



# Weekly Weather Crop Report



Mississippi  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending August 24, 2003

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending August 24, 2003**. Harvest for corn and soybeans is in full swing as favorable weather conditions persist throughout the State. Soil moisture was rated 8 percent very short, 29 percent short, 58 percent adequate and 5 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             | 97        | 96        | 99   | 98       | 0                         | 2    | 9    | 49   | 40        |
|                         | Mature           | 72        | 58        | 85   | 86       |                           |      |      |      |           |
|                         | Harvested        | 18        | 8         | 26   | 44       |                           |      |      |      |           |
|                         | Silage Harvested | 97        | 95        | 89   | 82       |                           |      |      |      |           |
| Cotton                  | Setting Bolls    | 98        | 97        | 100  | 100      | 3                         | 6    | 16   | 49   | 26        |
|                         | Open Bolls       | 22        | 11        | 38   | 52       |                           |      |      |      |           |
| Rice                    | Heading          | 98        | 96        | 100  | 94       | 0                         | 1    | 11   | 56   | 32        |
|                         | Mature           | 32        | 16        | 42   | 35       |                           |      |      |      |           |
|                         | Harvested        | 5         | 2         | 2    | 5        |                           |      |      |      |           |
| Sorghum                 | Turning Color    | 98        | 96        | 98   | 96       | 0                         | 0    | 13   | 57   | 30        |
|                         | Mature           | 70        | 57        | 66   | 68       |                           |      |      |      |           |
|                         | Harvested        | 15        | 7         | 14   | 27       |                           |      |      |      |           |
| Soybeans                | Setting Pods     | 99        | 97        | 99   | 99       | 0                         | 3    | 19   | 43   | 35        |
|                         | Turning Color    | 52        | 49        | 42   | 48       |                           |      |      |      |           |
|                         | Shedding Leaves  | 32        | 29        | 27   | 30       |                           |      |      |      |           |
|                         | Harvested        | 12        | 7         | 7    | 6        |                           |      |      |      |           |
| Hay (Warm Season)       | Harvested        | 85        | 82        | 86   | 80       | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
| Sweetpotatoes           | Harvested        | 3         | 1         | 3    | 10       | 3                         | 16   | 42   | 28   | 11        |
| Cattle                  |                  |           |           |      |          | 0                         | 3    | 19   | 58   | 20        |
| Pasture                 |                  |           |           |      |          | 0                         | 5    | 20   | 59   | 16        |

## County Agent Comments

“Scattered rain is helping pastures and cotton. The corn is done and so are most of the beans. Harvest is just starting on the early beans, but corn will be coming soon. Loopers are the only insects that are showing up in noticeable numbers.”

— Stephen R. Winters Grenada

“Weather has been good for the beginning of the corn harvest. We will need rain to complete the development of both cotton and soybean crops. Hot temperatures have accelerated the maturation of cotton, and some fields are beginning to show open bolls. At the same time, many cotton and soybean fields are still actively filling bolls and pods.”

— Karen Benson, Attala

“Corn harvesting in Madison County is in full swing. The yields look real good. Early soybeans are also reaching maturity very rapidly. So far the weather has been good for harvesting hay. However, we will need more rain to complete the development of cotton and soybean crops.”

— Otis L. Davis, Madison

“Corn yields are very good so far, with most fields cutting 150 bushels or better. Early soybean yields are running 30 to 60 bushels per acre. This is the first week in a long time with no showers. This helped with harvest, but post flood beans and pastures could use rain.”

— Terry Rector, Warren

“Hay harvest is in full swing. Some pastures are getting a little dry. Armyworms are increasing in scattered pastures. Heat and humidity are tough on poultry farms with six week old or older birds, because mortality is up.”

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

“Rice, corn, sorghum and soybeans are being harvested. Some cotton has been defoliated. Yields so far appear to be good.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“Corn and soybean harvest has begun and rice harvest should start next week. Early cotton is beginning to open rapidly with this 90+ degree temperature.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“Extremely hot and humid conditions last week helped to dry down many acres of corn and cured a lot of hay. Winter feed should be plentiful this year, while the quality of hay may be low due to long stems. Producers had to harvest the hay between showers and many had to wait longer than they would have preferred.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“More than adequate rain has given late crops a big boost. All crops have a good chance of making average to above average yields this year. Pasture and hay yields have been very good.”

— Dalton G. Garner, Prentiss

“More showers stopped soybean, corn and grain sorghum harvests in their tracks. Some harvest resumed after the sun reappeared Friday. The reports of good yields are the norm at this time.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Crops are progressing well. Scattered thundershowers were received mid-week with as much as one inch. Producers are still working on getting hay harvested.”

— Glen E. Williams, Oktibbeha

“Farmers are constantly gathering warm season hay and making preparation for planting cool season grazing.”

— Perry Brumfield, Lincoln

“Dryer conditions have allowed more time to harvest hay. Some ground is being broke in preparation for ryegrass planting. Cattle are still in good shape.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Rains moved back through our area, putting a halt on summer pasture hay harvest and winter pasture preparations. Cattle continues to look good.”

— Billy Joe Lee, Pearl River

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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:**

**U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Mississippi Cooperative  
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Dr. Joseph H. McGilberry, Director**

**Southern Regional Climate Center  
Louisiana State University  
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Service Climatologist**

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

Weather Summary from August 18, 2003 to August 24, 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       |                 |     |     | 79   |     |               |       |           | 3.47       |                         |     |     |              |
| Cleveland        | 100             | 72  | 85  | 80   | +5  | 0.51          | +0.18 | 2         | 3.13       |                         |     |     |              |
| Tunica           | 97              | 71  | 85  | 79   | +6  | 0.57          | +0.07 | 3         | 3.59       | 98                      | 80  | 88  | 0.21         |
| Extreme/Average  | 100             | 71  | 85  | 80   | +5  | 0.54          | -0.07 | 3         | 3.36       | 98                      | 80  | 88  | 0.21         |
| 2. North-Central |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Batesville       | 97              | 68  | 83  | 78   | +5  | 0.00          | -0.60 | 0         | 1.30       |                         |     |     |              |
| Calhoun City     | 93              | 69  | 81  | 79   | +2  | 0.00          | -0.70 | 0         | 2.58       |                         |     |     |              |
| Independence     |                 |     |     | 78   |     |               |       |           | 7.05       |                         |     |     |              |
| Oxford           | 97              | 68  | 83  | 78   | +5  | 0.46          | -0.31 | 1         | 3.75       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 97              | 68  | 82  | 79   | +3  | 0.15          | -0.55 | 0         | 2.54       |                         |     |     |              |
| 3. Northeast     |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Booneville       |                 |     |     | 78   |     | 0.50E         | -0.27 | 2         | 6.34E      |                         |     |     |              |
| Corinth City     |                 |     |     | 80   |     | 0.53E         | -0.17 | 2         | 5.66E      |                         |     |     |              |
| Iuka             |                 |     |     | 76   |     | 0.30E         | -0.54 | 2         | 2.84E      |                         |     |     |              |
| Ripley           |                 |     |     | 78   |     | 0.50E         | -0.13 | 1         | 6.78E      |                         |     |     |              |
| Tupelo           |                 |     |     |      |     | 1.60E         |       | 2         | 10.45E     |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  |                 |     |     | 79   |     | 1.07          | +0.40 | 2         | 5.66       |                         |     |     |              |
| 4. Lower Delta   |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Belzoni          |                 |     |     | 80   |     | 0.00          | -0.60 | 0         | 1.96       |                         |     |     |              |
| Rolling Fork     | 100             | 71  | 85  | 80   | +5  | 0.11          | -0.45 | 1         | 0.94       | 103                     | 83  | 94  |              |
| Stoneville       | 100             | 71  | 85  | 81   | +4  | 0.11          | -0.31 | 2         | 1.67       | 101                     | 80  | 91  | 0.23         |
| Yazoo City       | 98              | 69  | 84  | 81   | +3  | 1.67          | +0.96 | 1         | 3.01       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 100             | 69  | 85  | 81   | +4  | 0.47          | -0.09 | 1         | 1.90       | 103                     | 80  | 92  | 0.23         |
| 5. Central       |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Canton           | 95              | 69  | 82  | 81   | +1  | 0.00          | -0.67 | 0         | 4.44       |                         |     |     |              |
| Carthage         | 96              | 70  | 83  | 80   | +3  | 1.15          | +0.38 | 1         | 4.64       |                         |     |     |              |
| Lexington        | 95              | 65  | 81  | 79   | +2  | 0.08          | -0.55 | 1         | 0.96       |                         |     |     |              |
| Eupora           | 96              | 70  | 83  | 78   | +5  | 0.19          | -0.45 | 1         | 4.24       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 96              | 65  | 82  | 79   | +3  | 0.36          | -0.37 | 1         | 4.44       |                         |     |     |              |
| 6. East-Central  |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Aberdeen         | 95              | 72  | 83  | 79   | +4  | 0.05          | -0.58 | 1         | 5.82       |                         |     |     | 0.21         |
| Houston          | 94              | 66  | 81  | 78   | +3  | 0.13          | -0.56 | 2         | 6.21       |                         |     |     |              |
| Louisville       | 93              | 70  | 81  | 78   | +3  | 0.95          | +0.32 | 1         | 2.82       |                         |     |     |              |
| State University | 95              | 72  | 83  | 79   | +4  | 0.16          | -0.54 | 2         | 8.47       | 92                      | 82  | 86  | 0.21         |
| Extreme/Average  | 95              | 66  | 82  | 79   | +3  | 0.32          | -0.38 | 2         | 5.83       | 92                      | 82  | 86  | 0.20         |
| 7. Southwest     |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Crystal Springs  | 95              | 70  | 83  | 81   | +2  | 0.00          | -0.83 | 0         | 2.91       | 100                     | 78  | 90  |              |
| Natchez          | 94              | 70  | 82  | 81   | +1  | 1.92          | +1.01 | 3         | 2.93       |                         |     |     |              |
| Oakley           | 99              | 70  | 84  | 80   | +4  | 0.00          | -0.84 | 0         | 3.60       | 100                     | 85  | 93  |              |
| Vicksburg        | 95              | 71  | 84  |      |     | 0.00          |       | 0         | 0.90       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 99              | 70  | 83  | 80   | +3  | 0.48          | -0.39 | 1         | 2.59       | 100                     | 78  | 91  |              |
| 8. South-Central |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Collins          | 92              | 71  | 82  | 80   | +2  | 0.11          | -0.78 | 3         | 2.53       |                         |     |     |              |
| Columbia         | 95              | 71  | 83  | 81   | +2  | 0.00          | -0.98 | 0         | 1.31       |                         |     |     |              |
| Tylertown        | 94              | 70  | 82  | 81   | +1  | 0.19          | -0.84 | 3         | 2.25       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 95              | 70  | 82  | 80   | +2  | 0.10          | -0.95 | 2         | 2.03       |                         |     |     |              |
| 9. Southeast     |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Beaumont         | 95              | 70  | 82  |      |     | 0.35          |       | 2         | 12.86      |                         |     |     |              |
| Hattiesburg      |                 |     |     | 81   |     | 1.54          | +0.49 | 2         | 6.34       |                         |     |     |              |
| Laurel           | 94              | 71  | 82  | 80   | +2  | 0.32          | -0.57 | 1         | 3.83       |                         |     |     |              |
| Newton           | 95              | 68  | 81  | 79   | +2  | 0.54          | -0.30 | 2         | 5.06       | 89                      | 76  | 82  | 0.20         |
| Extreme/Average  | 95              | 68  | 82  | 80   | +2  | 0.69          | -0.22 | 2         | 7.02       | 89                      | 76  | 82  | 0.20         |
| 10. Coastal      |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Bay St Louis     | 97              | 67  | 82  | 81   | +1  | 0.61          | -0.70 | 3         | 3.35       |                         |     |     |              |
| Gulfport         | 89              | 72  | 81  | 82   | -1  | 1.42          | +0.16 | 5         | 5.69       |                         |     |     |              |
| Pascagoula       | 90              | 71  | 81  | 81   | 0   | 1.02          | -0.41 | 2         | 4.52       |                         |     |     |              |
| Poplarville      |                 |     |     | 81   |     | 2.63          | +1.58 | 3         | 5.57       |                         |     |     |              |
| Waveland         | 91              | 70  | 82  | 81   | +1  | 1.04          | -0.23 | 4         | 3.35       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 97              | 67  | 81  | 81   | 0   | 1.34          | -0.06 | 3         | 4.50       |                         |     |     |              |
| State            | 100             | 65  | 83  | 80   | +3  | 0.52          | -0.29 | 2         | 4.07       | 103                     | 76  | 88  | 0.23         |

DFN = Departure from Normal.