

## Weekly Weather Crop Report



In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending May 1, 2005

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 4.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending May 1, 2005**. Farmers were able to take advantage of the dry weather during the week to work in the field. As planting continues for most farmers, blueberry producers across the state are making preparations to harvest their crop later this month. Cotton and peanut farmers are looking forward to continued drying of soils so they can continue with planting activities. The cooler temperatures experienced during the week affected summer pasture growth in some areas. Soil moisture was rated 3 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 31 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	93	88	97	97	2	4	28	60	6
	Emerged	83	71	91	87					
Cotton	Planted	40	18	50	39	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	16	--	22	16					
Rice	Planted	81	56	73	59	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	48	17	52	33					
Sorghum	Planted	80	53	71	59	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	48	9	47	36					
Soybeans	Planted	63	41	76	53	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	38	16	54	35					
Wheat	Jointing	99	97	100	100	4	7	32	51	6
	Heading	91	66	96	90					
Hay (Cool Season)	Harvested	28	17	26	37	--	--	--	--	--
Watermelons	Planted	85	73	79	79	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle						2	8	32	45	13
Pasture						1	6	30	50	13

### County Agent Comments

“Most producers here could use a good rain. We got very little rain from the last front. Most rice producers are having to flush some fields in order to get a stand. Most cotton producers have planted all the early cotton that they wanted to plant and are waiting on a good shower before they resume planting.”

— Anthony Bland, Tunica

“Cotton planting started Tuesday after a low of 35 degrees Sunday morning. We stopped fieldwork Thursday due to the forecast of storms Friday night. Corn planting is over and beans have a good start.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Field prep and planting were in full gear by the end of the week. Light rains over the weekend will help get these fields off to a quick start. Cotton growers are a little hesitant to plant with the forecast calling for highs in the 60's for the upcoming week.”

— Dr. Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

“Drier weather should allow hay harvest to continue. Rains over the weekend hopefully gave early planted corn some relief. Pastures have held up well, but are beginning to mature at a rapid pace.”

— Richard Hay, Amite

“All crops are in good condition. Cool-season hay harvest has begun. Livestock are in good condition. Blueberries growers are making preparations for the 2005 harvest season.”

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

“Growers in south Mississippi were finally able to get back in the field this week. Growers will probably start planting cotton and peanuts this week.”

— Mike Howell, Covington

“Rain on Friday night helped most growers. We could have gotten a little more in some areas. We need some warmer weather.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“Cannot seem to get a good rain now. Planting for all crops is progressing well, and most should come to a stand. Land that had to be tilled will have to wait on rains before it can be planted.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“Crops are being planted at a hectic pace. The crops that have emerged look good and don't seem to be damaged by the cool snap.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Producers have planted most of the corn acreage and are starting to plant soybeans and cotton.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Rainfall has delayed field preparation and planting. Cool temperatures have slowed corn and soybean emergence and growth.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Rain, from half an inch to 3 inches, fell Saturday morning. Fieldwork and replanting are the main priority when fields dry.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Most of the corn crop has been planted, although some low lying fields have required replanting. Soybean planting has been slow, but should increase as soils dry in the next few days. Cotton that has been planted is emerging slowly as a result of heavy rains and cool conditions. As field conditions allow, cotton planting will increase quickly within the next few days.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Ryegrass hay harvest continues. Cool nights and some cool days have slowed the growth of summer forages.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“We still have a few acres of corn that need to be planted and a few producers are spot planting some wet areas. Soybean planting went well the last two weeks. Cotton planting is going slow with the rain and cool temperatures. Wheat stripe rust has reduced our wheat yields in many fields.”

— Dr. Dennis B. Reginelli, Noxubee

“Some fieldwork was conducted, but cooler and wetter weather slowed everything by week's end. Pastures continue to improve. Overall, we are behind on planting progress.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“Drier conditions have greatly improved the conditions for the corn crop. The plants look healthier as the soils have dried out and aren't so wet. The producers are working to prepare the fields for the soybean and cotton planting activities. Weather permitting, we will probably begin planting cotton in some areas next week. The pastures are looking better and the warm weather hay harvesting activities will be in high gear soon.”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

“Ryegrass growth is playing out. Soils are really wet after weekend rains. Summer pastures are growing. Cotton and peanut planting will be in full swing when the ground dries up.”

— Lee Taylor, Forrest

“Heavy rains have washed out some vegetable gardens. We will be looking for damage to other crops today.”

— Mark Gillie, Greene

“Nighttime temps in the 40's are delaying the growth of summer grasses, corn and vegetable crops. Cattle are in good shape. Ryegrass hay harvest has been difficult due to rain.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Producers continue to take advantage of sunshine to fertilize, spray and plant. Cool nights are hindering corn seedlings. Rain early Saturday will slow field operations early this week.”

— Victor Lee, Newton

“Moderate hail damage was received to some crops in a portion of the county. All indications are that the crops were not in a growth stage that will have an impact on yields.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“On Saturday, April 30, we had approximately 4 inches of rain in a short period of time. Ponds are full and the ground is very wet.”

— Judith Breland, Stone

“April showers bring May flowers; so with Saturday's deluge of rain, south Mississippi should look like a very large flower store. Ryegrass is beginning to seed out and quality is headed downhill with each additional day of maturity.”

— Stan Pace, Stone

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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  
Thomas L. Gregory, Director**

Weather Summary from April 25, 2005 to May 1, 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				65		0.88	-0.43	3	8.13				
Cleveland	86	42	61	65	-4	0.87	-0.32	2	5.47				
Tunica	74	44	59	65	-6	1.72	+0.39	6	5.62				
Extreme/Average	86	42	60	66	-6	1.16	-0.10	4	6.41				
2. North-Central													
Hickory Flat	75	34	56	63	-7	0.76	-0.50	2	5.89				
Calhoun City	81	37	56	65	-9	1.08	-0.24	3	5.31				
Independence	76	35	55	63	-8	1.06	-0.13	3	5.82				
Oxford	80	38	58	63	-5	0.87	-0.36	2	6.46				
Extreme/Average	81	34	56	64	-8	0.94	-0.32	3	5.87				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	74	38	54	63	-9	1.12	-0.17	4	5.68				
Iuka	76	30	51	61	-10	1.82	+0.56	4	5.97				
Ripley	75	35	54	63	-9	0.98	-0.28	3	5.50				
Tupelo	80	41	58	63		1.64		3	5.67				
Verona	78	40	57	64	-7	1.15	+0.03	3	5.17				
Extreme/Average	80	30	55	64	-9	1.34	+0.08	3	5.60				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	84	42	61	67	-6	1.34	+0.08	4	4.57				
Rolling Fork	86	44	62	67	-5	1.31	+0.05	4	5.68				
Stoneville	87	47	63	67	-4	0.91	-0.35	3	3.05				
Yazoo City	85	40	62	68	-6	1.94	+0.61	3	7.56				
Extreme/Average	87	40	62	68	-6	1.38	+0.06	4	5.22				
5. Central													
Canton	84	40	59	67	-8	2.44	+1.04	3	6.42				
Carthage	85	37	59	65	-6	1.64	+0.31	3	4.83				
Lexington	83	34	57	65	-8	2.30	+1.04	3	6.87				
Eupora	83	36	57	64	-7	0.98	-0.21	3	4.86				
Extreme/Average	85	34	58	66	-8	1.84	+0.53	3	5.75				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	81	37	57	65	-8	1.47	+0.26	2	6.62				
Houston	80	36	57	63	-6	1.63	+0.44	3	5.02				
Louisville	82	40	60	64	-4	2.11	+0.83	3	3.73				
State University	84	38	60	65	-5	1.56	+0.32	4	7.19				
Extreme/Average	84	36	58	66	-8	1.55	+0.29	3	6.28				
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	85	45	61	68	-7	1.35	+0.07	3	3.72				
Natchez	84	42	61	68	-7	0.28	-1.05	2	1.76				
Oakley	85	40	62	66	-4	1.29	+0.04	3	2.72				
Vicksburg	83	42	61	66		2.24		4	5.50				
Extreme/Average	85	40	62	68	-6	1.29	-0.04	3	3.43				
8. South-Central													
Collins	85	42	60	67	-7	1.53	+0.22	3	4.35				
Columbia	85	44	63	68	-5	1.99	+0.66	4	6.51				
Tylertown	85	42	62	68	-6	1.77	+0.44	4	5.52				
Extreme/Average	85	42	62	68	-6	1.76	+0.43	4	5.46				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	87	44	62			2.14		3	3.10				
Hattiesburg	83	42	61	68	-7	1.58	+0.32	4	4.54				
Laurel	88	43	62	67	-5	1.91	+0.72	4	5.87				
Newton	85	34	58	65	-7	1.97	+0.76	3	8.02				
Extreme/Average	88	34	61	67	-6	1.90	+0.71	4	5.38				
10.Coastal													
Gulfport	83	51	68	71	-3	2.81	+1.60	3	10.76				
Poplarville	84	47	62	69	-7	6.73	+5.47	5	9.85				
Waveland	82	49	66	69	-3	3.11	+1.85	2	8.37				
Extreme/Average	84	47	65	69	-4	4.22	+3.01	3	9.66				
State	88	30	60	66	-6	1.70	+0.43	3	5.72				

DFN = Departure from Normal.