

Weekly Weather Crop Report



In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending May 8, 2005

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending May 8, 2005**. Across the state, producers rejoiced with the arrival of several days of dry weather. While many continued planting row crops, others began making plans for replanting crops affected by recent heavy rains. Cool nighttime temperatures have hampered plant emergence as well as pasture development. For those producers harvesting ryegrass and hay, great strides were made this week with cutting and baling. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent very short, 25 percent short, 71 percent adequate, and 3 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	99	93	99	99	1	7	24	65	3
	Emerged	93	83	95	94					
Cotton	Planted	65	40	75	69	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	33	16	50	43					
Rice	Planted	93	81	90	80	0	2	11	82	5
	Emerged	71	48	76	57					
Sorghum	Planted	92	80	90	79	0	0	14	85	1
	Emerged	75	48	76	60					
Soybeans	Planted	79	63	87	69	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	55	38	74	52					
Wheat	Jointing	100	99	100	100	3	5	30	59	3
	Heading	96	91	99	99					
Hay (Cool Season)	Harvested	38	28	44	53	--	--	--	--	--
Watermelons	Planted	95	85	83	87	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle						1	6	36	42	15
Pasture						0	9	37	41	13

County Agent Comments

“Pounding 3" and 4" rains last week have producers walking the fields checking on what was planted prior to the hard rains to see if replant is necessary. The cold weather isn't helping emergence and is taking some of the vigor out of the plants. A lot of seed went into the ground this week.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Crops are being planted, and with the continued dry weather forecast, will be completed next week. Some replant is taking place where crops were planted and rains followed immediately.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Drier weather prevailed for the week allowing planting and weed control applications. Cool nights during the week continue to hamper pasture development.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“Farming activities are in full gear. Cool nights are holding back crops from really growing.”

— Perry Brumfield, Lincoln

“This week we saw activity on all fronts. Peanut and cotton planting got into full force, as well as, winter forage harvesting. Vegetables are well underway and blooms and young fruit are coming on strong.”

— Mike Steede, George

“Night time temps in the 40's have slowed the growth of summer grasses and vegetable crops. We have had several good days to harvest ryegrass hay this week. Brown patch disease is still a big problem in home lawns.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“The showers we received this morning will help crops. Some crops will have to be replanted because of poor stands.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“Cotton planting continued despite cool soil temps. About half the producers were waiting on warmer soils. Beans are coming up slowly and pastures are not growing with the below 60 degree nights. We need warmer weather!”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Drier weather allowed extensive field preparation and planting. Warmer temperatures were conducive for germination and emergence of planted crops and relieved some nutrient deficiency symptomology in corn.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Fields are drying faster than farmers have been able to plant. The result is that some producers have gone from too wet to too dry. While many waited to plant because of low soil temperatures, now their problem is lack of adequate soil moisture. It seems that we can't bet all the conditions right.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Ryegrass hay harvest and row crop planting continues at a fast pace. A good shower would help everyone but the hay harvesters. Cattle are looking better since the grass has begun to grow in the pastures. Maybe the extremely cool nights have ended.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“The wheat crop looks good and we should begin harvesting in the next week or two. The corn is growing well, although we could use a little rain in some areas. There is a lot of cool season hay harvesting activities going on at this time. This should finish the ryegrass harvesting for this year. Many of the fields of ryegrass are matured and the quality will probably be reduced.”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

“Ryegrass hay harvest in full swing. Soil moisture is getting short – we need rain! Commercial vegetable crops look good, with very little disease at the current time.”

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

“Producers took advantage of drier weather to continue field operations from planting corn and cotton to harvesting winter forages. Fertilizer applications and weed control spraying were also accomplished last week. Corn is still not growing well due to low night time temperatures, but should come on as temperatures warm.”

— Victor Lee, Newton

“Dry weather is allowing producers to cut and bale cool season hay. Ryegrass has shown rapid growth with cooler than average temperatures. This has allowed producers to graze these pastures longer than in past, which has lead to beef cattle conditions being better than they have in recent years.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Crops are in good condition, however cool nights are slowing down the ripening process of blueberries. Hay is being cut and rolled and cattle are putting on condition.”

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

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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Weather Summary from May 2, 2005 to May 8, 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	78	39	57	67	-10	0.00	-1.26	0	3.44				
Cleveland	83	46	61	68	-7	0.00	-1.17	0	3.22				
Tunica				67		0.01	-1.32	1	3.94				
Extreme/Average	83	39	59	68	-9	0.00	-1.26	0	3.53				
2. North-Central													
Hickory Flat	80	36	55	65	-10	0.00	-1.26	0	2.43				
Calhoun City	78	40	57	66	-9	0.00	-1.26	0	2.61				
Independence	79	36	56	65	-9	0.00	-1.19	0	3.52				
Oxford				65		0.00	-1.26	0	2.67				
Extreme/Average	80	36	56	66	-10	0.00	-1.26	0	2.81				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	75	38	58	65	-7	0.00	-1.39	0	2.30				
Iuka	78	32	54	63	-9	0.00	-1.38	0	2.71				
Ripley	80	35	56	65	-9	0.00	-1.26	0	2.13				
Tupelo	81	44	60			0.00		0	3.04				
Verona	82	43	60	67	-7	0.00	-1.12	0	2.39				
Extreme/Average	82	32	58	66	-8	0.00	-1.33	0	2.51				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	83	46	61	69	-8	0.00	-1.26	0	3.65				
Rolling Fork	87	47	63	69	-6	0.00	-1.26	0	2.87				
Stoneville	84	47	64	70	-6	0.00	-1.26	0	2.76				
Yazoo City	82	42	60	69	-9	0.00	-1.33	0	3.70				
Extreme/Average	87	42	62	70	-8	0.00	-1.33	0	3.25				
5. Central													
Canton	82	42	60	69	-9	0.00	-1.40	0	5.41				
Carthage	81	42	60	68	-8	0.00	-1.33	0	2.72				
Lexington	81	41	59	67	-8	0.00	-1.22	0	3.85				
Eupora				66		0.00	-1.20	0	3.15				
Extreme/Average	82	41	60	68	-8	0.00	-1.26	0	3.78				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	80	41	59	66	-7	0.00	-1.26	0	3.30				
Houston	80	37	57	65	-8	0.00	-1.24	0	3.00				
Louisville	76	42	58	66	-8	0.00	-1.26	0	2.11				
State University	83	41	60	67	-7	0.00	-1.19	0	4.06				
Extreme/Average	83	37	58	68	-10	0.00	-1.22	0	3.45				
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	81	48	62	69	-7	0.00	-1.16	0	2.41				
Natchez	81	43	60	70	-10	0.00	-1.29	0	1.08				
Oakley	82	41	60	69	-9	0.00	-1.15	0	2.19				
Vicksburg	81	44	60			0.02		1	3.69				
Extreme/Average	82	41	60	69	-9	0.01	-1.27	0	2.34				
8. South-Central													
Collins	77	46	60	69	-9	0.00	-1.36	0	2.55				
Columbia	82	47	63	70	-7	0.00	-1.33	0	4.31				
Tylertown	82	45	62	70	-8	0.00	-1.33	0	3.79				
Extreme/Average	82	45	62	70	-8	0.00	-1.33	0	3.55				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	82	47	63			0.00		0	2.82				
Hattiesburg	80	47	63	70	-7	0.00	-1.26	0	4.46				
Laurel	81	47	63	69	-6	0.00	-1.24	0	4.35				
Newton	81	40	60	67	-7	0.00	-1.08	0	5.02				
Extreme/Average	82	40	63	69	-6	0.00	-1.19	0	3.88				
10.Coastal													
Gulfport	79	50	65	72	-7	0.00	-1.27	0	5.31				
Poplarville	81	50	64	71	-7	0.00	-1.29	0	9.35				
Waveland	79	53	65	71	-6	0.00	-1.26	0	5.61				
Extreme/Average	81	50	65	71	-6	0.00	-1.30	0	6.76				
State	87	32	60	68	-8	0.00	-1.27	0	3.51				

DFN = Departure from Normal.