



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 25, 2008

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According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 5.1 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, May 25, 2008**. Scattered rains provided needed moisture for pastures, vegetable crops and seed germination and emergence; but it hindered wheat harvesting and halted some planting activities. Herbicide and nitrogen applications are being applied to field corn while soybean planting continues as field conditions improve. Escalating costs of production are of notable concern to producers, and there is an urgency to complete crop planting to maximize production. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent very short, 12 percent short, 75 percent adequate and 12 percent surplus.

Crop progress for week ending 05/25/08

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Corn, planted	100	99	100	100
Corn, emerged	99	98	100	100
Cotton, planted	77	37	97	94
Cotton, emerged	40	23	84	84
Hay-Cool Season, harvested	81	63	85	78
Hay-Warm Season, harvested	7	4	7	10
Peanuts, planted	80	70	69	--
Rice, planted	92	83	99	98
Rice, emerged	82	75	96	94
Sorghum, planted	79	61	97	98
Sorghum, emerged	63	48	88	95
Soybeans, planted	85	74	97	93
Soybeans, emerged	72	64	91	89
Sweet Potatoes, planted	5	0	20	13
Watermelons, planted	97	96	100	96
Winter Wheat, mature	67	2	68	49
Winter Wheat, harvested	2	--	11	5

Crop condition for week ending 05/25/08

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Blueberries	1	5	13	77	4
Corn	4	6	20	60	10
Hay	6	7	29	57	1
Livestock	2	14	30	41	13
Pasture	2	6	37	45	10
Rice	1	3	19	69	8
Sorghum	1	5	15	70	9
Soybeans	1	10	31	50	8
Watermelons	0	0	42	58	0
Winter Wheat	2	7	21	48	22

Comments

“Growers had a very good week for fieldwork. Most of our crops are planted. Some of our corn is being irrigated. Things look much better.”

— Don Respass, Coahoma

“The combination of cool temperatures and a reduction of fertilizer applications have slowed the transition of cool season grasses to the warm season grasses. Input costs continue to skyrocket as some producers have made the management decision to completely sell out their herds. Some renewed optimism has been seen along with the stronger than expected calf prices and higher cull cow prices.”

— Mike Howell, Lee

“Winter wheat is near maturity with few pest problems. Soybean planting continues as field conditions improve. Bean leaf beetles are present in most soybean fields. Post emergence herbicides and nitrogen are being applied to field corn.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“We are in an almost constant state of change with poor growing conditions, pests, replanting, and weed competition. This continues to be a very challenging spring for producers. Data shown in my estimates are subject to change since stands are deteriorating and may require replanting. Wheat is nearing harvest, but rains have prevented good drying that is needed before combines can run.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Producers are still trying to dry the fields out to finish planting. Cost of production is increasing. This is causing major concern and there is an urgency to get the crops planted to maximize production. It's not an option anymore to make an average crop.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Producers had a chance to catch up on planting soybeans this past week. Scattered showers have provided good moisture for seed germination and emergence.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“What a difference a week makes. We are 90 percent planted on cotton now and most looks good.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“I believe this has been the first week this year where farmers were able to work more than two days in the field. Good progress was made with planting activities. Many growers have now completed their planting activities, at least for the first time.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“The planting and replanting of crops between showers has put us in fairly good shape as far as acreage planted. We are still running behind for the average time for planting all crops.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Warm temps both day and night have quickened the pace of crop development for both row crops and forages. Scattered thunderstorms this week brought as much as 1 inch of rain to some areas.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“We have had some scattered showers throughout the county this week. Watermelons are looking okay. The soil could use some moisture.”

— Thomas E. Brewer, Jefferson Davis

“Corn and peanuts are looking good. Cotton planting is almost complete. Scattered showers have helped provide some much needed moisture in some areas. Pastures will need some more rain to keep them progressing as needed for grazing and hay.”

— Chuck Grantham, Forrest

“Much of our sandy loam soils are getting dry. We could use a good rain.”

— Mark Gillie, Greene

“Recent thunderstorms have provided moisture needed for pastures, vegetable crops, corn and watermelons. It has hampered the harvesting of the wheat crop.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Fuel! Fuel! Fuel! High fuel prices have been the lead discussion among farmers. Corn is growing well. Watermelons are progressing and growing well. Blueberries are progressing moderately, but they need warmer night time temperatures to progress faster. Cool season hay harvest is taking place but at a slow rate. Fuels prices are hindering contract hay harvesters from taking on new contracts. About 1.5 to 3.0 inches of rain fell in parts of the county on Thursday night and Friday. This will be good for all crops!!!!”

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

(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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U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural
Statistics Service - Mississippi FO
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Mississippi Weather Summary for Week Ending 05/25/08

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	
Upper Delta													
Cleveland	91	56	74	73	1	0.35	-0.77	1	7.43				
Lambert	91	56	76			0.06	-1.27	2	9.64				
Tunica	89	59	75	72	3	0.02	-1.24	2	2.52				
Extreme/Average	91	56	75	73	2	0.14	-1.09	2	6.53				
North-Central													
Grenada	87	55	72	71	1		-1.12	0	5.93				
Independence	86	52	72	70	2	0.03	-1.23	1	7.59				
Oxford	88	53	72	70	2	0.06	-1.21	2	6.41				
Water Valley	89	48	71	71	0	0.22	-1.04	2	7.64				
Extreme/Average	89	48	72	71	1	0.08	-1.15	1	6.89				
Northeast													
Booneville	88	52	69	70	-1	0.05	-1.37	1	1.20				
Ripley	87	50	70	69	1	0.07	-1.12	1	6.33				
Tupelo	88	55	72			0.42		1	3.82				
Verona	88	54	72	71	1	0.73	-0.33	2	5.59				
Extreme/Average	88	50	71	70	1	0.32	-0.94	1	4.24				
Lower Delta													
Belzoni	91	62	76	74	2	0.49	-0.88	2	4.82				
Moorhead	89	60	75	74	1	1.01	-0.14	4	5.94				
Rolling Fork	92	62	76	74	2	1.54	0.38	1	10.96				
Yazoo City	90	59	75	74	1	0.84	-0.38	2	7.34				
Extreme/Average	92	59	76	74	2	0.97	-0.26	2	7.27				
Central													
Canton	89	57	73	74	-1	2.29	1.06	2	6.95				
Kosciusko	88	58	74	72	2	0.66	-0.50	4	4.75				
Winona	88	53	72	68	4	0.29	-0.83	3	4.62				
Extreme/Average	89	53	73	73	1	1.08	-0.09	3	5.44				
East-Central													
Aberdeen	87	56	71	71		0.05	-1.15	1	4.60				
Macon	89	62	75	72	3	0.95	-0.03	1	4.73				
State University	88	60	75	72	3	0.20	-0.85	2	6.04				
Extreme/Average	88	56	74	72	2	0.40	-0.68	1	5.12				
Southwest													
Crystal Springs	91	63	76	74	2	0.13	-0.95	1	2.68				
Natchez	91	63	78	74	4	1.00	-0.19	1	5.97				
Vicksburg	92	63	77			0.63		1	4.17				
Extreme/Average	92	63	77	74	3	0.59	-0.57	1	4.27				
South-Central													
Collins	90	61	77	73	4	0.10	-1.19	1	4.40				
Columbia	91	60	78	75	3	0.16	-1.08	1	4.61				
Extreme/Average	91	60	78	74	4	0.13	-1.14	1	4.51				
Southeast													
Hattiesburg	92	56	77	74	3	0.18	-0.98	1	4.24				
Laurel	90	60	77	73	4	0.80	-0.36	3	5.08				
Newton	90	50	73	72	1	0.98	0.12	1	7.71				
Extreme/Average	92	50	76	73	3	0.65	-0.41	2	5.68				
Coastal													
Extreme/Average													
State	92	48	75	73	2	0.48	-0.70	2	5.55				

DFN = Departure from Normal.