

## Weekly Weather Crop Report



In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending July 31, 2005

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending July 31, 2005**. Warm weather and scattered showers have improved crop conditions throughout the state. The warmer temperatures have improved crop progress, especially on soybeans and rice. Hay harvesting has been affected by passing showers, but pasture growth has picked up in the last few weeks compared to earlier in the season. Insect presence on row crops is increasing and proper pesticide treatments are being applied where needed. Soil moisture was rated 3 percent very short, 17 percent short, 65 percent adequate, and 15 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	Dough	92	89	94	96	0	9	22	54	15
	Dent	70	56	82	80					
	Mature	7	1	27	26					
	Silage Harvested	60	42	59	49					
Cotton	Setting Bolls	94	82	90	93	1	6	19	61	13
Rice	Heading	68	37	62	64	0	1	13	72	14
Sorghum	Heading	99	97	99	98	0	1	12	84	3
	Turning Color	60	27	67	59					
Soybeans	Blooming	99	99	99	96	2	7	19	64	8
	Setting Pods	93	88	94	85					
	Turning Color	7	2	23	12					
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	74	70	54	66	--	--	--	--	--
Watermelons	Harvested	94	78	94	88	--	--	--	--	--
Sweetpotatoes						0	2	18	60	20
Cattle						7	11	29	37	16
Pasture						8	13	35	39	5

### County Agent Comments

“Crops have responded well to the moisture received last week and this week. Cotton is really growing well, and you can tell that cotton is picking up nutrients and greening like it should.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Rain last week has really made cotton jump. Insect pressure is mostly worms with marginal levels of plantbugs and stinkbugs. We could still use a good general rain.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Some parts of the county could use a good shower following the intense heat experienced within the last 8 days. Corn is looking good.”

— Patrick Poindexter, Alcorn

“Showers came back Thursday and helped producers who were restarting their irrigation. Insect pressure is still fairly light.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Numerous scattered showers were received throughout the week, with some being locally heavy. Average rainfall was approximately 1.5 inches. Cattlemen are still struggling to cut hay in a timely manner. Corn is rapidly maturing, and soybeans are fruiting and filling pods. No major pest outbreaks have been recorded.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“There is plenty of grass for grazing, but farmers are having a tough time getting hay cut and cured without getting it wet. The heat is really hitting dairy and poultry farms hard because of mortality and decreased production and efficiency.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Most of the county received rain last week. Insect pressure is light in all crops, and the crops look pretty good. Irrigation pumps will be running this week.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“The parts of the county that had rain last week also received rain again this week. Fifty percent of the crop still needs rain.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“We are in need of more rain. Scattered showers are helping, but many fields are lacking moisture.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Sudden Death Syndrome is affecting some soybean fields across the area with most cases isolated to small areas of the field. Cotton shed some small fruit after the rain and cloudy conditions, but boll retention appears to remain at acceptable levels.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“We are getting back to normal with cotton development, and corn is almost finished. Soybeans are in good condition with some fields beginning to show higher numbers of insects.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Scattered showers slowed hay harvest this past week. For the most part, cattle and forages are looking good for this time of the year. Last week's near 100 degree temperatures made it hard on all livestock, especially dairy cows. Lower temperatures will be welcomed.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“Soybeans look extremely well and are loaded with blooms. Protective fungicide applications for frogeye and cercospora are rising. Potential yields for corn are above average as timely rains fell when needed. Insect pressure is still light.”

— Dr. Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

“We will start harvesting some early planted corn this week. Red Crown is a problem again this year in Noxubee. Webster County cotton is looking good from the recent rains, and farmers have been busy with growth regulator applications.”

— Dr. Dennis B. Reginelli, Noxubee

“Silage harvest is almost complete. Corn harvesting will begin in the next two to three weeks. Soybeans are looking good. I am seeing an increase in looper numbers as well as green stink bug numbers. These two insects need to be watched closely for the next few weeks.”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

“Widely scattered rain showers Thursday through Saturday brought a little relief from hot weather and dry soil moisture conditions in parts of the county. However, these showers created little disturbance in corn silage and/or hay harvesting operations. Corn silage harvest is now roughly 70 percent complete with yields averaging about 14 tons per acre. Summer hay yields are also disappointing in many areas due to a lack of soil moisture earlier in the season.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

“Rains every day have hampered hay baling! A lot of hay has been on the ground for over a week. Army worms are increasing on signal grass, bermuda pastures and hay fields. Commercial tomato harvest is winding down. Cattle are belly deep in grass.”

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

“Rain continues to be the most sought commodity. Livestock are beginning to show the stress of poor grazing, and some producers are using supplemental feed at this point.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

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

Weather Summary from July 25, 2005 to July 31, 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													
Cleveland	96	66	82	82	0	0.48	-0.02	2	4.94				
Lambert						0.40	-0.30	1	3.07				
Tunica	98	70	83	82	+1	0.41	-0.27	2	2.46				
Extreme/Average	98	66	83	82	+1	0.43	-0.33	2	3.70				
2. North-Central													
Calhoun City	95	69	82	81	+1	0.00	-0.85	0	3.10				
Hickory Flat	96	66	81	80	+1	0.00	-0.95	0	5.04				
Independence	94	63	80	80	0	0.00	-0.77	0	4.22				
Oxford	97	65	82	80	+2	0.10	-0.74	2	4.63				
Extreme/Average	97	63	81	81	0	0.03	-0.83	1	4.25				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	95	67	81	80	+1	0.00	-0.86	0	7.38				
Iuka	94	63	78	78	0	0.00	-1.02	0	5.18				
Ripley	95	66	80	80	0	0.00	-0.92	0	4.93				
Tupelo						1.10		3	8.53				
Verona	96	68	82	81	+1	0.12	-0.65	2	6.74				
Extreme/Average	96	63	80	81	-1	0.24	-0.62	1	6.55				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	94	69	82	83	-1	0.58	-0.32	4	4.58				
Rolling Fork	99	72	86	82	+4	0.00	-0.80	0	2.14				
Stoneville	97	72	84	83	+1	0.71	+0.01	2	4.02				
Yazoo City	96	70	81	82	-1	0.17	-0.74	1	4.50				
Extreme/Average	99	69	83	83	0	0.37	-0.49	2	3.81				
5. Central													
Canton				82		0.20	-0.64	1	4.42				
Carthage	96	70	83	81	+2	1.27	+0.29	2	9.12				
Eupora	94	66	80	80	0	0.35	-0.46	3	9.79				
Lexington	94	67	81	80	+1	0.02	-0.75	1	5.65				
Extreme/Average	96	66	81	81	0	0.46	-0.52	2	8.19				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	96	71	82	81	+1	0.23	-0.54	1	5.82				
Houston	96	68	82	80	+2	0.00	-0.76	0	5.91				
Philadelphia	98	73	84	81	+3	0.10	-0.93	1	6.36				
State University				81		2.01	+1.10	2	9.26				
Extreme/Average	98	68	83	81	+2	0.59	-0.34	1	6.84				
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	99	71	84	82	+2	0.20	-0.65	1	3.01				
Natchez	95	68	82	82	0	0.25	-0.60	4	2.77				
Oakley	98	68	83	81	+2	0.30	-0.54	1	1.97				
Vicksburg	96	68	84			0.09		1	3.59				
Extreme/Average	99	68	83	82	+1	0.21	-0.77	2	2.84				
8. South-Central													
Collins				81		3.16	+2.09	4	8.32				
Columbia	98	72	84	82	+2	0.30	-0.91	1	4.63				
Tylertown	96	70	83	81	+2	1.27	-0.02	2	6.45				
Extreme/Average	98	70	83	82	+1	1.58	+0.41	2	6.47				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	99	72	85			0.30		1	6.92				
Hattiesburg	97	72	83	82	+1	1.41	+0.15	3	6.83				
Laurel	96	74	84	82	+2	0.34	-0.84	2	5.63				
Newton	97	69	82	81	+1	0.56	-0.51	1	6.92				
Extreme/Average	99	69	83	81	+2	0.65	-0.51	2	6.58				
10.Coastal													
Gulfport	92	73	83	83	0	1.91	+0.38	5	11.83				
Poplarville				82		0.18	-1.28	2	7.13				
Waveland	95	73	84	82	+2	1.85	+0.43	3	13.24				
Extreme/Average	95	73	83	82	+1	1.31	-0.20	3	10.73				
State	99	63	82	82	0	0.56	-0.44	2	5.96				

DFN = Departure from Normal.