



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 July 6, 2008**

**Released: 3:00 P.M., July 7, 2008**

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, July 6, 2008**. Abnormally dry weather conditions continue to plague the majority of the state. Although rainfall was recorded in some areas, it was not enough to declare a significant improvement in crop and pasture conditions. Fields are beginning to show signs of stress due to lack of moisture. Irrigation practices and fungicide sprayings of soybeans are in full swing. Soil moisture was rated 22 percent very short, 44 percent short, 32 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus.

**Crop progress for week ending 07/06/08**

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Corn, silked	95	93	99	96
Corn, dough	57	20	74	65
Corn, dent	4	0	32	21
Cotton, squaring	76	66	94	87
Cotton, setting bolls	22	2	27	35
Hay-Warm Season, harvested	56	51	36	44
Peanuts, pegging	30	10	38	--
Rice, headed	0	0	10	10
Sorghum, emerged	100	100	100	100
Sorghum, heading	51	44	73	67
Sorghum, coloring	0	0	2	3
Soybeans, emerged	100	99	100	100
Soybeans, blooming	77	65	90	84
Soybeans, setting pods	40	19	44	57
Sweet Potatoes, planted	94	87	94	86
Watermelons, harvested	68	51	46	51
Winter Wheat, harvested	100	99	100	99

**Crop condition for week ending 07/06/08**

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Blueberries	1	1	15	76	7
Corn	4	6	18	60	12
Cotton	3	5	30	59	3
Hay	6	12	28	53	1
Livestock	5	15	19	55	6
Pasture	8	25	27	31	9
Peanuts	0	0	0	96	4
Rice	0	2	14	69	15
Sorghum	3	4	21	63	9
Soybeans	3	9	31	52	5
Sweet Potatoes	0	2	22	73	3
Watermelons	0	1	1	97	1

## Comments

“Overall, we are in need of some rain. Scattered showers throughout the holiday weekend were much needed, but some areas of the county didn't see any rain. First cuttings of hay have been completed with exceptional yields.”

— Patrick Poindexter, Alcorn

“Larger portions of the area are receiving rains since the first of July; however, significant areas remain dry.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“The scattered showers over the past few days have been a blessing, but we are in need of a lot more to revitalize our crops, pastures, hayfields, gardens, and yards.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“It is very dry throughout the county despite some scattered showers. We are still in need of rain. Some areas of the county have received very little, if any, rain at all. Some corn crops tasseled too early due to lack of moisture, and corn plants are smaller than normal. Drought conditions continue to challenge farmers this year.”

— Amanda Walker, Lawrence

“Harvest of fresh blueberries is complete. The remaining blueberry harvest will go into the frozen market. Watermelon harvest is 70% complete. Peanuts and soybeans are responding well to the afternoon thundershowers.”

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

“We missed our 4th of July rain this year and most non-irrigated crops are fading fast.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“Scattered showers late in the week helped in some areas, but we could use a lot more to make a significant impact on the larger plants. Irrigation has been running full speed and the crops under irrigation are looking good, but it is getting expensive.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Some fields are showing signs of stress from the lack of moisture. No major problems are present in fields.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“We got less than .2 inches of rain over the 4th. We are extremely dry.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Thundershowers dropped rainfall over several areas of the county last week; however, other areas could still use some rain. Fungicide sprayings in soybeans have been taking place in many fields.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Corn looks good, but needs rain to finish the crop out. Two more timely rains will finish this crop up. Cotton is going into full bloom and looks good, but it is beginning its major water usage stage. Soybeans are in major need of water and consistent rainfall. Forages are in great need of water and showing nutrient tie-up as result of low water and compacted soils.”

— Carolyn Conger, Covington

“Showers last week helped improve conditions for pastures and other crops in desperate need of moisture.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

**(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:

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Mississippi Cooperative  
Extension Service  
Dr. Vance H. Watson, Interim Director

Southern Regional Climate Center  
Louisiana State University  
Dr. Kevin Robbins  
Director

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural  
Statistics Service - Mississippi FO  
Thomas L. Gregory, Director

**Mississippi Weather Summary for Week Ending 07/06/08**

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	
<b>Upper Delta</b>													
Cleveland	93	62	78	83	-5	0.31	-0.74	2	1.09				
Lambert	97	59	79			0.52	-0.44	2	1.13				
Tunica	92	63	79	81	-2	0.11	-0.92	2	1.18				
<b>North-Central</b>													
Batesville	91	58	75	80	-5	0.42	-0.67	2	3.29				
Grenada	93	56	75	80	-5	0.16	-1.03	2	2.14				
Holly Springs	91	52	73	78	-5	1.35	0.23	2	2.74				
Independence	90	56	74	79	-5	0.00	-0.99	0	2.53				
Oxford	90	56	75	79	-4	0.15	-0.83	2	3.23				
<b>Northeast</b>													
Corinth	92	55	74	81	-7	0.15	-0.83	1	1.69				
Pontotoc	91	57	76	80	-4	0.96	-0.16	2	1.71				
Ripley	91	54	74	78	-4	0.66	-0.46	1	3.26				
<b>Lower Delta</b>													
Belzoni	93	63	79	81	-2	0.26	-0.84	2	0.93				
Moorhead	92	61	78	82	-4	0.16	-0.96	2	0.37				
Rolling Fork	95	63	79	81	-2	0.08	-0.90	1	1.91				
Yazoo City	91	61	76	82	-6	0.10	-0.81	1	2.37				
<b>Central</b>													
Canton	93	56	77	81	-4	0.00	-0.80	0	0.24				
Carthage	90	56	75	80	-5	0.10	-0.82	1	1.05				
Eupora	93	54	75	79	-4	0.16	-0.82	2	1.79				
Kosciusko	92	58	76	80	-4	0.22	-0.91	1	1.34				
<b>East-Central</b>													
Aberdeen	92	59	77	79	-2	0.30	-0.65	2	0.59				
De Kalb	93	55	76			0.23		2	1.56				
Macon	95	60	78	80	-2	0.99	-0.08	2	2.61				
State University	92	56	77	80	-3	0.13	-0.85	2	3.06				
<b>Southwest</b>													
Crystal Springs	95	61	79	81	-2	0.00	-1.15	0	2.69				
Natchez	90	57	76	81	-5	0.19	-0.79	1	2.65				
Vicksburg	92	64	80			0.00	0.00	0	0.74				
<b>South-Central</b>													
Collins	94	60	78	80	-2	0.10	-0.93	1	3.75				
Columbia	93	65	80	81	-1	0.63	-0.62	4	3.76				
Monticello	98	60	81	81	0	1.37	0.32	2	4.47				
Raleigh	91	56	75			0.13		1	3.96				
<b>Southeast</b>													
Hattiesburg	91	65	78	81	-3	0.87	-0.31	4	3.69				
Laurel	93	60	78	81	-3	0.00	-1.14	0	2.06				
Newton	94	52	75	80	-5	0.76	-0.31	3	2.77				
Waynesboro	94	64	81	80	1	1.10	-0.08	2	5.94				
<b>Coastal State</b>	98	52	77	81	-4	0.37	-0.66	2	2.25				

DFN = Departure from Normal.