

Weekly Weather Crop Report



In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

Phone:601-965-4575
Facsimile:601-965-5622
www.nass.usda.gov/ms/
nass-ms@nass.usda.gov/

Week Ending July 17, 2005

Released: 3:00 P.M., July 18, 2005

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 2.4 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending July 17, 2005**. Isolated showers during the week affected time in the field, but farmers welcomed the much needed rainfall. The benefits received from the rain helped revive crops and pastures struggling over the past several weeks from dry weather conditions and lack of adequate precipitation. Hay harvesting is being affected by the wet conditions, but hay left to be harvested should gain from increased field growth. Poultry producers, trying to keep houses cool, experienced temporary relief from the warm temperatures with the passing showers. Soil moisture was rated 2 percent very short, 4 percent short, 58 percent adequate, and 36 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	99	97	100	98	3	8	21	56	12
	Dough	78	61	83	82					
	Dent	37	9	48	49					
	Silage Harvested	34	--	24	21					
Cotton	Squaring	99	90	93	95	2	8	20	56	14
	Setting Bolls	67	38	64	73					
Rice	Heading	19	9	28	29	0	1	14	68	17
Sorghum	Heading	93	75	90	86	0	0	8	85	7
	Turning Color	12	--	28	25					
Soybeans	Blooming	96	90	92	83	2	6	19	63	10
	Setting Pods	80	65	81	66					
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	65	60	42	57	--	--	--	--	--
Sweetpotatoes	Planted	99	95	95	98	0	12	50	38	0
Watermelons	Harvested	61	55	72	63	--	--	--	--	--
Blueberries						0	0	22	71	7
Cattle						0	7	31	46	16
Pasture						1	11	47	29	12

County Agent Comments

“Some parts of the county received several good rains during the week. Crops have really improved in the last 10 days. Insect pressure remains light.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“Rain has stopped all fieldwork, but the crops needed it. We are not having any major problems in the fields.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Badly needed rains brought fieldwork to a halt.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Hurricane Dennis and the rains that followed prevented most producers from getting into the fields. Parts of the county received rain for 7 days straight. It looks like a dry spell could be on the way. At this point, 2 days without rain would be considered a dry spell.”

— Ruby D. Rankin, Kemper

“We dodged another bullet with Hurricane Dennis. All we got was about 3-4 inches of rain. The watermelon crop is almost finished; cotton and peanuts are looking good. Summer hay harvest is next to impossible with rain every 3-5 days.”

— Mike Steede, George

“Pastures are looking good again, as are most other crops.”

— Kerry Johnson, Greene

“Moisture that we received from Hurricane Dennis has really kicked these crops up a notch. Everything is really growing good now; for the most part, the crops have been cleaned up and the fertilizer is all down. This, along with the moisture that we are getting, makes for excellent growing conditions. We still have a long way to go.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“The aphid fungus has been confirmed in Grenada as of July 13. Rain has varied from 3 inches to 1.5 inches. The problem is that where we needed the rain the most is where we received the least. The west side of the county could stand another 1.5 inches.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Showers, early in the week, may have come too late for early corn, but greatly improved cotton and soybean crops. Producers are applying fungicide to soybeans. Insect populations are beginning to increase.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah

“South Sunflower County has received up to 5 inches of rain in the last 2 weeks. Some spots have been injured because of previous irrigations. Insect pressure is still fairly low due to previous spraying to control spider mites.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“We have changed from too dry to too wet in most of the area. Most of the area is now in good shape for soil moisture, while some portions are excessively wet and others will need more within two weeks. There is little doubt the crop sustained damage during the dry period, but rains arrived in time to avoid severe damage.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Southern corn leaf blight and common rust pustules can be found, but are at low levels and should not cause any yield loss. We had severe stalk lodging with some corn hybrids due to Hurricane Dennis. Southwestern corn borer numbers are low for 2005 and should not be a factor for this crop season.”

— Dr. Dennis B. Reginelli, Noxubee

“Rain was heavy in some areas and light in others. The crops, as a whole, look pretty good. At this time, no soybean rust has been found in Mississippi. We will continue to monitor the sentinel fields around the state for this disease.”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

“We have received several much needed rains this past week. Hay fields should really jump now and producers are looking for a little sunshine. Truck crops and lawns are being hammered by diseases.”

— Perry Brumfield, Lincoln

“Recent storms and afternoon thundershowers have revived pastures. Hay harvest has stopped until we get a better weather forecast for curing hay. Poultry producers are struggling to keep houses cool to keep chickens alive.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Anticipated rainfall from Hurricane Dennis did not materialize. Rainfall is still needed in the area to provide needed moisture for pastures. Producers are stating that they are harvesting 30 percent less hay than last year and some are contemplating the benefits of reducing their herds for the winter.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

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
Extension Service
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 July 11, 2005 to July 17, 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				81		1.64	+0.62	4	3.04				
Cleveland	93	68	80	82	-2	0.73	-0.03	4	3.48				
Tunica				82		1.34	+0.47	5	1.79				
Extreme/Average	93	68	80	82	-2	1.24	+0.28	4	2.42				
2. North-Central													
Hickory Flat	91	64	77	79	-2	4.51	+3.46	5	4.81				
Calhoun City	89	64	77	80	-3	2.22	+1.24	4	3.01				
Independence	91	65	77	80	-3	2.69	+1.79	5	3.81				
Oxford	93	64	78	80	-2	1.61	+0.70	4	2.87				
Extreme/Average	93	64	77	81	-4	2.76	+1.77	5	3.63				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	85	66	76	80	-4	3.92	+2.97	6	6.46				
Iuka	86	64	75	77	-2	3.40	+2.35	4	5.54				
Ripley	90	66	77	79	-2	3.74	+2.62	5	5.74				
Tupelo	90	67	78			3.18		5	6.63				
Verona				81		2.59	+1.80	5	4.90				
Extreme/Average	90	64	76	80	-4	3.37	+2.39	5	5.85				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	90	53	78	82	-4	0.91	-0.24	5	4.83				
Rolling Fork	96	70	82	82	0	0.91	-0.04	5	1.56				
Stoneville	96	69	82	83	-1	1.25	+0.33	4	2.26				
Yazoo City	92	69	79	82	-3	3.58	+2.60	4	4.15				
Extreme/Average	96	53	80	83	-3	1.66	+0.62	5	3.20				
5. Central													
Canton				82			+0.27	2					
Carthage	92	69	79	81	-2	4.26	+3.21	7	7.23				
Lexington	90	67	78	80	-2	2.92	+2.05	6	4.09				
Eupora	92	66	78	80	-2	7.04	+6.09	5	9.22				
Extreme/Average	92	66	78	81	-3	4.74	+3.69	6	6.85				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	91	68	79	80	-1	3.42	+2.51	6	6.02				
Houston	91	63	78	79	-1	3.00	+2.06	5	4.75				
Louisville	92	67	78	79	-1	5.60	+4.34	6	7.80				
State University				81		5.25	+4.22	4	7.11				
Extreme/Average	92	63	78	81	-3	4.01	+2.96	6	6.19				
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	95	68	82	82	0	0.90	-0.10	3	1.51				
Natchez	92	71	80	82	-2	1.77	+0.86	3	2.89				
Oakley	96	68	82	81	+1	0.99	+0.15	4	1.48				
Vicksburg	93	70	81			1.30		6	2.85				
Extreme/Average	96	68	81	81	0	1.24	+0.19	4	2.18				
8. South-Central													
Collins	93	69	79	81	-2	3.57	+2.45	5	4.77				
Columbia	95	71	81	82	-1	1.96	+0.68	6	3.43				
Tylertown	92	70	80	81	-1	1.75	+0.35	4	5.93				
Extreme/Average	95	69	80	81	-1	2.43	+1.22	5	4.71				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	94	69	80			2.75		5	6.62				
Hattiesburg	94	69	81	82	-1	2.10	+0.79	6	5.32				
Laurel	93	70	80	81	-1	3.98	+2.70	5	5.13				
Newton	92	62	76	80	-4	5.11	+3.99	6	6.33				
Extreme/Average	94	62	79	81	-2	3.49	+2.23	6	6.03				
10.Coastal													
Gulfport	90	72	82	83	-1	1.27	-0.34	4	11.77				
Poplarville	93	70	80	82	-2	1.32	-0.22	4	6.62				
Waveland	91	73	82	81	+1	1.02	-0.52	2	11.09				
Extreme/Average	93	70	81	82	-1	1.20	-0.41	3	9.83				
State	96	53	79	81	-2	2.75	+1.64	5	5.07				

DFN = Departure from Normal.