

Weekly Weather Crop Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending July 11, 2004

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 3.7 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending July 11, 2004**. A lapse in rain showers during the weekend allowed producers in drier areas to resume fieldwork. While row crop farmers made an effort to catch up on insecticide and fungicide applications, others worked on cutting hay. All in all, Mississippi needs several more days of dry weather to allow both farmers and the crops to recover. Soil moisture was rated 51 percent adequate and 49 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2003	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Silked	99	97	96	96	1	5	17	50	27
	Dough	74	60	72	75					
	Dent	35	20	27	35					
	Silage Harvested	20	--	16	10					
Cotton	Squaring	89	81	83	92	2	6	21	52	19
	Setting Bolls	55	30	44	57					
Rice	Heading	19	9	20	14	0	1	12	70	17
Sorghum	Heading	80	65	68	69	0	1	21	69	9
	Turning Color	14	2	7	10					
Soybeans	Blooming	89	80	77	74	0	5	19	52	24
	Setting Pods	76	64	54	49					
Wheat	Harvested	97	95	100	100	--	--	--	--	--
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	36	30	56	56	15	9	35	30	11
Sweetpotatoes	Planted	90	76	91	96	2	7	30	52	9
Watermelons	Harvested	55	35	64	49	0	1	18	70	11
Blueberries						0	0	19	75	6
Cattle						0	2	25	53	20
Pasture						0	7	23	58	12

County Agent Comments

“It's too wet in most areas for any fieldwork. Vegetable crops are grassy because of the regular rains.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“After two weeks of rain, we are able to resume fieldwork. Airplanes are trying to catch up with insecticide applications and apply some salvage applications of herbicides. Some fungicide applications have been made to soybeans.”

— Robert Martin, Sharkey

“A break in the siege of rainfall has given producers a chance to layby cotton and do some insect and fungicide applications in all crops where they were needed. This crop still has tremendous potential if the weather does not deal any more unexpected damage.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Daily rains keep pastures growing and hay from being harvested. Cattle are benefitting from ideal forage production conditions. Crops could use a dry week to allow producers to catch up on fieldwork.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“The wet weather has made a tremendous negative impact on harvesting fruit and vegetables. Too much rain has made it difficult to work in the field.”

— Amanda Woods, Marion

“We can't get enough sun to dry hay; there is too much rain. We are not sure if the weather is going to cooperate during the next week. There is plenty of grass – we just can't get it cut and dried.”

— Judith Breland, Stone

“The rain is still keeping fieldwork to a minimum. We need some dry weather.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“It has rained Monday through Friday every day somewhere in Grenada county. We are working around showers the best we can. Hay is rank and tough to cut.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Growth and development of cotton and soybeans in poorly drained areas or fields has been affected by the excess rainfall. Crop management in these fields will need to be based on the growth stage of the highest percentage of the field. Weed control has been delayed causing some management problems.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Weed control in cotton and soybean fields was producers top priority. Several cotton producers had additional nitrogen flown onto their cotton fields to replace nitrogen lost through denitrification. Some problems are starting to be seen with cotton and soybeans due to prolonged field saturation.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Cotton field conditions range from disaster, caused by flooding, to good in well drained fields. Fruit retention in cotton is variable, with some fields that appear normal retaining low levels of squares. Overall, the cotton situation is poor as a result of extended rainfall. Most fields can still recover, while some are beyond any hope of salvage. Corn is generally in good condition, and yield potential looks good at this time. Soybeans also look good, but some fields are not setting pods as a result of excessive moisture. Fieldwork progressed well last week in some areas, while others continued to receive daily rains, keeping them out of the field.”

— Ernie Flint, Attala

“Rainfall was sporadic this past week, allowing some growers back into fields. Sweetpotato planting resumed after a three week hiatus. A few acres of soybeans are going in this week and cotton is looking better after a week of higher temps.”

— Dr. Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

“Now that the rains seem to have let up, maybe those folks who haven't been able to get into the field to get the first hay cutting will finally be able to do so.”

— Ruby D. Rankin, Kemper

“Sunshine was a welcomed sight as producers rushed to cut and gather what hay they could.”

— Perry Brumfield, Lincoln

“We finally got a break from the daily rainstorms. Most hay is two-to-three weeks past the optimal cutting stage and the ground is so wet that curing hay will be difficult. Silage corn is ready to start cutting.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

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 July 5, 2004 to July 11, 2004 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				81		1.45	+0.38	2	10.25				
Cleveland	91	69	81	82	-1	0.44	-0.43	3	5.28				
Tunica				82		0.42	-0.54	3	6.07				0.32
Extreme/Average	91	69	81	82	-1	0.77	-0.25	3	7.20				0.32
2. North-Central													
Hickory Flat	91	65	78	79	-1	3.25	+2.17	4	13.46				
Calhoun City	89	67	78	80	-2	0.18	-0.81	2	10.24				
Independence	89	67	78	80	-2	0.68	-0.27	4	6.89				
Oxford	93	67	80	80	0	0.70	-0.27	3	7.49				
Extreme/Average	93	65	78	80	-2	1.20	+0.15	3	9.52				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	94	68	80	79	+1	0.53	-0.45	3	10.91				
Iuka	89	55	76	77	-1	1.13	+0.09	4	9.53				
Ripley	90	65	78	79	-1	2.25	+1.13	3	10.91				
Tupelo						1.11		2	10.54				
Verona				81		0.71	-0.14	3	6.99				0.23
Extreme/Average	94	55	78	80	-2	1.26	+0.23	3	10.47				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	91	71	81	82	-1	0.55	-0.62	3	10.93				
Rolling Fork	96	70	83	82	+1	0.06	-0.92	1	8.09	102	80	89	
Stoneville				82		0.25	-0.73	2	12.89				0.24
Yazoo City	92	71	81	82	-1	0.35	-0.61	1	7.62				
Extreme/Average	96	70	82	82	0	0.30	-0.75	2	9.88	102	80	89	0.24
5. Central													
Canton				82		2.10	+1.26	3	10.90				
Carthage	92	68	80	81	-1	2.05	+1.06	3	10.34				
Lexington	91	67	79	80	-1	0.30	-0.61	3	11.47				
Eupora	92	66	79	79	0	1.73	+0.75	5	11.18				
Extreme/Average	92	66	79	80	-1	1.55	+0.50	4	10.97				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	93	61	79	80	-1	1.06	+0.15	4	6.42				0.18
Houston	91	65	78	79	-1	0.34	-0.67	4	10.86				
Louisville				79		0.35	-0.89	3	11.98				
State University	94	66	80	81	-1	1.87	+0.85	4	11.07	85	76	81	0.22
Extreme/Average	94	61	79	81	-2	0.91	-0.14	4	10.08	85	76	81	0.20
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	93	68	80	81	-1	1.22	+0.14	2	13.30	94	78	85	
Natchez	90	69	80	81	-1	0.05	-0.88	1	5.22				
Oakley	95	68	80	81	-1	1.10	+0.21	2	8.37	94	79	86	
Vicksburg	91	70	81			0.65		2	10.71				
Extreme/Average	95	68	80	81	-1	0.76	-0.29	2	9.40	94	78	86	
8. South-Central													
Collins	91	69	80	80	0	0.89	-0.21	4	6.97				
Columbia	93	68	80	81	-1	1.41	+0.15	2	9.35				
Tylertown	92	68	80	81	-1	2.09	+0.75	4	15.00				
Extreme/Average	93	68	80	81	-1	1.46	+0.27	3	10.44				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	95	68	81			0.20		2	9.85				
Hattiesburg	92	67	79	81	-2	2.01	+0.76	3	13.48				
Laurel	94	69	81	81	0	1.31	+0.08	2	11.92				
Newton	94	65	79	80	-1	0.50	-0.62	1	9.19	90	74	82	0.24
Extreme/Average	95	65	80	81	-1	1.01	-0.24	2	11.11	90	74	82	0.24
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis				82		0.34	-1.27	3	5.37				
Gulfport	90	72	82	82	0	0.79	-0.78	3	6.65				
Poplarville	93	67	81	81	0	2.79	+1.33	5	12.04	92	75	84	0.25
Waveland	91	72	82	81	+1	0.77	-0.73	4	8.27				
Extreme/Average	93	67	81	82	-1	1.45	-0.09	4	8.99	92	75	84	0.25
State	96	55	80	81	-1	1.07	-0.05	3	9.96	102	74	84	0.25

DFN = Departure from Normal.