



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 August 24, 2008

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According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 3.1 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, August 24, 2008**. Continuous rainfall has prevented corn, rice, and hay harvesting in some areas, but the moisture coupled with the cooler temperatures have been beneficial for some soybeans. There have been some reports of boll rot in cotton and armyworms are being reported in central and north Mississippi. Some producers are preparing fields for fall vegetable production. Soil moisture was rated 2 percent very short, 10 percent short, 42 percent adequate and 46 percent surplus.

**Crop progress for week ending 08/24/08**

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, dent	99	98	100	98
Corn, mature	82	70	94	84
Corn, harvested	15	7	49	39
Corn Silage, harvested	85	77	97	97
Cotton, setting bolls	100	98	100	100
Cotton, open bolls	12	5	48	34
Hay-Warm Season, harvested	82	80	80	82
Rice, headed	88	81	100	99
Rice, mature	25	7	73	42
Rice, harvested	1	--	5	4
Sorghum, heading	99	98	100	100
Sorghum, coloring	87	80	97	98
Sorghum, mature	40	30	78	80
Sorghum, harvested	11	2	36	37
Sorghum, silage harvested	10	--	--	--
Soybeans, setting pods	98	96	100	100
Soybeans, turning color	39	25	63	66
Soybeans, dropping leaves	15	6	44	48
Soybeans, harvested	2	--	18	24

**Crop condition for week ending 08/24/08**

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	7	14	21	39	19
Cotton	6	7	26	42	19
Hay	3	11	26	38	22
Livestock	3	6	26	52	13
Pasture	3	13	30	42	12
Peanuts	0	0	3	71	26
Rice	0	3	12	48	37
Sorghum	0	4	19	53	24
Soybeans	6	10	27	42	15
Sweet Potatoes	0	7	10	75	8

## Comments

“Weather predictions due to the hurricane had farmers harvesting corn at a higher moisture level than they wanted.”

— Laura Giaccaglia, Bolivar

“Rainfall of 1 to 6 inches has been reported in various communities over the weekend. Pastures, hay fields, and ponds will benefit greatly from these rains.”

— Ruby D. Rankin, Kemper

“Most of the county received 3 inches of rain this weekend with more rain expected. The early harvest of green boiling peanuts has come to a halt due to wet fields. Armyworms are still at it in hay fields and pastures.”

— Shelby Bearden, Copenhaver

“Crops are looking real good. Pastures are growing since we have received some rain. Producers should get one more cutting of hay. We received just over one inch of rain from the tropical storm.”

— Chuck Grantham, Forrest

“We had some very gusty wind from Fay on Saturday. Some corn will be affected and harvest will be more difficult as a result. We’ve had a good, slow rain fall that will help in forage production.”

— Mark Gillie, Greene

“Rain showers generating off the Gulf Coast along with remnants of Hurricane Fay has delayed harvesting of warm season hay and corn. We are beginning to get a little bit soggy throughout the county.”

— Billy Joe Lee, Pearl River

“Showers are preventing harvest. We need some dry weather.”

— Don Respass, Coahoma

“Cooler weather and rains this week have cotton and soybeans looking good.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“First time I've ever heard farmers say in August "I don't need any more rain right now." I asked them how many times they've said that in July or August and they said, "Never." All the rain we have been getting has really helped the late soybeans.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“We had some rain this past week that should help soybeans. Temperatures have been cooler than normal.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Insect pressure is low in the cotton right now. We actually need some dry weather to dry the corn down and get some hay in.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Recent rains have brought pastures back to life. Fall armyworms are being reported in several north Mississippi locations. Herd liquidations continue due to high production costs.”

— Mike Howell, Lee

“Rainfall has passed the point of being beneficial in most areas. Early planted corn is near moisture levels suitable for harvest. Disease and insect pressure is increasing in some soybean fields.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Continued wet weather is starting to affect our crops. Boll rot is being found in cotton. Various diseases are affecting the mature pods of soybeans with seed rot. Corn and rice fields are awaiting dry weather so harvest can continue.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Rains that fell early in the week have prevented any fieldwork or harvesting. Spraying for insects in late soybeans is spotted. We need sunny weather to dry down grain before damage occurs.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“We could have fared well without the rain brought by Hurricane Fay; however, it seems we have at least escaped the wind damage experienced by others in the Southeast. These rains threaten to damage mature fields of soybeans, corn, and cotton through loss of quality.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“The rain has stopped just about all outside horticultural, row-crop, timber, and hay harvesting activities. The rain fell slowly and our ground is getting real soft, making it almost impossible to work on.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“We are still trying to get the corn out!!! It looks like another rain event is on for this weekend (August 23rd and 24th). If that happens it will run us out of the fields again. We will see what happens. Corn harvested yields look good so far. Soybeans are looking good with many fields shedding leaves. It won't be long before we begin harvest of the bean crop. Cotton looks good and that harvest will begin shortly as well.”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

(Additional comments appear 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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U.S. Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural  
Statistics Service - Mississippi FO  
Thomas L. Gregory, Director

**Mississippi Weather Summary for Week Ending 08/24/08**

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	
<b>Upper Delta</b>													
Cleveland	91	68	80	81	-1	2.64	2.08	5	7.33				
Lambert	92	63	78			3.41	2.72	5	7.49				
Tunica	89	67	78	79	-1	1.90	1.40	5	5.83				
Extreme/Average	92	63	79	80	-1	2.65	2.07	5	6.88				
<b>North-Central</b>													
Calhoun City	89	62	77	79	-2	3.41	2.71	4	7.58				
Hickory Flat	91	58	75	78	-3	2.57	1.78	4	7.02				
Independence	88	60	75	78	-3	2.11	1.42	3	5.38				
Oxford	89	60	76	78	-2	3.39	2.62	4	10.09				
Extreme/Average	91	58	76	78	-2	2.87	2.13	4	7.52				
<b>Northeast</b>													
Corinth	91	58	76	80	-4	1.43	0.73	3	2.91				
Pontotoc	89	62	76	79	-3	2.08	1.38	4	7.26				
Ripley	90	61	76	78	-2	1.75	1.12	3	3.65				
Tupelo	92	64	78			1.41	0.00	4	7.58				
Verona	93	61	78	80	-2	1.20	0.31	3	5.22				
Extreme/Average	93	58	77	79	-2	1.57	0.89	3	5.32				
<b>Lower Delta</b>													
Moorhead	89	67	78	81	-3	2.33	1.84	4	8.29				
Rolling Fork	92	69	80	80		3.16	2.60	3	12.07				
Stoneville	92	66	79	81	-2	1.48	1.06	3	4.73				
Yazoo City	91	68	79	81	-2	2.17	1.46	2	8.44				
Extreme/Average	92	66	79	81	-2	2.29	1.74	3	8.38				
<b>Central</b>													
Canton	91	66	78	81	-3	3.67	3.00	3	9.18				
Carthage	91	66	78	80	-2	2.28	1.51	3	6.48				
Eupora	90	61	76	78	-2	2.57	1.93	5	6.15				
Kosciusko	89	65	77	80	-3	2.91	2.21	4	8.06				
Winona	90	63	77	76	1	0.82	0.15	3	3.95				
Extreme/Average	91	61	77	79	-2	2.45	1.76	4	6.76				
<b>East-Central</b>													
Aberdeen	93	65	79	79		2.52	1.89	2	4.25				
Macon	91	65	80	80	0	0.82	0.03	3	5.42				
Philadelphia	93	66	80	80		2.98	2.21	4	7.62				
State University	92	62	78	79	-1	2.46	1.76	4	7.24				
Extreme/Average	93	62	79	80	-1	2.20	1.47	3	6.13				
<b>Southwest</b>													
Crystal Springs	91	69	80	81	-1	2.53	1.70	4	14.60				
Natchez	91	68	79	81	-2	3.07	2.16	5	6.92				
Oakley	93	65	79	80	-1	1.60	0.76	3	8.39				
Port Gibson	90	68	79	79	0	1.89	1.21	3	9.70				
Vicksburg	91	70	80			1.98	0.00	3	9.96				
Extreme/Average	93	65	79	80	-1	2.21	1.46	4	9.91				
<b>South-Central</b>													
Collins	90	70	79	80	-1	1.41	0.52	4	7.56				
Columbia	93	71	82	81	1	1.41	0.43	3	7.30				
Raleigh	91	68	78			2.62		6	7.81				
Extreme/Average	93	70	80	81	-1	1.81	0.48	4	7.56				
<b>Southeast</b>													
Hattiesburg	91	69	79	81	-2	1.89	0.84	3	8.37				
Laurel	90	69	79	80	-1	2.69	1.80	3	7.20				
Newton	91	67	79	79		1.68	0.84	4	6.53				
Waynesboro	92	70	80	80	0	1.58	0.85	6	3.71				
Extreme/Average	91	67	79	80	-1	1.96	1.08	4	6.45				
<b>Coastal</b>													
Extreme/Average						0.00	0.00	0	0.00				
<b>State</b>	93	58	78	80	-2	2.22	1.45	4	7.21				

DFN = Departure from Normal.