

Weekly Weather Crop Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending May 9, 2004

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending May 9, 2004**. Excellent weather conditions throughout the State allowed row crop planting to progress at a rapid rate. Soil moisture was rated 6 percent very short, 23 percent short, 68 percent adequate and 3 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 | 99 | 97 | 99 | 99 | 0 | 2 | 21 | 61 | 16 |
| | Emerged | 96 | 92 | 96 | 94 | | | | | |
| Cotton | Planted | 79 | 54 | 70 | 65 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| | Emerged | 54 | 25 | 51 | 41 | | | | | |
| Rice | Planted | 93 | 75 | 80 | 80 | 0 | 0 | 26 | 69 | 5 |
| | Emerged | 74 | 57 | 56 | 54 | | | | | |
| Sorghum | Planted | 93 | 75 | 81 | 79 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 68 | 2 |
| | Emerged | 75 | 50 | 64 | 59 | | | | | |
| Soybeans | Planted | 89 | 78 | 72 | 61 | 0 | 3 | 24 | 60 | 13 |
| | Emerged | 77 | 57 | 57 | 44 | | | | | |
| Wheat | Heading | 99 | 97 | 99 | 99 | 0 | 4 | 36 | 43 | 17 |
| Hay (Cool Season) | Harvested | 47 | 27 | 59 | 53 | 0 | 1 | 34 | 56 | 9 |
| Watermelons | Planted | 84 | 80 | 93 | 86 | 0 | 0 | 72 | 25 | 3 |
| Cattle | | | | | | 3 | 5 | 21 | 59 | 12 |
| Pasture | | | | | | 1 | 6 | 37 | 50 | 6 |

County Agent Comments

“Producers are busy planting rice, soybeans and cotton. This is the first weekend in over three weeks that rain has not been in the forecast.”

— Anthony Bland, Tunica

“We are wrapping up planting in the cotton, and are having a few spotting problems with slugs defoliating seedling cotton. Our early beans will need spraying for weeds this coming week.”

— Stephen R, Winters, Grenada

“Warmer temperatures and drier conditions through the week encouraged increased plants of all crops. Early planted soybeans and corn have responded to the moisture and warmer temperatures and are actively growing. Some cotton has emerged and appears to be healthy at this time.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“The past week without rain allowed lots of ryegrass and some warm-season grasses to be cut and baled. Pastures are beginning to grow now that the night-time temperatures are not in the 40's. Lots of folks have started spraying buttercups and other spring weeds.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“Moisture conditions are basically good over the entire county. Rainy conditions have slowed down hay harvesting of cool season forages. Corn has really jumped since the rains but cool nights are taking their toll.”

— Perry Brumfield, Lincoln

“Rain over the weekend was at just the right point for producers who were in drastic need of moisture for the crops. Pea-size hail was reported in the county but producers have reported no damage to crops. Watermelon producers are reporting that they expect a middle to late June harvest to meet market demands for the July 4th holiday.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Growers had a very good week. Most of our crops have been planted. Some soybeans may have to be replanted because of poor stands.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“A lot of cottonseed was planted this week. Most of the week we have had clear skies and warm weather. Crops are showing signs of growth. Generally the crops are off to a good start.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“We had some good weather last week to plant cotton and soybeans. If the rain holds off this week, a lot of planting will continue.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Heavy rains last week crusted soil on planted soybeans. Some producers are using a rotary to loosen soil. Some fields have been replanted. Corn looks good and insect pressure is light. Warm temps last week gave producers a chance to harvest cool-season hay.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah

“Very few acres of cotton remain to be planted. Other crops are planted. Overall, the crops are looking good with only minor problems requiring replanting. If we do not get a good general rain this week, many producers will start irrigating as early as today.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“We have had an unusually early planting season. Most all crops have been planted and are emerging. Not too many problems have occurred so far.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Essentially all corn has been planted, with the possible exception of a little silage corn following the harvest of cool-season grasses. Cotton and soybean plantings are progressing well over the entire area; however, some fields still remain too wet while others are too dry for best emergence. Many are hoping for a little rain to settle freshly tilled soil and provide moisture to germinate seed in dry areas. In most cases, plantings will be complete within the next week. Some replanting will be needed where fields were planted very early and went through the cool and wet period of two weeks ago. In most cases the crop is off to a good start.”

— Ernie Flint, Attala

“Planting of cotton will be completed in the next two weeks. Many farmers are hoping for a little rain to settle the dirt and provide any needed moisture for the germination of seeds. It seems as though the crops are off to a good start!”

— Kay Emmons, Montgomery

“Every tractor was running this week. One field of sweetpotatoes was set at end of week. Soil moisture is still adequate but rainfall will be needed by the middle of next week or germination will be delayed.”

— Dr. Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

“A dry week allowed row crop planting to progress. Corn planting is complete and soybeans and cotton are approaching the half-way mark. Pastures could use rain to bring out our warm season grasses. Clover is abundant in most fields due to favorable growing conditions for legumes. Pastures were fertilized and treated for weeds throughout the week.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“Ryegrass hay harvest continues with low yields resulting from extremely dry weather conditions in March and April. Corn for silage acreage has responded well to rainfall late last week.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

“We are seeing some disease activity in vegetable crops; fungicides are doing well, and insect activity in pine plantations is on the rise.”

— Mark Gillie, Greene

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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Mississippi Agricultural
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Weather Summary from May 3, 2004 to May 9, 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 | | | | | 67 | 0.00 | -1.26 | 0 | 5.75 | | | | |
| Cleveland | | | | | 68 | 0.01 | -1.15 | 1 | 4.24 | | | | |
| Tunica | | | | | 68 | 0.01 | -1.32 | 1 | 4.28 | | | | 0.28 |
| Extreme/Average | | | | | 68 | 0.01 | -1.25 | 1 | 5.00 | | | | |
| 2. North-Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| HickoryFlat | 88 | 38 | 64 | 65 | -1 | 0.11 | -1.15 | 1 | 5.69 | | | | |
| Calhoun City | 86 | 39 | 64 | 67 | -3 | 0.02 | -1.24 | 1 | 2.74 | | | | |
| Independence | 85 | 41 | 63 | 66 | -3 | 0.10 | -1.09 | 1 | 5.32 | | | | |
| Oxford | 88 | 42 | 66 | 66 | 0 | 0.09 | -1.17 | 1 | 6.13 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 88 | 38 | 64 | 66 | -2 | 0.08 | -1.18 | 1 | 4.97 | | | | |
| 3. Northeast | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Booneville | 91 | 41 | 66 | 65 | +1 | 0.22 | -1.19 | 1 | 3.39 | | | | |
| Iuka | 86 | 32 | 60 | 63 | -3 | 0.21 | -1.18 | 1 | 3.00 | | | | |
| Ripley | 87 | 38 | 63 | 65 | -2 | 0.13 | -1.13 | 1 | 5.62 | | | | |
| Tupelo | 89 | 41 | 66 | | | 0.06 | | 1 | 2.35 | | | | |
| Verona | | | | 67 | | 0.06 | -1.06 | 1 | 2.06 | | | | 0.27 |
| Extreme/Average | 91 | 32 | 64 | 66 | -2 | 0.16 | -1.17 | 1 | 3.59 | | | | |
| 4. LowerDelta | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Moorhead | 87 | 48 | 68 | 70 | -2 | 0.00 | -1.26 | 0 | 4.05 | | | | |
| RollingFork | 90 | 46 | 68 | 69 | -1 | 0.00 | -1.26 | 0 | 2.54 | 71 | 67 | 70 | |
| Stoneville | 89 | 47 | 69 | 70 | -1 | 0.00 | -1.26 | 0 | 3.66 | 89 | 61 | 74 | 0.27 |
| YazooCity | 88 | 43 | 66 | 70 | -4 | 0.00 | -1.33 | 0 | 4.44 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 90 | 43 | 68 | 70 | -2 | 0.00 | -1.33 | 0 | 3.67 | 89 | 61 | 72 | 0.27 |
| 5. Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Canton | 86 | 40 | 64 | 69 | -5 | 0.00 | -1.40 | 0 | 3.25 | | | | |
| Carthage | 87 | 39 | 63 | 68 | -5 | 0.00 | -1.33 | 0 | 2.78 | | | | |
| Lexington | 86 | 39 | 63 | 67 | -4 | 0.00 | -1.21 | 0 | 3.57 | | | | |
| Eupora | | | | 67 | | 0.00 | -1.19 | 0 | 2.26 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 87 | 39 | 64 | 68 | -4 | 0.00 | -1.26 | 0 | 2.97 | | | | |
| 6. East-Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aberdeen | 90 | 40 | 65 | 67 | -2 | 0.12 | -1.14 | 2 | 1.93 | | | | 0.28 |
| Houston | 87 | 37 | 63 | 66 | -3 | 0.03 | -1.22 | 1 | 2.82 | | | | |
| Louisville | | | | 67 | | 0.01 | -1.25 | 1 | 2.61 | | | | |
| StateUniversity | 90 | 41 | 67 | 67 | 0 | 0.00 | -1.19 | 0 | 1.91 | 84 | 60 | 72 | 0.21 |
| Extreme/Average | 90 | 37 | 65 | 68 | -3 | 0.04 | -1.17 | 1 | 2.32 | 84 | 60 | 72 | 0.23 |
| 7. Southwest | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CrystalSprings | 87 | 43 | 67 | 70 | -3 | 0.00 | -1.15 | 0 | 4.33 | 86 | 52 | 73 | |
| Natchez | 85 | 42 | 67 | 71 | -4 | 0.00 | -1.28 | 0 | 3.23 | | | | |
| Oakley | 88 | 43 | 67 | 69 | -2 | 0.00 | -1.14 | 0 | 5.46 | 89 | 63 | 74 | |
| Vicksburg | 85 | 46 | 67 | | | 0.00 | | 0 | 3.64 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 88 | 42 | 67 | 70 | -3 | 0.00 | -1.27 | 0 | 4.17 | 89 | 52 | 74 | |
| 8. South-Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Collins | | | | 69 | | 0.00 | -1.37 | 0 | 4.59 | | | | |
| Columbia | 89 | 44 | 67 | 70 | -3 | 0.00 | -1.32 | 0 | 3.40 | | | | |
| Tylertown | 89 | 43 | 66 | 70 | -4 | 0.00 | -1.33 | 0 | 6.45 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 89 | 43 | 67 | 70 | -3 | 0.00 | -1.33 | 0 | 4.81 | | | | |
| 9. Southeast | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Beaumont | 91 | 41 | 66 | | | 0.00 | | 0 | 3.72 | | | | |
| Hattiesburg | 88 | 42 | 67 | 70 | -3 | 0.00 | -1.26 | 0 | 3.11 | | | | |
| Laurel | 89 | 43 | 66 | 69 | -3 | 0.00 | -1.25 | 0 | 5.56 | | | | |
| Newton | | | | 67 | | 0.00 | -1.06 | 0 | 3.47 | | | | 0.21 |
| Extreme/Average | 91 | 41 | 67 | 69 | -2 | 0.00 | -1.19 | 0 | 3.97 | | | | 0.21 |
| 10.Coastal | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| BayStLouis | 89 | 44 | 66 | 71 | -5 | 0.00 | -1.30 | 0 | 6.20 | | | | |
| Gulfport | 86 | 48 | 67 | 73 | -6 | 0.00 | -1.28 | 0 | 5.39 | | | | |
| Pascagoula | 87 | 44 | 65 | 70 | -5 | 0.00 | -1.28 | 0 | 2.98 | | | | |
| Poplarville | 89 | 45 | 67 | 71 | -4 | 0.00 | -1.30 | 0 | 8.10 | 91 | 63 | 75 | 0.26 |
| Waveland | 85 | 48 | 66 | 71 | -5 | 0.01 | -1.25 | 1 | 5.43 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 89 | 44 | 66 | 72 | -6 | 0.00 | -1.31 | 0 | 5.67 | 91 | 63 | 75 | 0.26 |
| State | 91 | 32 | 66 | 69 | -3 | 0.03 | -1.23 | 0 | 4.00 | 91 | 52 | 73 | 0.24 |

DFN = Departure from Normal.