



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 25, 2004

Released: 3:00 P.M., April 26, 2004

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending April 25, 2004**. Planting of row crops continued across the state, with producers stopping only for weekend rain showers. The precipitation will not only help emerging crops, but will benefit pasture and hay ground as well. However, much of the southern portion of the state is suffering from drought like conditions and is in desperate need of rain. Soil moisture was rated 6 percent very short, 27 percent short, 55 percent adequate and 12 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	96	94	97	92	0	3	28	58	11
	Emerged	88	75	82	73					
Cotton	Planted	25	4	21	14	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	4	--	7	4					
Rice	Planted	59	22	44	43	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	21	11	21	15					
Sorghum	Planted	50	35	37	36	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	29	23	18	16					
Soybeans	Planted	65	45	39	29	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	37	24	25	15					
Wheat	Jointing	99	98	97	97	0	4	37	43	16
	Heading	90	72	59	75					
Hay (Cool Season)	Harvested	23	20	34	22	--	--	--	--	--
Watermelons	Planted	71	58	74	69	0	1	63	25	11
Cattle						1	8	24	55	12
Pasture						2	8	42	45	3

County Agent Comments

“Sunday rain showers stopped fieldwork, but they should not keep farmers out of fields for long. Most producers received less than one inch of rain.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“Producers had a couple of days to plant corn and soybeans before the rain. We need a few good days to catch up with planting crops.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“The distribution of rainfall will determine how planting operations progress next week. Prior to the rain, low moisture had limited planting cotton and soybeans. A significant drop in temperature following the rain may slow emerging cotton and soybeans. Corn is starting to look better following superficial damage by recent scattered frost.”

— Dr. Ernie Flint, Attala

“Much needed rain in the amount of about 2 inches, was received Sunday afternoon. Commercial vegetable growers and home gardeners have had to replant seeded crops due to drought conditions. Grazing conditions should improve and ryegrass hay harvest should pick up.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Most crops, lawns, and pastures are starting to show signs of drought stress. Rains are in the forecast, but don't look too favorable for our area.”

— Billy Joe Lee, Pearl River

“We received an inch of rain last night, which will keep us going for now. But there is still a need for more.”

— Mark Gillie, Greene

“Rains over the weekend were timely; they should help the crops that were up as well as help get up what has been planted.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“Farmers got in a little planting this week. Around mid-week, the ground dried enough to plant for a couple of days. Because we got a good rain Thursday and Friday, planting is over for this week.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“We started cotton planting the first of the week but stopped mid-week in anticipation of the rain. If we miss the weekend rain, we will be in full swing Monday morning.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Soybeans planted in March and early April have emerged and most survived the colder temperatures. Some soybean fields will be replanted because of skips and low-plant populations. Corn planted in early April has emerged and appears to have adequate plant populations and healthy plants. Rust has been observed in some wheat fields.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Rain continues to keep producers out of the fields. Some fieldwork was done between showers. Cotton producers are prepared to start as soon as soil conditions will allow.”

— Dalton G. Garner, Prentiss

“Excellent progress was made this past week for planting cotton, soybeans, rice and grain sorghum. Rain fell across the area Saturday evening and Sunday. Rainfall amounts varied from 0.2 to approximately two inches.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Planting restarted Monday after a week of damp soil. Emergence for all crops has been good.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Moisture was becoming limited in some areas of the county, but over the weekend, farmers saw enough rain to hamper planting of cotton and soybeans. The drop in temperature has seemed to cause concern due to slow emerging cotton and soybeans. Some farmers think that the cooler temperatures will not have a dramatic effect on the crop as long as it warms up soon.”

— Kay Emmons, Montgomery

“Rainfall amounts accumulated to over 4 inches Sunday and Monday morning. These were much needed rains for pasture and hay ground as well as row crop land. Cattle are beginning to improve in appearance due to warmer weather, and the growing grass is starting to provide adequate grazing.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“Our area missed the rains which allowed soybean planting to continue. Cotton seed started going in as well. Sweetpotato beds have had plastic removed and plant beds look as good as ever.”

— Dr. Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

“The warmer temperatures and dryer conditions this week allowed progress on row crop planting. Pasture conditions are good.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“We received a much-needed rain. Corn as well as other crops should really take off now.”

— Perry Brumfield, Lincoln

“On Monday, April 26, we received very much needed rain throughout the day.”

— Carolyn Conger, Covington

“We received an inch of rain last night, which will keep us going for now. But there is still a need for more.”
— Mark Gillie, Greene

“Most of Jasper County received over 2 inches of rain Sunday! Although rain was too late for ryegrass, it was still welcomed!”
— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

“Producers who were waiting on rain, halted all planting operations. Ryegrass hay harvest continued, but yields are less than normal due to excessively dry weather the past 6 to 8 weeks. Pastures are beginning to show signs of stress due to drought-like conditions. Rain is needed throughout the county.”
— Victor Lee, Newton

“Producers are in desperate need of rainfall. If a measurable amount of rainfall is not received in the next week, crops and livestock will suffer severely.”
— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“We received about ½ inch of rain overnight and more is on the way by week’s end. We still need water because pond levels are low.”
— Judith Breland, Stone

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 19, 2004 to April 25, 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	82	54	69	63	+6	1.09	-0.24	4	7.12				
Cleveland				63		0.77	-0.42	5	4.43				
Tunica				64		1.58	+0.25	4	4.36				0.32
Extreme/Average	82	54	69	64	+5	0.93	-0.33	5	5.78				
2. North-Central													
Hickory Flat	83	50	68	61	+7	1.14	-0.12	2	4.99				
Calhoun City	83	55	71	63	+8	0.04	-1.29	2	4.13				
Independence	81	56	68	62	+6	1.85	+0.71	4	5.40				
Oxford	84	58	71	62	+9	0.88	-0.31	5	5.25				
Extreme/Average	84	50	70	62	+8	0.98	-0.28	3	4.94				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	84	56	71	62	+9	0.58	-0.63	4	3.67				
Iuka				59		0.38	-0.81	3	3.51				
Ripley		56	69	61	+8	1.31	+0.05	4	4.59				
Tupelo	84	54	71			0.49		4	3.31				
Verona				63		0.22	-0.96	3	2.81				0.24
Extreme/Average	84	54	70	63	+7	0.69	-0.52	4	3.77				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	85	61	73	66	+7	0.68	-0.60	2	4.85				
RollingFork	91	55	74	65	+9	0.27	-0.99	1	1.97	59	53	58	
Stoneville	87	60	73	66	+7	0.60	-0.66	1	4.89	81	65	74	0.25
YazooCity	88	59	73	66	+7	0.13	-1.20	1	3.51				
Extreme/Average	91	55	73	66	+7	0.42	-0.86	1	3.81	81	53	66	0.25
5. Central													
Canton	86	57	72	66	+6	0.09	-1.26	1	2.63				
Carthage	85	51	71	64	+7	0.08	-1.25	1	2.21				
Lexington	83	52	69	63	+6	0.15	-1.11	1	3.18				
Eupora	84	53	70	63	+7	0.20	-1.05	1	2.32				
Extreme/Average	86	51	71	64	+7	0.13	-1.20	1	2.67				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen				63		0.08	-1.11	2	2.44				0.23
Houston	84	47	70	62	+8	0.00	-1.19	0	2.93				
Louisville				63		0.00	-1.33	0	1.43				
StateUniversity	87	56	73	63	+10	0.00	-1.26	0	2.10	84	66	73	0.19
Extreme/Average	87	47	71	64	+7	0.02	-1.25	1	2.49	84	66	73	0.21
7. Southwest													
CrystalSprings	85	54	71	66	+5	0.47	-0.89	1	2.65	127	69	80	
Natchez	85	59	73	67	+6	0.13	-1.24	2	1.45				
Oakley	89	59	73	65	+8	1.25	-0.09	1	2.72	87	69	78	
Vicksburg	86	59	72			0.40		1	3.00				
Extreme/Average	89	54	72	66	+6	0.56	-0.80	1	2.46	127	69	79	
8. South-Central													
Collins	85	53	72	65	+7	0.10	-1.16	1	1.49				
Columbia				66		0.10	-1.23	1	0.68				
Tylertown	85	52	71	67	+4	0.70	-0.59	1	1.44				
Extreme/Average	85	52	72	66	+6	0.30	-1.03	1	1.20				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	89	54	72			0.00		0	0.92				
Hattiesburg	89	51	72	67	+5	0.00	-1.26	0	0.55				
Laurel				65		0.00	-1.19	0	0.48				
Newton	87	48	71	63	+8	0.00	-1.33	0	1.15	80	61	71	0.22
Extreme/Average	89	48	72	66	+6	0.00	-1.19	0	0.74	80	61	71	0.22
10. Coastal													
BayStLouis	82	47	67	67	0	0.00	-1.20	0	0.55				
Gulfport	79	55	73	69	+4	0.12	-1.06	1	1.96				
Pascagoula				67		0.00	-1.04	0	0.83				
Poplarville	86	56	72	67	+5	0.00	-1.23	0	0.70	89	63	76	
Waveland	82	56	72	67	+5	0.17	-1.11	2	2.14				
Extreme/Average	86	47	71	68	+3	0.06	-1.11	1	1.24	89	63	76	0.24
State	91	47	71	65	+6	0.37	-0.90	2	2.74	127	53	73	0.97

DFN = Departure from Normal.