

# Weekly Weather Crop Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending April 24, 2005

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending April 24, 2005**. Farmers across Mississippi were busy this week taking advantage of the beautiful weather to continue with planting and other fieldwork activities. Cotton planting is off to a good start, and farmers are hoping to complete corn planting as soon as possible. Rains received earlier this month, along with warmer temperatures, have aided pasture growth. Cooler temperatures experienced over the weekend for parts of Mississippi were brief, and farmers are hopeful that warmer temperatures and sunny skies continue. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent very short, 9 percent short, 72 percent adequate and 18 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	88	63	96	92	0	5	35	57	3
	Emerged	71	49	86	77					
Cotton	Planted	18	--	22	15	--	--	--	--	--
Rice	Planted	56	11	54	39	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	17	3	20	15					
Sorghum	Planted	53	9	48	37	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	9	--	28	18					
Soybeans	Planted	41	15	62	36	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	16	8	35	20					
Wheat	Jointing	97	95	99	97	3	4	25	65	3
	Heading	66	38	87	73					
Hay (Cool Season)	Harvested	17	5	23	25	--	--	--	--	--
Watermelons	Planted	73	59	69	68	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle						1	5	34	47	13
Pasture						1	8	32	43	16

## County Agent Comments

“Cotton is going in the ground at a rapid pace. The planting of soybeans and rice are not far behind. We could use a nice shower to keep enough moisture for planting; rain is predicted for the area tonight.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“Farmers have been busy in the field during the last week despite another period of wet weather. Corn planting is continuing at a rather steady pace. Cold weather over the weekend, with lows in the low 30's, was short lived and temperatures are expected to reach the mid-seventies by the middle of this week.”

— Patrick Poindexter, Alcorn

“The rain has finally stopped long enough for producers to finish corn and soybean planting. Hay and pastures are in good condition.”

— Otis L. Davis, Madison

“It was great weather for cool-season forage production and harvest. There is a concern about cooler-than-usual soil temps on warm-season crops.”

— Mark Gillie, Greene

“Producers have been able to complete planting this week. Ryegrass pastures have shown growth with some cattle producers beginning to cut cool-season hay. Grazing of some pastures has also shown vast improvement in beef cattle herds. Corn and watermelon producers benefitted greatly from the previous weeks of rain with excellent stands of both crops being reported.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Growers had a great week of planting all crops. We will need some rainfall soon.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“Regardless of the cold snap at the end of last week, producers are planting cotton, soybeans, some rice and finishing up on corn. When it finally dries enough for a tractor to stand up in the field, planters probably won't stop until finished or until more rain comes along.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Dry weather this week has been a blessing. Producers are busy trying to burn down and plant. Crows are pulling up emerged corn seedlings. Warm temperatures have helped the pastures to green-up. Fertilizer applications on pastures are in full swing.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah

“Excellent planting progress was made this week. Corn producers finished planting. Rice producers completed a large portion of their planting. Soybean producers are about 50% planted. Cotton producers got a good start on planting, but cool weather at the end of the week slowed down cotton planting. Seed dealers worked hard all week to keep up with the demand of applying fungicides and/or insecticides on soybean seed and cotton seed.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Farmers have finally made significant progress planting corn and soybeans, and some are beginning to plant cotton. Fields are drying fast, but many still have wet areas that are causing delays. I look for cotton planting to increase next week.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Farmers have finally made significant progress planting corn and soybeans, and some are beginning to plant cotton. Fields are drying fast, but many still have wet areas that are causing delays. I look for cotton planting to increase next week. Some corn has come up, but we haven't had enough rain to activate the pre-emerge.”

— Kay Emmons, Montgomery

“Nitrogen applications have been going out in mass loads since we have had some dry weather. Cattle and grass are both looking better.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“Drier weather allowed for corn planting, haylage cutting and baling to resume.”

— Richard Hay, Amite

“Sunshine and winds have dried fields. Fieldwork can be done in most fields now. There are still some spots that are very wet. Cool-season forages are being harvested at this time. Pastures are looking better as the soil begins to dry. Farmers are preparing fields to start the cotton and soybean planting activities. Keep a close eye on the corn planting as the temperatures warm up. Stink bugs and other insects might become a problem.”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

“Local farmers took advantage of clear skies last week to return to their fields. Corn was planted, ground prepared, and pastures were fertilized and/or sprayed. Optimism reigns once again.”

— Victor Lee, Newton

“Farmers took advantage of the 7 days of sunny weather. Pastures and summer hayfields were fertilized. Cool season hay cutting begin. Most of the corn has been planted. Blueberries are in 97% fruit. All early watermelons have been planted. Cattle are in good condition. Calves are gaining rapidly on lush forage.”

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

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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:**

**U.S. Department of Agriculture  
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**U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Mississippi Agricultural  
Statistics Service  
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Weather Summary from April 18, 2005 to April 24, 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	85	46	69	63	+6	0.10	-1.23	1	8.67				
Cleveland	86	42	69	63	+6	0.01	-1.18	1	5.35				
Tunica	86	43	67	63	+4	0.02	-1.31	1	4.90				
Extreme/Average	86	42	68	64	+4	0.04	-1.22	1	6.31				
2. North-Central													
Hickory Flat	85	33	64	61	+3	0.16	-1.10	1	6.33				
Calhoun City	83	36	64	63	+1	0.06	-1.27	1	4.73				
Independence	83	35	64	61	+3	0.19	-0.94	1	6.40				
Oxford	85	34	66	61	+5	0.00	-1.19	0	5.98				
Extreme/Average	85	33	65	62	+3	0.10	-1.16	1	5.86				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	79	40	64	61	+3	0.23	-0.97	2	5.40				
Iuka	83	30	60	59	+1	0.33	-0.85	3	5.09				
Ripley	85	34	63	61	+2	0.08	-1.18	1	5.49				
Tupelo	84	37	67	61		0.30		2	4.56				
Verona	85	38	65	62	+3	0.12	-1.07	1	5.27				
Extreme/Average	85	30	64	62	+2	0.21	-0.99	2	5.16				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	87	42	69	65	+4	0.00	-1.29	0	4.04				
Rolling Fork	89	42	70	65	+5	0.00	-1.26	0	5.17				
Stoneville				65		0.00	-1.26	0	2.84				
Yazoo City	86	41	67	66	+1	0.00	-1.34	0	5.92				
Extreme/Average	89	41	69	66	+3	0.00	-1.29	0	4.49				
5. Central													
Canton	85	38	65	65	0	0.03	-1.31	1	4.53				
Carthage	86	38	65	64	+1	0.00	-1.33	0	3.90				
Lexington	84	34	65	63	+2	0.00	-1.26	0	5.19				
Eupora	85	34	65	62	+3	0.00	-1.26	0	5.46				
Extreme/Average	86	34	65	64	+1	0.01	-1.32	0	4.77				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	84	38	65	63	+2	0.10	-1.09	1	6.21				
Houston	83	33	63	61	+2	0.00	-1.19	0	4.19				
State University	85	38	66	63	+3	0.00	-1.27	0	6.83				
Extreme/Average	85	33	65	64	+1	0.03	-1.25	0	5.74				
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	85	42	67	66	+1	0.03	-1.34	1	4.21				
Natchez	83	41	65	67	-2	0.00	-1.38	0	3.26				
Oakley	85	41	67	65	+2	0.00	-1.35	0	2.59				
Vicksburg	83	46	68	66		0.00		0	4.15				
Extreme/Average	85	41	67	66	+1	0.01	-1.36	0	3.55				
8. South-Central													
Collins	83	44	65	65	0	0.00	-1.26	0	9.65				
Columbia	86	43	67	66	+1	0.15	-1.19	1	8.50				
Tylertown	85	40	67	66	+1	0.05	-1.24	1	8.67				
Extreme/Average	86	40	66	66	0	0.07	-1.26	1	8.94				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	90	44	66	66		0.12		1	6.20				
Hattiesburg	85	49	68	66	+2	0.08	-1.18	1	9.16				
Laurel	85	43	65	65	0	1.08	-0.11	1	9.53				
Newton	85	35	63	63	0	0.37	-0.98	1	9.10				
Extreme/Average	90	35	66	65	+1	0.41	-0.78	1	8.50				
10. Coastal													
Gulfport	82	46	67	69	-2	0.00	-1.17	0	13.72				
Poplarville	85	42	67	67	0	0.01	-1.22	1	11.67				
Waveland	83	44	66	67	-1	0.00	-1.29	0	7.35				
Extreme/Average	85	42	66	68	-2	0.00	-1.16	0	10.91				
State	90	30	66	65	+1	0.09	-1.18	1	6.26				

DFN = Departure from Normal.