

## Weekly Weather Crop Report



In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending July 3, 2005

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending July 3, 2005**. Isolated showers throughout the state have allowed for some relief from the dry weather that has affected crops and livestock for several weeks. Farmers are irrigating their crops to help prevent stress and damage threats. Pasture growth has been minimal, and cattle producers are feeding hay to cattle until enough rain falls to improve growth. Blueberry harvesting is progressing well, and warm-season hay harvesting has been ahead of schedule due to the hot and dry weather conditions. Soil moisture was rated 23 percent very short, 41 percent short, 33 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	Silked	90	79	96	91	4	7	26	57	6
	Dough	42	13	56	54					
	Dent	3	0	17	16					
Cotton	Emerged	100	99	100	100	4	8	23	63	2
	Squaring	86	65	79	82					
	Setting Bolls	17	3	27	31					
Rice	Heading	8	2	8	6	0	1	14	73	12
Sorghum	Heading	49	15	61	49	0	1	8	91	0
Soybeans	Emerged	100	99	100	100	2	7	21	68	2
	Blooming	84	66	78	63					
	Setting Pods	54	31	60	34					
Wheat	Harvested	100	97	95	98	--	--	--	--	--
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	51	45	30	45	5	8	37	42	8
Sweetpotatoes	Planted	90	61	75	88	0	3	17	65	15
Watermelons	Harvested	49	32	33	33	0	1	81	18	0
Blueberries						0	0	24	67	9
Cattle						0	7	21	51	21
Pasture						6	13	29	42	10

### County Agent Comments

“We desperately need rain. The corn crop will be lost if we do not get rain soon.”

— Steve Cummings, Yalobusha

“We received 1.5 inches of rain this week, which made a big improvement in crop appearance. Insect pressure is still light overall, but limited spidermite have gone out. The last glyphosate applications have been made to most of the crop. Soil moisture is adequate, but more rains would be welcomed.”

— Dr. Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

“Spotty showers have helped with crop and pasture conditions. Corn looks good as silage cutting time nears. Soybeans appear to be off to a good start, and summer pastures could use a little more rain to improve quantity and quality. Some producers have had to start feeding hay. Insects and disease seem to be on the rise in gardens and lawns. Hot, humid temperatures are also making life miserable for livestock.”

— Richard Hay, Amite

“Crops look good at this point, but there is a great need for some rain in most areas. A good rain will finish out the corn crop. We will begin harvesting our silage corn in the next couple of weeks. Cotton and soybeans look good. We sure need some rain on these crops. Most of the fields I have checked look good as far as insect loads. We still need to keep a close eye on the stink bug numbers in both cotton and soybean fields.”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

“Some parts of the county have received some showers, but we are mostly dry. Insect pressure in cotton is light. We need a good rain.”

— Don Respess, Bolivar

“A lot of polyline has gone out this week due to the drought. Most crops are burning up. Grass cut for hay needs very little time before it is ready to bale. We are dry.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Crops are in need of rain. Slight decrease in disease but insect pressure has increased in beans and cotton. Pastures are beginning to dry up.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah

“It is dry. Many cotton growers applied their layby herbicides early so they could lay irrigation pipe and start irrigating. Those with irrigation capabilities have been very busy irrigating their crops.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Dry, hot weather is beginning to take a toll on many crops. Irrigated fields are looking good. Most dryland crops are suffering for moisture. Insects associated with dry weather are being treated.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Scattered showers have kept crops from severe damage so far, but we need a good rain to avoid significant yield losses in corn and soybeans. Cotton is now entering its main fruiting period, so moisture supplies will be critical for this crop as well.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Scattered showers have kept crops from severe damage so far, but amounts are not significant. We are in desperate need of a good rain to avoid significant yield losses in corn and soybeans. Cotton is now entering its main fruiting period, so moisture supplies will be critical for this crop as well.”

— Kay Emmons, Montgomery

“Typical summer shower activity brought 0.5 to 1.25 inches of rain this week. Growing conditions are favorable for pastures and row crops. Weed control and hay harvest was a major activity this week.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“Extremely dry!!! Need rains soon ,pastures getting short!!! Cattle producers haying cattle in some areas.”

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

“All crops and forages are drought stressed. Pastures are short and some supplemental feeding may be necessary for some producers. Corn is stressed and needs rain to finish filling out. Poultry growers are staying close to houses with large birds trying to keep them cool.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Dry weather has had an impact on Beef Cattle Producers, some producers are feeding cool season hay harvested earlier this year to poor conditions of pastures. Rain is needed to improve conditions for beef producers who have felt the effect of the lower cattle prices at sales as they reduce their herds due to lack of grazing.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Watermelon harvest began. Blueberry harvest is 2/3 complete. Warm season hay harvest is under way. Cattle is in good condition. Corn is beginning to silks. All commodity crops could use a good rain to complete the crop.”

— 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:**

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

Weather Summary from June 27, 2005 to July 3, 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	97	68	82	80	+2	0.40	-0.73	2	2.80				
Cleveland	95	69	81	81	0	0.12	-0.87	1	2.89				
Tunica	97	70	82	81	+1	0.08	-1.00	1	0.85				
Extreme/Average	97	68	82	81	+1	0.20	-0.89	1	2.18				
2. North-Central													
Hickory Flat	95	66	80	78	+2	0.00	-1.05	0	3.72				
Calhoun City	92	67	78	79	-1	0.67	-0.38	2	3.38				
Independence	95	66	79	79	0	0.03	-0.99	1	1.03				
Oxford	96	67	81	79	+2	0.00	-0.98	0	2.18				
Extreme/Average	96	66	80	79	+1	0.18	-0.87	1	2.58				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	91	69	80	78	+2	0.01	-0.97	1	5.10				
Iuka	91	63	77	76	+1	0.10	-0.84	1	3.86				
Ripley	94	67	79	78	+1	1.43	+0.31	2	4.40				
Tupelo	94	71	81			0.61		3	3.00				
Verona	96	70	82	80	+2	0.00	-0.94	0	4.48				
Extreme/Average	96	63	80	79	+1	0.43	-0.55	1	4.09				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	94	70	82	81	+1	1.22	+0.13	2	3.59				
Rolling Fork	98	69	83	81	+2	0.00	-0.98	0	1.18				
Stoneville	98	69	82	82	0	0.20	-0.73	1	0.92				
Yazoo City	94	62	80	81	-1	0.42	-0.49	1	1.94				
Extreme/Average	98	62	82	82	0	0.46	-0.55	1	1.91				
5. Central													
Canton	96	67	80	81	-1	0.04	-0.72	1	1.59				
Carthage	95	67	82	80	+2	0.00	-0.87	0	1.13				
Lexington	94	67	79	79	0	0.31	-0.61	2	0.81				
Eupora	94	65	79	79	0	0.60	-0.38	3	1.72				
Extreme/Average	96	65	80	80	0	0.24	-0.75	2	1.31				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	94	70	80	79	+1	0.43	-0.51	1	7.35				
Houston	94	66	79	78	+1	0.00	-1.10	0	2.05				
Louisville				78		0.14	-0.95	2	1.79				
State University				80		0.00	-0.98	0	4.00				
Extreme/Average	94	66	80	80	0	0.14	-0.91	1	3.80				
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	95	67	82	81	+1	0.30	-0.89	1	3.00				
Natchez	94	66	81	81	0	0.92	-0.07	1	3.09				
Oakley	98	65	82	80	+2	0.21	-0.79	1	1.34				
Vicksburg	95	70	82			0.48		1	0.97				
Extreme/Average	98	65	82	80	+2	0.48	-0.57	1	2.10				
8. South-Central													
Collins	94	68	82	80	+2	0.31	-0.68	3	2.62				
Columbia	96	69	83	81	+2	0.28	-0.94	5	2.38				
Tylertown	95	67	82	80	+2	1.16	-0.10	4	1.99				
Extreme/Average	96	67	82	81	+1	0.58	-0.56	4	2.33				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	96	67	82			0.00		0	3.27				
Hattiesburg	95	68	83	81	+2	0.30	-0.83	2	2.43				
Laurel	96	72	83	80	+3	0.06	-1.01	2	3.24				
Newton	96	62	78	79	-1	0.00	-1.03	0	2.86				
Extreme/Average	96	62	83	80	+3	0.12	-0.99	1	3.26				
10.Coastal													
Gulfport				82		6.80	+5.42	2	7.88				
Poplarville				81		0.50	-0.79	1	1.11				
Waveland	91	71	81	81	0	2.15	+0.77	5	2.81				
Extreme/Average	91	71	81	81	0	3.15	+1.79	3	3.93				
State	98	62	81	80	+1	0.52	-0.55	2	2.69				

DFN = Departure from Normal.