

## Weekly Weather Crop Report



In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending May 29, 2005

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending May 29, 2005**. Farmers in isolated areas of the state welcomed the rains that arrived over the weekend, while those that did not receive rain hope that it arrives soon. The lack of rain has resulted in increased thrip presence on the cotton crop. Insecticides are being used to control thrip and other pests that have been a nuisance due to the dry weather. Sweetpotato transplanting has begun for producers in the state. Blueberry harvest began for many growers last week. Soil moisture was rated 3 percent very short, 30 percent short, 40 percent adequate, and 27 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                    | Emerged   | 100           | 99        | 100  | 100      | 0                         | 6    | 18   | 65   | 11        |
| Cotton                  | Planted   | 98            | 94        | 97   | 96       | 0                         | 6    | 25   | 64   | 5         |
|                         | Emerged   | 92            | 81        | 93   | 90       |                           |      |      |      |           |
| Rice                    | Planted   | 99            | 99        | 99   | 98       | 0                         | 1    | 14   | 80   | 5         |
|                         | Emerged   | 98            | 95        | 98   | 92       |                           |      |      |      |           |
| Sorghum                 | Emerged   | 100           | 98        | 98   | 95       | 0                         | 1    | 12   | 87   | 0         |
| Soybeans                | Planted   | 97            | 95        | 97   | 91       | 0                         | 4    | 21   | 72   | 3         |
|                         | Emerged   | 93            | 89        | 94   | 84       |                           |      |      |      |           |
|                         | Blooming  | 10            | --        | 9    | 6        |                           |      |      |      |           |
| Wheat                   | Mature    | 60            | 28        | 66   | 62       | 2                         | 5    | 30   | 61   | 2         |
| Hay (Cool Season)       | Harvested | 84            | 72        | 74   | 85       | 0                         | 14   | 23   | 44   | 19        |
|                         |           | (Warm Season) | 15        | 12   | 13       |                           |      |      |      |           |
| Sweetpotatoes           | Planted   | 8             | 2         | 19   | 21       | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
| Watermelons             | Planted   | 100           | 99        | 92   | 95       | 0                         | 21   | 52   | 27   | 0         |
| Blueberries             |           |               |           |      |          | 0                         | 0    | 6    | 80   | 14        |
| Cattle                  |           |               |           |      |          | 1                         | 4    | 23   | 51   | 21        |
| Pasture                 |           |               |           |      |          | 2                         | 6    | 29   | 43   | 20        |

### County Agent Comments

“We keep missing the 80% chance for rain. Rainfall last weekend ranged from none to 3/4 inch. In some places it was just enough to hurt emerging seeds. There are still several large cotton producers that need rain before they plant.”

— Ann Ruscoe, Coahoma

“Close to 4 inches of rain fell between Saturday night and Tuesday morning and should be enough for the last of the crops planted to come to a stand. This was a slow, easy rain with very little run off.”

— Robert Martin, Issaquena

“Pastures and row crop fields will benefit from recent rains that have occurred over the past few days. Ryegrass hay harvest is about completed and warm-season grass hay harvesting is about to get into full swing. Cattle are starting to look better since warm weather and rains have stimulated forage growth.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“Producers are getting the rain that was needed.”

— Thomas E. Brewer, Jefferson Davis

“Rain is desperately needed. Pastures are beginning to show the effect of the lack of rainfall. This could result in cattle conditions deteriorating. Watermelons will also be affected from lack of rainfall with lower production levels.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“We have received light amounts of rainfall through Sunday. We still need a good soaker.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“Everyone is irrigating or about to start. A lot of beans are left to plant. Some farmers are putting them in dry dirt and some are waiting on a rain.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“The soil is very dry. Heavy infestations of thrips continue to plague cotton. A good general rain would help tremendously.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Dry weather has halted planting. Most of the county has not received rain in nearly two weeks. Soybeans planted on some of our lighter soils are already showing signs of stress.”

— Anthony Bland, Tunica

“We are still in need for some rain throughout the county. Gardens, truck patches and fields are dry.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Thrips are continuing to infest cotton. Some cotton is getting the 3rd or 4th leaf and we are letting the thrips go. The second roundup shots are going out before the 5th leaf. We need a little rain to keep things going.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Grass weeds have emerged in most crops and some herbicides are being applied. Insecticides are being applied to some seedling cotton to control thrips. Rain is needed to avoid stress on most crops.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Most of the week was devoted to spraying herbicides and irrigating crops. Much needed rain fell over the holiday weekend.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Close to 4 inches of rain that fell between Saturday night and Tuesday morning should be enough for the last of the crops planted to come to a stand. This was a slow, easy rain with very little run off.”

— Robert Martin, Sharkey

“Dry weather is still the order of the day. Some producers saw showers, but most were scattered thunderstorms dropping from 1-3 inches in limited areas.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Some areas were stressed prior to rains over the weekend. Corn planted on light soils was showing visible stress prior to the rain, and some yield reduction may have already occurred. Most fields have received moisture in time to avoid damage. Cotton and soybeans were still in good shape, but should now avoid any visible stress. If rains continue through the week as predicted, some fields may be damaged by localized flooding.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Farmers were in full gear harvesting hay, but this has been delayed by several rains.”

— Perry Brumfield, Lincoln

“We received about two inches of rain, which was very much needed. Corn and summer pastures should look much better this week. Home gardens will really improve after the rain.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Blueberry harvest began last week. Growers have harvested "lead berries." Rain on Saturday, and projected rain this week, will shut harvest down before it even gets started. Corn, watermelons, and cattle are in good condition.”

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

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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:**

**U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Mississippi Cooperative  
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Dr. Joseph H. McGilberry, Director**

**Southern Regional Climate Center  
Louisiana State University  
Elizabeth Sanders  
Service Climatologist**

**U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Mississippi Agricultural  
Statistics Service  
Thomas L. Gregory, Director**

Weather Summary from May 23, 2005 to May 29, 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       |                 |     |     | 72   |     | 0.30          | -0.90 | 2         | 1.35       |                         |     |     |              |
| Cleveland        | 93              | 57  | 75  | 74   | +1  | 0.84          | -0.31 | 2         | 2.35       |                         |     |     |              |
| Tunica           | 88              | 58  | 75  | 73   | +2  | 0.04          | -1.22 | 2         | 0.82       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 93              | 57  | 75  | 74   | +1  | 0.39          | -0.80 | 2         | 1.51       |                         |     |     |              |
| 2. North-Central |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Hickory Flat     | 88              | 48  | 70  | 71   | -1  | 0.00          | -1.22 | 0         | 0.82       |                         |     |     |              |
| Calhoun City     | 87              | 51  | 71  | 72   | -1  | 1.30          | +0.11 | 2         | 1.73       |                         |     |     |              |
| Independence     | 87              | 49  | 70  | 71   | -1  | 0.00          | -1.24 | 0         | 0.71       |                         |     |     |              |
| Oxford           | 90              | 51  | 73  | 71   | +2  | 0.14          | -1.12 | 2         | 0.47       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 90              | 48  | 71  | 72   | -1  | 0.36          | -0.84 | 1         | 0.93       |                         |     |     |              |
| 3. Northeast     |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Booneville       | 84              | 55  | 71  | 71   | 0   | 0.00          | -1.37 | 0         | 0.73       |                         |     |     |              |
| Iuka             | 83              | 43  | 66  | 68   | -2  | 0.02          | -1.29 | 1         | 1.12       |                         |     |     |              |
| Ripley           | 86              | 49  | 69  | 71   | -2  | 0.00          | -1.19 | 0         | 0.51       |                         |     |     |              |
| Tupelo           | 88              | 56  | 74  |      |     | 0.00          |       | 0         | 0.27       |                         |     |     |              |
| Verona           | 89              | 54  | 73  | 73   | 0   | 0.37          | -0.73 | 2         | 1.28       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 89              | 43  | 71  | 72   | -1  | 0.08          | -1.21 | 1         | 0.78       |                         |     |     |              |
| 4. Lower Delta   |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Moorhead         | 94              | 61  | 77  | 75   | +2  | 1.00          | -0.12 | 2         | 1.81       |                         |     |     |              |
| Rolling Fork     | 94              | 57  | 77  | 75   | +2  | 3.53          | +2.41 | 2         | 4.26       |                         |     |     |              |
| Stoneville       | 96              | 58  | 77  | 75   | +2  | 0.93          | -0.18 | 2         | 1.29       |                         |     |     |              |
| Yazoo City       | 92              | 58  | 74  | 75   | -1  | 2.65          | +1.49 | 2         | 3.10       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 96              | 57  | 76  | 75   | +1  | 2.03          | +0.85 | 2         | 2.62       |                         |     |     |              |
| 5. Central       |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Canton           | 92              | 53  | 73  | 75   | -2  | 2.18          | +1.04 | 2         | 5.73       |                         |     |     |              |
| Carthage         |                 |     |     | 73   |     | 1.50          | +0.41 | 1         | 2.75       |                         |     |     |              |
| Lexington        | 90              | 52  | 72  | 72   | 0   | 2.06          | +0.94 | 1         | 3.39       |                         |     |     |              |
| Eupora           |                 |     |     | 72   |     | 1.65          | +0.53 | 1         | 3.35       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 92              | 52  | 73  | 73   | 0   | 1.85          | +0.77 | 1         | 3.81       |                         |     |     |              |
| 6. East-Central  |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Aberdeen         | 89              | 53  | 72  | 72   | 0   | 0.39          | -0.79 | 2         | 1.08       |                         |     |     |              |
| Houston          | 87              | 52  | 70  | 71   | -1  | 1.11          | -0.15 | 2         | 2.24       |                         |     |     |              |
| Louisville       |                 |     |     | 72   |     | 1.76          | +0.71 | 2         | 3.06       |                         |     |     |              |
| State University |                 |     |     | 73   |     | 1.52          | +0.49 | 1         | 2.02       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 89              | 52  | 71  | 73   | -2  | 1.20          | +0.10 | 2         | 2.10       |                         |     |     |              |
| 7. Southwest     |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Crystal Springs  | 93              | 52  | 76  | 75   | +1  | 1.23          | +0.11 | 2         | 3.18       |                         |     |     |              |
| Natchez          | 93              | 58  | 76  | 75   | +1  | 1.80          | +0.61 | 2         | 3.83       |                         |     |     |              |
| Oakley           | 93              | 56  | 75  | 74   | +1  | 1.43          | +0.38 | 2         | 3.88       |                         |     |     |              |
| Vicksburg        | 94              | 58  | 76  |      |     | 0.92          |       | 2         | 1.27       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 94              | 52  | 76  | 75   | +1  | 1.35          | +0.16 | 2         | 3.04       |                         |     |     |              |
| 8. South-Central |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Collins          | 92              | 57  | 74  | 74   | 0   | 0.04          | -1.18 | 1         | 1.30       |                         |     |     |              |
| Columbia         | 95              | 60  | 78  | 76   | +2  | 0.24          | -0.96 | 2         | 0.51       |                         |     |     |              |
| Tylertown        | 95              | 57  | 77  | 75   | +2  | 0.20          | -1.04 | 1         | 0.26       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 95              | 57  | 76  | 75   | +1  | 0.16          | -1.04 | 1         | 0.69       |                         |     |     |              |
| 9. Southeast     |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Beaumont         | 95              | 55  | 76  |      |     | 0.10          |       | 1         | 0.33       |                         |     |     |              |
| Hattiesburg      | 96              | 57  | 76  | 75   | +1  | 0.07          | -1.05 | 1         | 0.25       |                         |     |     |              |
| Laurel           | 94              | 57  | 75  | 74   | +1  | 0.00          | -1.09 | 0         | 0.32       |                         |     |     |              |
| Newton           | 93              | 49  | 72  | 73   | -1  | 0.17          | -0.67 | 1         | 0.36       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 96              | 49  | 75  | 74   | +1  | 0.09          | -0.94 | 1         | 0.30       |                         |     |     |              |
| 10.Coastal       |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Gulfport         | 92              | 63  | 76  | 77   | -1  | 0.00          | -1.25 | 0         | 0.05       |                         |     |     |              |
| Poplarville      |                 |     |     | 76   |     | 0.03          | -1.16 | 1         | 0.22       |                         |     |     |              |
| Waveland         | 94              | 64  | 78  | 76   | +2  | 0.00          | -1.19 | 0         | 0.08       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 94              | 63  | 77  | 76   | +1  | 0.01          | -1.25 | 0         | 0.12       |                         |     |     |              |
| State            | 96              | 43  | 74  | 74   | 0   | 0.83          | -0.32 | 1         | 1.72       |                         |     |     |              |

DFN = Departure from Normal.