

In cooperation with
Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending May 21, 2006

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According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 5.4 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, May 21, 2006**. Drier weather has helped farm operators to plant row crops this week. In the northern half of the state, some cotton is suffering from seedling diseases and some growers are considering replanting. Pasture growth is slowing without any recent rainfall. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent very short, 16 percent short, 81 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2005	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Planted	100	100	100	100	0	2	14	56	28
	Emerged	100	99	99	99					
Cotton	Planted	87	73	93	90	3	10	24	54	9
	Emerged	74	65	78	78					
Peanuts	Planted	77	47	--	--	0	0	28	54	18
Rice	Planted	97	95	99	96	2	4	17	74	3
	Emerged	95	93	94	89					
Sorghum	Planted	99	97	100	96	0	1	4	95	0
	Emerged	98	95	97	91					
Soybeans	Planted	96	93	94	87	0	4	19	64	13
	Emerged	92	89	88	78					
Wheat	Heading	100	100	100	100	0	3	28	55	14
	Mature	32	1	25	25					
Hay (Cool Season)	Harvested	67	46	71	75	--	--	--	--	--
Sweetpotatoes	Planted	2	1	2	7	--	--	--	--	--
Watermelons	Planted	92	89	99	95	0	0	51	37	12
Blueberries						0	0	14	71	15
Cattle						1	7	24	50	18
Pasture						0	4	28	41	27

County Agent Comments

“We had excellent weather to plant cotton and soybeans. Producers should complete planting this week if it doesn't rain.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“This past week, for the first time, excellent progress was made toward the completion of planting for all crops. Some decisions to replant were made last week. Additional replant evaluations will be made this week. Seedling diseases in cotton are causing some worries. Some cotton will be replanted due to those diseases. Glyphosate drift onto rice was found on large areas of rice plus some sweet corn and grain sorghum this past week. Five to twenty percent of the rice will be replanted.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Spraying has been delayed due to high winds. Crops have been slowed by cool nights. Warm, dry weather ahead should solve many of the problems I am seeing in all crops.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“The past few dry days have allowed more hay to be cut and cured without rain. Cooler than average temperatures have slowed the perennial hay grasses from growing as fast as they usually do. Hopefully, most of the ryegrass that will be cut for hay is already harvested this year.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“Dry weather has allowed fieldwork. We should finish planting this week and start harvesting wheat.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“Cotton has suffered from the cold, wet, windy conditions of the last 2 weeks. At this point, our cotton crop looks as bad as I have ever seen it look. We need some warm weather for both cotton and rice.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“Cotton hasn't been growing actively for almost a month now because of the cool temperatures. Many producers are walking the fields every day now to make decisions on whether or not to replant.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Any cotton planted in the last 15 days is heavily infected with sore shin. We may be looking at 50% or more replanting in Grenada.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Warmer temperatures have improved the growth and health of all crops. Soybean and cotton planting has resumed and most growers should finish within a week. Post emergence glyphosate applications have begun and are working well.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Pasture weed control and fertilizer applications were made during the week. Over the top weed applications were applied to soybeans with good results. Cool weather stalled cotton development.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“Wheat looks good. The fields will be ready to harvest in the next week or two. The potential yields on wheat look good. Some farmers are planning to plant milo after the completion of their wheat harvest instead of soybeans.”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

“We could use rain. It's really beginning to dry up. Pastures need to grow some as cattle are consuming spring grass in a hurry. Very little ryegrass hay was harvested due to short grazing in the winter. Cotton and peanut planting continues. Beetle activity is expected on pines that were damaged from storms.”

— Lee Taylor, Forrest

“Ryegrass hay harvest is complete. We are drying out fast. Summer pastures are still struggling. Tomato spotted wilt virus is hitting tomato patches.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Producers took advantage of drier weather to return to the field. More winter hay was cut this week and additional field operations continued. Cooler nights last week will delay the ripening of tomatoes in gardens and commercial operations.”

— Victor Lee, Newton

“Rainfall is still needed to insure a good harvest for corn, watermelons, and peanuts as well as improving grazing for cattle.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Corn is in good condition, however some worm activity has been identified. Cool-season hay harvesting is near completion. Some watermelons are recovering from hail damage, but overall, the crop is doing well. There should be local melons ready by June 20. Blueberry harvesting should begin before the end of May. Pastures are doing well after the rain last week. Fertilizers are being applied to summer hay fields.”

— 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 15, 2006 to May 21, 2006 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													
Cleveland	91	50	70	72	-2	0.00	-1.12	0	7.30				
Lambert	93	49	68			0.05	-1.28	1	5.68				
Tunica	91	52	69	71	-2	0.12	-1.17	1	7.32				
Extreme/Average	93	49	69	72	-3	0.06	-1.18	1	6.77				
2. North-Central													
Calhoun City	88	45	65	70	-5	0.01	-1.20	1	4.56				
Hickory Flat	89	42	63	68	-5	0.15	-1.11	1	5.78				
Independence	88	44	65	69	-4	0.13	-1.13	1	6.55				
Oxford	89	44	67	69	-2	0.14	-1.17	1	4.86				
Extreme/Average	89	42	64	70	-6	0.10	-1.16	1	5.63				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	88	50	65	69	-4	0.20	-1.26	1	4.17				
Iuka	99	37	63	66	-3	0.76	-0.67	4	4.18				
Ripley	88	43	63	68	-5	0.32	-0.90	1	5.34				
Tupelo	90	48	67			0.02		1	4.74				
Verona	89	47	65	70	-5	0.00	-1.05	0	5.93				
Extreme/Average	99	37	65	70	-5	0.26	-1.07	1	4.87				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	90	51	71	73	-2	0.00	-1.19	0	3.43				
Rolling Fork	94	50	70	73	-3	0.02	-1.17	1	2.35				
Stoneville	92	52	73	73	0	0.22	-0.97	1	5.15				
Yazoo City				73		0.00	-1.26	0	3.32				
Extreme/Average	94	50	70	73	-3	0.01	-1.25	0	2.89				
5. Central													
Canton	89	46	65	73	-8	0.22	-1.08	1	2.85				
Carthage	88	46	65	71	-6	0.00	-1.22	0	5.89				
Eupora	89	44	64	70	-6	0.08	-1.11	1	3.79				
Lexington	89	45	66	70	-4	0.11	-1.08	1	2.61				
Extreme/Average	89	44	65	71	-6	0.06	-1.11	1					
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	91	46	66	70	-4	0.00	-1.24	0	2.89				
Houston	88	43	64	69	-5	0.00	-1.26	0	4.03				
Philadelphia	92	47	66	71	-5	0.15	-1.02	1	7.94				
State University	90	49	67	71	-4	0.00	-1.09	0	3.73				
Extreme/Average	92	43	66	71	-5	0.04	-1.11	0	3.46				
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	90	50	69	73	-4	0.33	-0.72	1	5.99				
Natchez	88	48	68	73	-5	0.00	-1.23	0	3.63				
Oakley	85	38	63	72	-9	0.33	-0.72	1	5.00				
Vicksburg	88	52	69			0.38		2	7.76				
Extreme/Average	90	38	67	73	-6	0.26	-0.95	1	5.79				
8. South-Central													
Collins	90	50	67	72	-5	0.00	-1.33	0	5.45				
Columbia	90	51	69	74	-5	0.00	-1.26	0	4.08				
Tylertown	91	47	68	73	-5	0.00	-1.29	0	4.54				
Extreme/Average	91	47	68	73	-5	0.00	-1.26	0	4.69				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont													
Hattiesburg	91	48	68	73	-5	0.02	-1.17	1	2.57				
Laurel	90	50	68	72	-4	0.01	-1.18	1	7.46				
Newton	90	46	67	71	-4	0.00	-0.90	0	7.81				
Extreme/Average	91	46	68	72	-4	0.01	-1.10	1	7.46				
10. Coastal													
Gulfport	87	53	72	76	-4	0.00	-1.32	0	2.63				
Pascagoula 3 NE				73					4.99				
Picayune				74		0.00	-1.16	0	0.30				
Extreme/Average	87	53	72	75	-3	0.00	-1.33	0	2.63				
State	99	37	67	72	-5	0.08	-1.13	1	5.02				

DFN = Departure from Normal.