



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 27, 2008

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According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 5.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, July 27, 2008**. Abnormally dry to moderate drought conditions have made a visible impact on forages, pastures, hay, and row crops in various areas across the state. Some producers are expecting reduced yields due to the scant rainfall. Scattered showers have been reported; however, much more moisture is needed to improve the overall situation. Irrigation activities are on-going, and insect pressure is light. Soil moisture was rated 30 percent very short, 44 percent short, 24 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus.

Crop progress for week ending 07/27/08

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, silked	100	100	100	100
Corn, dough	97	88	97	94
Corn, dent	78	53	84	73
Corn, mature	13	6	26	14
Corn Silage, harvested	28	10	48	54
Cotton, squaring	99	97	100	99
Cotton, setting bolls	81	61	86	85
Hay-Warm Season, harvested	67	65	52	62
Peanuts, pegging	99	91	92	--
Rice, headed	37	24	62	60
Sorghum, heading	92	83	98	97
Sorghum, coloring	55	29	27	50
Soybeans, blooming	97	93	99	97
Soybeans, setting pods	86	71	87	88
Soybeans, turning color	1	0	7	11
Sweet Potatoes, planted	99	98	100	100
Watermelons, harvested	94	92	90	91

Crop condition for week ending 07/27/08

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	5	13	20	42	20
Cotton	4	9	28	47	12
Hay	9	18	22	46	5
Livestock	5	16	26	45	8
Pasture	15	28	26	25	6
Peanuts	0	0	0	79	21
Rice	0	3	12	51	34
Sorghum	1	7	22	48	22
Soybeans	5	15	29	39	12
Sweet Potatoes	0	0	40	60	0

Comments

“Most of the county received a good rain Sunday. Hopefully, it will revive our early non-irrigated soybeans and our later planted milo and cotton. The county has not had a general rain since the middle of May.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“The hot, dry conditions have seriously impacted pastures and hay production. Some hay is currently having to be fed due to poor pasture growth. Most producers got a fair first cutting of hay with significantly reduced yields on the second cutting. Grain prices continue to push feed costs up, which is another negative drag on production costs.”

— Mike Howell, Lee

“We received spotty rains over weekend. This will help forages, soybeans, and cotton, but is too late for corn.”

— Randy Smith, Covington

“Most areas received some much needed rain over the weekend. Much more is needed to get us out of trouble. Pastures are very short and hay fields are slowly growing due to dry weather. Row crops still look good.”

— Chuck Grantham, Forrest

“Scattered showers have certainly helped the pasture (drought) situation! Some areas of the county received over 4 inches this week, while some areas received very little.”

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

“Some parts of the county received good rain Sunday, but the rest remains dry. Insect pressure spiked up in cotton last week. Growers continue to pump a lot of water.”

— Don Respess, Coahoma

“We had a few late afternoon showers in Tallahatchie County this week. It was enough to help some, but we could use a good mud-soaking rain, or as the old timers say, "a million dollar rain!" It would be worth more like several million because it would save millions on fuel and it would produce millions.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“We are in need of rain, especially in late planted soybeans and corn.”

— Melvin Oatis Benton

“Dry land cotton is fast approaching cutout. Most of the county still needs rain badly. Corn has burned up and beans are showing heavy stress. Cotton needs a rain to add new growth to continue blooming.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Recent rainfall has improved crop conditions in some areas. Insect populations are increasing in more mature soybeans.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“A few corn fields have reached physiological maturity. Many more corn fields will reach physiological maturity this week. Some areas have received rain, but much more is needed. Irrigated crops are looking good. Most non-irrigated fields are "burning up".”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Irrigation is the prime activity in all crops. Not much moisture fell last week. Dry land crops are suffering and will not yield much if dry weather persists. Insect pressure is light.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Most of the area has received at least some rain now; however, much of the corn crop is past being able to benefit from it. Cotton is generally in premature cutout over much of this area. Soybeans are generally in good condition, but will need more rain to continue good development.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Dry and extremely hot conditions are cutting yield potentials in row crops and forages. Scattered showers are temporarily helping, but they tend to be too isolated to help the overall drought picture. Some livestock producers have been feeding hay for several weeks.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“Rain is desperately needed. Producers have been able to cut and bale hay with yields higher than previous years, but are in desperate need of rain if more hay is to be cut and baled.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Blueberry harvest is complete. Growers are pruning, fertilizing, and watering their bushes. Scattered hay harvest continues, which is due to the scattered rain we've received. Peanuts and soybeans are holding up well.”

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

(Additional comments appear at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>)

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National Agricultural
Statistics Service - Mississippi FO
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Mississippi Weather Summary for Week Ending 07/27/08

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	
Upper Delta													
Cleveland	100	71	86	84	2	1.28	0.47	3	1.61				
Tunica	99	72	86	82	4	0.00	-0.74	0	0.59				
Extreme/Average	100	71	86	83	3	0.64	-0.14	2	1.10				
North-Central													
Grenada	99	68	84	81	3	0.61	-0.34	3	1.65				
Holly Springs	101	65	83	79	4	0.50	-0.47	1	1.91				
Independence	98	69	83	81	2	0.04	-0.76	1	0.36				
Oxford	99	70	84	81	3	0.12	-0.75	4	0.95				
Extreme/Average	101	65	84	81	3	0.32	-0.58	2	1.22				
Northeast													
Booneville	98	69	85	80	5	0.09	-0.81	2	0.09				
Pontotoc	98	67	83	81	2	0.97	0.02	1	1.95				
Ripley	100	68	84	80	4	0.08	-0.91	1	1.15				
Tupelo	102	72	85			1.02	0.00	2	2.94				
Verona	101	66	84	81	3	1.32	0.55	1	2.11				
Extreme/Average	102	66	84	81	3	0.70	-0.29	1	1.65				
Lower Delta													
Belzoni	98	73	86	82	4	0.00	-1.15	0	2.03				
Rolling Fork	99	71	86	82	4	1.00	0.15	1	1.74				
Yazoo City	98	73	85	82	3	0.55	-0.37	2	3.19				
Extreme/Average	99	71	86	82	4	0.52	-0.46	1	2.32				
Central													
Canton	99	69	83	82	1	0.80	-0.04	3	2.39				
Eupora	100	68	82	80	2	1.64	0.77	3	3.34				
Forrest	98	69	83	81	2	0.00	-1.25	0					
Winona	98	67	82	78	4	1.02	0.05	3	3.57				
Extreme/Average	100	67	83	80	3	0.87	-0.12	2	3.10				
East-Central													
Aberdeen	100	70	82	81	1	1.28	0.46	1	2.78				
De Kalb	99	69	82			2.19		5	2.84				
Extreme/Average	101	69	83	81	2	1.32	-0.01	3	2.34				
Southwest													
Crystal Springs	100	70	85	82	3	0.32	-0.57	2	1.68				
Natchez	98	69	84	82	2	1.12	0.23	2	1.44				
Oakley	101	66	84	81	3	0.88	0.04	1	2.63				
Vicksburg	98	71	85			0.45	0.00	1	0.45				
Extreme/Average	10	66	85	82	3	0.69	-0.10	2	1.55				
South-Central													
Collins	99	70	84	81	3	0.60	-0.51	2	0.90				
Columbia	99	72	84	82	2	0.90	-0.35	3	1.89				
Monticello	103	71	86	81	5	0.0	-1.05	0	2.57				
Extreme/Average	103	70	85	81	4	0.50	-0.64	2	1.79				
Southeast													
Hattiesburg	99	69	83	82	1	0.61	-0.69	3	2.14				
Laurel	100	71	84	82	2	1.26	0.02	3	2.99				
Waynesboro	101	69	86	81	5	1.66	0.53	3	3.13				
Extreme/Average	101	69	84	82	2	1.18	-0.05	3	2.75				
Coastal													
Extreme/Average						0.00	0.00	0	0.00				
State	103	65	84	81	3	0.75	-0.26	2	1.98				

DFN = Departure from Normal.