



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 May 4, 2008**

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According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 3.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, May 4, 2008**. Rainfall continued throughout the State this week causing delays in planting and fieldwork, as well as, contributing to flooding and soil erosion in numerous fields. Winter wheat is heading with minor to moderate leaf rust being reported in several fields. Some areas have localized damage to the wheat crop due to freezing temperatures received in mid-April. Cool season hay harvest progressed and for many an excellent crop is expected. Soil moisture was rated 2 percent very short, 9 percent short, 55 percent adequate and 34 percent surplus.

**Crop progress for week ending 05/04/08**

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, planted	98	96	100	98
Corn, emerged	93	85	98	94
Cotton, planted	14	7	30	54
Cotton, emerged	5	1	8	28
Hay-Cool Season, harvested	30	22	38	37
Peanuts, planted	12	6	10	6
Rice, planted	72	58	80	81
Rice, emerged	54	30	53	58
Sorghum, planted	43	40	55	76
Sorghum, emerged	35	19	30	54
Soybeans, planted	56	46	66	75
Soybeans, emerged	37	22	43	56
Watermelons, planted	88	83	90	84
Winter Wheat, heading	97	87	98	96

**Crop condition for week ending 05/04/08**

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Blueberries	1	3	15	77	4
Corn	2	7	25	63	3
Livestock	3	15	23	44	15
Pasture	1	2	25	52	20
Winter Wheat	2	7	23	50	18

## Comments

“Rainfall has delayed planting and other fieldwork. Corn and soybeans that have emerged appear to have uniform stands that are in good condition. Low incidence of disease and insects have been observed in winter wheat.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Throughout most of the week fields have been wet to very wet. Some planting has occurred in isolated areas, including elevated land with sandy soil. Emerging crops are not growing very fast due to cooler temperatures.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Cattle are looking good considering the high cost of pasture fertilizers. Vegetables are growing better than this time last year and even though we had considerable freeze damage, most all have recovered and are looking good. Corn is taking off in growth after the much needed rain over the weekend.”

— Billy Joe Lee, Pearl River

“Cotton producers have been busy with field preparation and planting this week. Winter wheat is looking good and producers should begin harvesting within the next week. Producers are still cutting and baling hay.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Crops are in good condition. Cool season hay harvest is in full swing and it will be an excellent hay crop. Some parts of the county received 3/4 to 1 inch of rain early Saturday morning. Honey bees have been swarming lately.”

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

“Parts of Coahoma County received more than 6 inches of rain on Friday, which has caused ditches and lakes to back out in fields and cover some farm land. We need some dry weather so we can get back to planting and side dress our corn.”

—Don Respass, Coahoma

“Heavy rains pelted our area last week causing a lot of soil erosion in many fields. Some areas missed the hard downpours and the crops are doing alright. We need sunshine to finish planting everything.”

— Jimbo Burkahlter, Tallahatchie

“Cool, wet conditions have held up cotton and soybean planting. Hopefully, we will miss most of the rain for the weekend and can start back planting Monday morning.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Limited fieldwork occurred this week due to heavy rains last weekend. Some soybean and cotton acreage will have to be replanted due to the hard packing rain. Some growers received limited hail damage to their corn and wheat. Although the acreage is small, corn is having a difficult time recovering from the frost damage of April 15. All the wheat is heading with leaf rust in most fields.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“We are now discovering localized damage to wheat as a result of the April 15 freeze. Yields will be significantly reduced in many fields in this area. At present I believe this is a fairly localized situation in this area.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Very little fieldwork was accomplished this week. Minor leaf rust has been found in wheat. Corn planting is finally completed with soybean planting waiting on drier fields.”

— Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

“A total of 1 - 2 inches of rain fell on the county this week. Cooler nightly temperatures have slowed growth. Cool season hay harvest progressed well during the week. Early weed controls are going out on pastures. Row crop development was good.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“Wheat is still under water from river flooding. Soybeans have not been planted due to river flooding as well.”

— Ann H. Davis, Wilkinson

“The agronomist reported some freeze damage to wheat in the area. Recent rains have been a great relief to all forage crops.”

— Amanda Walker, Lawrence

“Corn is looking real good and cotton planting is underway. Ryegrass is matured and fading fast with the warm temperatures. All crops could use a rain.”

— Chuck Grantham, Forrest

**(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:

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Dr. Kevin Robbins  
Director

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural  
Statistics Service - Mississippi FO  
Thomas L. Gregory, Director

**Mississippi Weather Summary for Week Ending 05/04/08**

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>													
Cleveland	82	47	63	66	-3	4.28	3.09	2	6.73				
Lambert	83	44	63			3.50	2.27	3	5.17				
Tunica	78	44	61	66	-5	1.68	0.35	3	10.83				
Extreme/Average	83	44	62	66	-4	3.15	1.90	3	7.58				
<b>North-Central</b>													
Calhoun City	81	42	63	65	-2	2.29	1.00	2	4.69				
Hickory Flat	80	37	58	64	-6	3.22	1.96	2	5.55				
Independence	79	38	59	64	-5	3.31	2.12	2	7.01				
Extreme/Average	81	37	60	64	-4	2.94	1.69	2	5.75				
<b>Northeast</b>													
Corinth	78	37	60	66	-6	2.58	1.29	2	3.81				
Pontotoc	80	40	60	65	-5	1.59	0.33	2	3.83				
Ripley	79	37	58	63	-5	2.78	1.52	2	4.83				
Extreme/Average	80	37	59	65	-6	2.32	1.05	2	4.16				
<b>Lower Delta</b>													
Moorhead	81	48	65	68	-3	0.78	-0.48	3	4.41				
Rolling Fork	84	50	66	68	-2	1.79	0.53	2	3.11				
Yazoo City	82	48	66	68	-2	1.35	0.02	1	3.97				
Extreme/Average	84	48	66	68	-2	1.31	0.02	2	3.83				
<b>Central</b>													
Canton	82	46	64	68	-4	1.17	-0.23	2	4.00				
Eupora	81	40	60	65	-5	0.75	-0.45	1	3.94				
Kosciusko	80	47	66	66	0	1.67	0.34	2	5.71				
Winona	80	42	61	63	-2	1.68	0.49	3	5.51				
Extreme/Average	82	40	63	66	-3	1.32	0.04	2	4.79				
<b>East-Central</b>													
Aberdeen	79	43	62	65	-3	1.68	0.44	2	4.59				
Macon	82	47	65	66	-1	1.26	0.11	3	2.92				
State University	81	44	63	66	-3	3.57	2.36	2	5.49				
Extreme/Average	82	43	63	66	-3	2.17	0.97	2	4.33				
<b>Southwest</b>													
Crystal Springs	83	48	66	68	-2	1.35	0.12	2	2.61				
Natchez	83	43	65	69	-4	2.05	0.72	1	2.62				
Port Gibson	80	45	62	66	-4	1.80	0.47	2	4.01				
Vicksburg	83	54	68			0.99		3	2.90				
Extreme/Average	83	43	65	68	-3	1.55	0.44	2	3.04				
<b>South-Central</b>													
Collins	84	47	67	68	-1	1.80	0.47	2	3.25				
Columbia	85	49	68	69	-1	2.15	0.82	2	5.19				
Raleigh	82	47	67			1.12		2	3.31				
Extreme/Average	85	47	67	69	-2	1.69	0.65	2	3.92				
<b>Southeast</b>													
Hattiesburg	82	49	68	69	-1	1.95	0.69	3	3.02				
Laurel	82	46	66	68	-2	1.79	0.59	3	2.89				
Extreme/Average	82	46	67	69	-2	1.87	0.64	3	2.96				
<b>Coastal</b>													
Wiggins	79	45	65	69	-4	0.17	-1.02	1	1.59				
Extreme/Average													
<b>State</b>	85	37	64	67	-3	2.03	0.82	2	4.48				

DFN = Departure from Normal.