



# Weekly Weather Crop Report



Mississippi  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending August 10, 2003

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 5.4 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending August 10, 2003**. Harvest activities are just gearing up for the State's row crops. Hay baling continues to be plagued by frequent rain showers resulting in decreased production and quality. Soil moisture was rated 4 percent very short, 19 percent short, 64 percent adequate and 13 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2002	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Dough	100	97	100	100	0	3	7	52	38
	Dent	88	81	92	93					
	Mature	39	18	52	58					
	Harvested	3	--	5	12					
	Silage Harvested	86	63	71	64					
Cotton	Setting Bolls	93	89	100	100	1	4	12	54	29
	Open Bolls	2	--	11	11					
Rice	Heading	92	84	90	82	0	1	10	57	32
	Mature	8	3	12	6					
Sorghum	Heading	100	98	100	99	0	0	12	62	26
	Turning Color	85	73	79	75					
	Mature	40	15	28	25					
	Harvested	2	--	0	3					
Soybeans	Blooming	100	96	99	100	0	1	16	47	36
	Setting Pods	95	87	89	91					
	Turning Color	31	15	20	21					
	Shedding Leaves	10	--	13	10					
	Harvested	1	--	2	1					
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	79	73	80	75	--	--	--	--	--
Watermelons	Harvested	100	98	99	87	--	--	--	--	--
Sweetpotatoes						1	3	29	23	44
Cattle						0	2	15	60	23
Pasture						0	2	17	60	21

## County Agent Comments

"Harvesting is getting started in corn and soybean fields. Rice harvest should begin next week."

— Don Respass, Bolivar

"Heavy rains last week knocked some squares off cotton. Corn yields look good after the late planting. Hay is being cut with good results. Insect pressure has been light."

— Tim Needham, Tippah

“Weather conditions were highly varied from one end of the area to the other. In the north, crops are beginning to suffer from lack of moisture, while in the south, fields are wet. Weather continues to greatly influence maturation of cotton, with dry fields in "cutout" while wet fields are throwing off fruit. Most corn will benefit from the rains last week, but will soon be mature. Group IV soybeans need less rain while later maturing varieties need more.”

— Anita Webb, Scott

“Drier conditions over the last two weeks have allowed summer hay harvest to move along at a steady pace. Corn harvest has begun. Pastures are beginning to show the effects of drier conditions, but for now, cattle are in good shape.”

— Richard Hay, Amite

“The main farming activity has been harvesting hay. All crops are in good condition and no major problems are occurring in the fields.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“We got another 1.5 inches Monday and Tuesday. Everything is looking good. If only we could get a dry fall!”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“We continue to receive large amounts of rain. Flooding and wind damage has occurred in several locations. All crops are growing rapidly with forage crops doing very well. Trying to harvest hay between rains has been a challenge.”

— Dalton G Garner, Prentiss

“Dry weather with a few scattered shower and thunderstorms did not stop most field activities. Grain sorghum harvest started on early planted fields. Corn and early soybean harvest has just begun.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Two inches of rain came early in the week. Nearby counties received up to 4 inches in places. Our crops are growing well, but late due to delayed planting this year. Pastures are in very good to excellent condition with producers utilizing dry periods to harvest hay. We are only into our second cutting this year due to all the rain this spring and summer.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“Armyworms have reached threshold levels in many hybrid Bermuda grass fields. It is taking repeated applications of insecticide in order to control them.”

— Mark Mowdy, Franklin

“Corn harvest should begin in the next two weeks.”

— Theresa L. Sanders, Hinds

“Corn silage harvest is complete. Summer hay harvest continues at a fast pace as producers take full advantage of weather forecasters' predictions of several days without rain. Dairy and beef producers are breaking ground and making applications of lime, phosphorous, and potassium in preparation for planting cool season forages in two or three weeks. Substantial armyworm pressure has forced a few producers to make pesticide applications to prevent further damage to summer pasture and hay grasses.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

“Rains have finally let up so we can cut some hay. Pastures look good and cattle are in good shape. Most cattlemen are scrambling to put up some hay. Peanuts and cotton look good with few problems. Loggers are able to get back in the woods.”

— Lee Taylor, Forrest

“The rains are letting up, allowing for hay harvesting. Loggers are getting some relief too.”

— Mark Gillie, Greene

“Dry weather has allowed hay cutting to resume! Hay supply could be short due to fewer cuttings.”

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

“A few days of dry weather allowed for good hay harvesting. All corn silage has been harvested with good yields. There is still plenty of grass for cattle. Armyworms are a problem in some fields.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“The weather has finally cleared up for the past week allowing hay to be harvested for the first time in weeks. Pastures and livestock continue to look good.”

— Billy Joe Lee, Pearl River

“Drier weather has allowed producers to cut and bale hay. The quality is reduced, but if the weather holds, the harvest will be extremely high this year.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Hay harvest continues. Cattle are in good condition.”

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

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Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.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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Mississippi Cooperative  
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Mississippi Agricultural  
Statistics Service  
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Weather Summary from August 4, 2003 to August 10, 2003 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 E	+0.87	3	5.25 E				
Cleveland	94	69	81	82	-1	0.42	+0.08	3	3.19				
Tunica	91	67	80	81	-1	2.01	+1.44	1	4.64	96	75	84	0.26
Extreme/Average	94	67	80	81	-1	1.36	+0.70	2	4.36	96	75	84	0.26
2. North-Central													
Batesville	91	64	78	80	-2	0.56	-0.09	3	2.93				
Calhoun City	89	66	77	80	-3	1.59	+0.85	4	2.50				
Independence	88	66	77	80	-3	4.25	+3.55	2	8.36				
Oxford	92	65	79	80	-1	0.89	+0.10	4	3.49				
Extreme/Average	92	64	78	80	-2	1.82	+1.08	3	4.32				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	88	68	77	80	-3	3.40	+2.63	4	8.91				
Corinth City				81		2.19 E	+1.48	5	6.16 E				
Iuka				77		1.47	+0.58	4	4.01				
Ripley				79		2.74	+2.04	3	9.16				
Tupelo						7.55		5	10.66				
Extreme/Average	88	68	77	80	-3	3.47	+2.74	4	7.78				
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni	94	67	81	82	-1	0.30	-0.52	1	1.61	99	84	91	
Rolling Fork	94	66	81	82	-1	0.31	-0.34	2	1.64	99	84	91	
Stoneville	97	66	82	82	0	0.00	-0.47	0	1.39	99	82	90	0.23
Yazoo City	94	66	81	82	-1	0.34	-0.49	2	0.67				
Extreme/Average	97	66	81	82	-1	0.24	-0.44	1	1.33	99	82	90	0.23
5. Central													
Canton	93	65	80	82	-2	0.84	+0.11	3	4.52				
Carthage	90	66	79	81	-2	2.10	+1.23	3	3.83				
Lexington	90	63	77	80	-3	0.43	-0.27	2	0.43				
Eupora	92	67	79	80	-1	1.57	+0.89	4	4.91				
Extreme/Average	93	63	79	80	-1	1.24	+0.38	3	4.42				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	90	69	79	80	-1	3.10	+2.46	4	6.99				0.22
Houston	89	62	76	79	-3	2.63	+1.97	4	5.43				
Louisville	90	66	77	79	-2	0.80	-0.02	4	3.36				
State University	91	68	79	81	-2	3.31 E	+2.52	5	7.39 E		89	79	830.23
Extreme/Average	91	62	78	80	-2	2.46	+1.63	4	5.79	89	79	83	0.22
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	94	68	81	82	-1	0.85	+0.08	2	4.58	93	80	85	
Natchez				82		0.20 E	-0.64	1	2.26 E				
Oakley	94	66	82	81	+1	1.01	+0.15	3	2.85	94	82	88	
Vicksburg	93	69	82			0.13		3	1.44				
Extreme/Average	94	66	82	81	+1	0.55	-0.40	2	2.78	94	80	87	
8. South-Central													
Collins				81		0.19	-0.75	3	4.01				
Columbia	94	71	82	82	0	0.41	-0.67	1	2.33				
Tylertown	93	70	82	81	+1	0.26	-0.89	3	7.72				
Extreme/Average	94	70	82	81	+1	0.29	-0.83	2	4.69				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont						2.12		2	6.93				
Hattiesburg	91	67	80	82	-2	0.92	-0.23	2	4.47				
Laurel	91	69	80	81	-1	1.43	+0.45	2	5.52				
Newton	92	65	79	80	-1	2.39	+1.48	4	7.04	86	74	79	0.22
Extreme/Average	92	65	80	81	-1	1.72	+0.69	3	5.99	86	74	79	0.22
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	95	69	83	82	+1	0.14	-1.31	1	7.35				
Gulfport	91	73	83	83	0	0.92	-0.38	2	6.82				
Pascagoula				81		1.00	-0.48	1	5.29				
Poplarville	92	69	81	82	-1	0.98	-0.26	4	7.51	91	77	81	
Waveland	93	72	83	82	+1	0.30	-0.95	2	6.05				
Extreme/Average	95	69	82	82	0	0.67	-0.76	2	6.60	91	77	81	
State	97	62	80	81	-1	1.37	+0.47	3	4.72	99	74	84	0.23

DFN = Departure from Normal.