.51	1	9.89				
Laurel	79	46	64	64	0	1.36	+0.17	1	10.28				
Newton	81	39	61	62	-1	2.68	+1.25	1	10.14				
Extreme/Average	83	39	64	64	0	1.85	+0.60	1	9.28				
10. Coastal													
Gulfport	81	50	65	67	-2	2.50	+1.36	1	14.29				
Poplarville	80	48	65	65	0	2.61	+1.35	1	12.51				
Waveland	81	50	65	65	0	2.50	+1.16	1	7.43				
Extreme/Average	81	48	65	66	-1	2.54	+1.37	1	11.41				
State	84	36	63	63	0	1.75	+0.45	1	7.37				

DFN = Departure from Normal.