



Weekly Weather Crop Report



Mississippi
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending August 17, 2003

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending August 17, 2003**. Harvesting is underway for all crops except cotton which continues to lag behind historical averages. Reported yields thus far are encouraging, but weather factors will be critical over the next several weeks. Soil moisture was rated 8 percent very short, 20 percent short, 66 percent adequate and 6 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	Dent	96	88	96	97	0	2	8	50	40
	Mature	58	39	69	76					
	Harvested	8	3	13	27					
	Silage Harvested	95	86	81	72					
Cotton	Setting Bolls	97	93	100	100	2	6	16	49	27
	Open Bolls	11	2	25	31					
Rice	Heading	96	92	98	90	0	1	11	55	33
	Mature	16	8	24	17					
	Harvested	2	--	0	1					
Sorghum	Turning Color	96	85	92	88	0	0	12	61	27
	Mature	57	40	50	48					
	Harvested	7	2	6	12					
Soybeans	Setting Pods	97	95	96	96	0	2	19	41	38
	Turning Color	49	31	32	35					
	Shedding Leaves	29	10	19	19					
	Harvested	7	1	3	3					
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	82	79	84	78	--	--	--	--	--
Sweetpotatoes	Harvested	1	--	0	6	4	18	47	31	0
Cattle						0	4	22	53	21
Pasture						0	4	18	57	21

County Agent Comments

“Showers fell Tuesday evening and Wednesday, but again they were scattered. Harvest has begun in all crops except cotton and that will begin in the next 10 days. Most crops show promise of good yields.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Corn harvest has begun, and yields look good so far!”

— Theresa L. Sanders, Hinds

“Farmers continue to harvest warm-season hay and are making preparation to plant cool-season forages.”

— Perry Brumfield, Lincoln

“Rains occur somewhere in the county every day. Producers are having trouble cutting and baling hay. Cotton and peanuts are in good shape. There are some reports of armyworms in millet. Cattle look good, but not much hay has been put up for this winter.”

— Lee Taylor, Forrest

“Corn silage yield and quality is excellent this year. Afternoon showers still plague hay harvest. There should be plenty of hay, but quality will be poor. Cattle are still in good shape.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Good cotton showers occurred early in the week. Toward the end of the week, cattlemen were able to continue with hay harvest. Corn is in the early stages of maturity. The producers who have dryer systems are getting the corn out now. Yields are showing pretty good promise so far.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Rice harvest will get started this week. Early soybean and corn yield reports have been good. Insect pressure continues to be light.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“A few showers hit part of the county last week; but for the most part, the entire county needs a good rain. Producers will begin harvesting corn and Group IV soybeans next week.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“I expect the corn harvest in our area to begin next week, with weather permitting. Soybeans are maturing rapidly, and Group IV varieties will be ready for harvest in a little over 2 weeks. Cotton is again beginning to suffer moisture stress in most of the area and will need additional rain next week to sustain good boll development.”

— Anita Webb, Scott

“About one inch of rain was received this week. Crops continue to mature at this time, especially corn. Harvest should begin next week for some. Hay harvest is still behind, but producers are making every effort to catch up.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“With a break from the daily thunderstorms that we were experiencing, producers have been busy harvesting hay and making preparations for winter grazing crops.”

Billy Joe Lee, Pearl River

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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Weather Summary from August 11, 2003 to August 17, 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				80					3.47				
Cleveland				81		0.25	-0.03	2	2.69				
Tunica	93	68	80	80	0	0.00	-0.56	0	3.06	94	77	86	0.22
Extreme/Average	93	68	80	81	-1	0.13	-0.50	1	2.88	94	77	86	0.22
2. North-Central													
Batesville	94	63	78	79	-1	0.00	-0.62	0	1.30				
Calhoun City	90	65	77	80	-3	0.68	-0.02	2	2.60				
Independence				79					7.32				
Oxford	94	64	79	79	0	0.10	-0.67	1	3.35				
Extreme/Average	94	63	78	79	-1	0.26	-0.44	1	2.42				
3. Northeast													
Booneville				79					6.78				
Corinth City	91	65	78	81	-3	0.70	+0.0	4	6.56				
Iuka				77					3.73				
Ripley				78		0.09	-0.54	1	6.54				
Tupelo									8.95				
Extreme/Average	91	65	78	79	-1	0.40	-0.26	3	6.55				
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni				81		0.77	+0.1	1	1.96				
Rolling Fork	96	67	81	81	0	0.23	-0.35	2	1.17	98	83	90	
Stoneville	95	68	81	81	0	0.56	+0.1	2	1.56	99	78	88	0.24
Yazoo City	95	65	79	82	-3	0.98	+0.2	1	1.34				
Extreme/Average	96	65	80	81	-1	0.64	+0.0	2	1.51	99	78	89	0.24
5. Central													
Canton	92	65	79	81	-2	1.28	+0.5	2	5.80				
Carthage	94	67	80	80	0	0.64	-0.16	1	3.89				
Lexington	93	63	78	80	-2	0.45	-0.18	2	0.88				
Eupora	93	67	79	79	0	0.51	-0.12	2	4.16				
Extreme/Average	94	63	79	80	-1	0.72	-0.05	2	4.62				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	94	68	80	80	0	0.67	+0.0	2	5.80				0.22
Houston	93	62	78	79	-1	1.05	+0.4	1	6.10				
Louisville	92	66	79	79	0	0.51	-0.17	2	2.31				
State University	94	68	80	80	0	1.33	+0.6	2	8.40	88	78	83	0.23
Extreme/Average	94	62	79	80	-1	0.89	+0.1	2	5.65	88	78	83	0.21
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs				81		1.10	+0.3	2	4.49				
Natchez	93	67	80	81	-1	0.74	-0.13	2	1.95				
Oakley				81		1.00E	+0.1	2	3.70E				
Vicksburg	94	67	80			0.77		3	2.17				
Extreme/Average	94	67	80	81	-1	0.90	-0.01	2	3.08				
8. South-Central													
Collins	91	69	80	81	-1	1.58	+0.6	2	4.32				
Columbia	97	70	81	81	0	0.58	-0.45	4	2.86				
Tylertown	95	67	80	81	-1	0.15	-0.92	2	5.44				
Extreme/Average	97	67	81	81	0	0.77	-0.31	3	4.21				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	95	67	80			7.92		4	14.24				
Hattiesburg	93	67	80	82	-2	2.32	+1.2	4	6.49				
Laurel	92	69	80	81	-1	1.23	+0.3	2	5.58				
Newton		66		80		0.97	+0.1	2	6.85	89	73	80	0.21
Extreme/Average	95	66	80	81	-1	3.11	+2.1	3	8.29	89	73	80	0.21
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	96	67	80	82	-2	0.37	-0.98	2	6.68				
Gulfport	90	71	81	82	-1	0.27	-0.99	3	5.14				
Pascagoula				81		0.40E	-1.00	2	4.79E				
Poplarville				82		0.50E	-0.64	1	6.87E				
Waveland	92	69	79	81	-2	1.09	-0.10	4	5.12				
Extreme/Average	96	67	80	82	-2	0.53	-0.87	2	5.72				
State	97	62	79	81	-2	0.94	+0.1	2	4.59	99	73	84	0.22

DFN = Departure from Normal.