



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 September 10, 2006

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According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 6.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, September 10, 2006**. Harvesting is continuing this week at a fast pace. Harvesting conditions have been dry and dusty in many areas but the harvest is progressing well. Armyworms are a problem for many hay producers that have already been hard-pressed for yields because of the dry weather. Loopers and stinkbugs have been sighted in some soybean fields. Many growers are reporting reduced yields in corn, soybeans, and cotton while rice yields are doing well. Soil moisture was rated 65 percent very short, 26 percent short, and 9 percent adequate.

### Crop progress for week ending 09/10/06

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Corn, mature	100	99	97	97
Corn, harvested	93	91	76	71
Cotton, open bolls	93	88	72	72
Cotton, harvested	18	5	2	3
Hay-Warm Season, harvested	90	88	95	89
Peanuts, harvested	6	--	--	--
Rice, mature	79	55	71	81
Rice, harvested	41	16	14	32
Sorghum, mature	100	98	100	98
Sorghum, harvested	94	89	84	72
Soybeans, turning color	96	90	91	82
Soybeans, dropping leaves	89	80	77	66
Soybeans, harvested	77	70	52	40
Sweet Potatoes, harvested	18	6	25	20

### Crop condition for week ending 09/10/06

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Cotton	14	20	28	31	7
Livestock	22	21	36	19	2
Pasture	39	29	31	1	0
Peanuts	3	10	40	47	0
Rice	1	5	20	56	18
Sweet Potatoes	2	24	37	30	7

## County Agent Comments

“Harvesting continues to move along nicely. Rice yields are excellent. Dry land cotton yields range from 250 lbs. to 900lbs. We need the good weather to stay with us.”

— Don Respons, Bolivar

“Producers are harvesting soybeans and corn. Harvest aid chemicals have been applied to cotton.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“In the few Group V beans we have, loopers and stinkbugs have been sighted. Defoliants are working well so far. The cotton we have picked so far is a little under a bale.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Group IV soybeans are being harvested with highly variable yields. The corn harvest is near completion with yields also varying. Cotton defoliation has started.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Dry weather continues to impede producers. Summer pastures have dried up and there is not enough moisture to support winter grazing crops. What hasn't dried up, armyworms are eating up. We need rain!”

— Victor Lee, Simpson

“Hay is going to be in short supply from drought conditions and the fall armyworms are also contributing to the problems in forage production.”

— Mark Gillie, Greene

“The lack of rainfall is causing producers to feed livestock. Some producers are considering reducing the number of cattle that they keep over the winter due to the lack of grazing and bales of hay on hand. Peanut yields are expected to be lower but the overall quality is expected to be good.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“The cotton harvest will start next week. The rice harvest started last week. Group IV soybeans that have not been harvested are popping out.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“Dry Conditions continue to affect the livestock producers. Little hope is left on getting a late-fall hay cutting. Hay supplies are extremely short. Low soil moisture is preventing fall seeding of cool season grasses. Armyworm numbers are increasing due to the early crop dry-down. Commodity feed supplies are tight and prices are rising. The latest USDA drought map indicated that the northern part of the state was not in a drought.”

— Mike Howell, Lee

“Corn and soybean harvesting continues with reduced yields in both. Producers are feeding hay to some areas where pastures are burned up. Moisture is needed before we can even think about planting winter grass. Most hay harvesting is complete with no added cuttings.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah

“Harvest activities continue to move rapidly forward. Rice yields are above average. Furrow irrigated cotton yields are excellent. Center pivot irrigated and dry-land cotton yields are fair to poor. Some growers have gotten a good jump on fall tillage work.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Harvest is coming along quickly. Gins are running but are running only during the day-time at this period in the harvest. Rice yields are reported to be very good, so far.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“A late rain, that many had hoped for to add some last minute yield increase to their crop, has failed to arrive so far. Each day adds to the doubt that more rain might help the situation. We are actually at the point where rain might cause as much problem as help.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Armyworms are secondary to the drought, but continue to be a problem. Forecast of rain for this week looks promising. Is it too late for pasture and hayfield ground to fully recover and have time to produce an adequate amount of forage before the frost? Many cattle producers are choosing to sell out rather than try to struggle through the winter with limited hay supplies and high priced feedstuffs.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“The cotton harvest is starting up strong. Yields are as poor as expected. Sweet potatoes have poor to fair yields and hard, dry soils caused poorly shaped roots, resulting in the lowering market values.”

— Dr. Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

“Some areas of the county received .25 inches of rain on Thursday. Other areas had none. Hopes for any late summer hay are evaporating.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“Riding up Highway 61, there were several fields with cotton harvest complete and there were modules around the edges of the fields. There was also the smell of defoliant in the air. This is the time of the year when we get to see the return on our investment. Some of the fields look good; others are not so good. The final tally will show up shortly. The bean yields in some fields are ok!”

— 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 09/10/06**

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	96	62	79	78	1	0.08	-0.39	1	2.38				
Lambert	95	58	77			1.72	1.00	2	6.08				
Tunica	94	64	78	78		0.54	-0.02	2	3.59				
Extreme/Average	96	58	77	78	-1	1.72	1.11	2	0.00				
<b>North-Central</b>													
Calhoun City	92	60	75	77	-2	0.00	-0.77	0	1.82				
Hickory Flat	93	58	76	76		0.57	-0.30	1	6.87				
Independence	92	57	74	77	-3	0.64	-0.11	2	2.40				
Oxford	95	58	76	77	-1	1.72	0.88	2	3.00				
Extreme/Average	95	57	75	77	-2	1.18	0.39	2	2.40				
<b>Northeast</b>													
Booneville	94	63	78	76	2	0.90	0.09	1	1.64				
Iuka	93	56	74	74		0.94	0.01	2	2.21				
Ripley	92	58	75	76	-1	0.11	-0.64	1	3.41				
Tupelo	95	64	78			0.74	0.00	2	1.31				
Verona	95	64	80	78	2	0.70	-0.27	1	1.71				
Extreme/Average	95	56	77	77		0.62	-0.19	2	1.76				
<b>Lower Delta</b>													
Moorhead	94	64	79	79		0.03	-0.58	1	1.20				
Rolling Fork	98	62	80	79	1	0.00	-0.60	0	1.45				
Stoneville	96	63	79	79		0.06	-0.50	1	1.56				
Yazoo City	92	63	77	80	-3	0.18	-0.49	1	2.23				
Extreme/Average	98	62	79	79		0.02	-0.59	1	1.33				
<b>Central</b>													
Canton	95	61	79	79		0.76	0.08	3	1.37				
Carthage	94	64	79	78	1	0.30	-0.50	1	1.09				
Eupora	96	60	77	77		0.18	-0.58	1	1.51				
Lexington	97	61	78	78		0.00	-0.63	0	1.16				
Extreme/Average	97	60	78	78		0.31	-0.46	1	1.34				
<b>East-Central</b>													
Aberdeen	98	64	79	77	2	0.46	-0.27	2	0.98				
Houston	95	59	77	76	1	0.00	-0.81	0	0.38				
State University	96	59	76	78	-2	2.44	1.67	3	3.07				
Extreme/Average	98	59	77	78	-1	0.97	0.18	2	0.68				
<b>Southwest</b>													
Crystal Springs	95	65	80	79	1	0.61	-0.34	1	2.42				
Natchez	93	63	78	80	-2	1.90	0.99	3	3.53				
Oakley	98	60	79	79		0.72	-0.08	1	4.55				
Vicksburg	93	64	79			0.36	0.00	2	2.14				
Extreme/Average	98	60	79	79		0.90	-0.01	2	2.84				
<b>South-Central</b>													
Collins	94	64	80	79	1	0.40	-0.54	1	2.46				
Columbia	94	66	80	80		0.96	-0.02	2	9.72				
Tylertown	93	64	79	80	-1	2.02	1.04	2	5.41				
Extreme/Average	94	64	79	80	-1	1.13	0.15	2	5.86				
<b>Southeast</b>													
Beaumont						0.00	0.00	0	0.00				
Hattiesburg	95	68	83	80	3	0.00	-1.05	0	2.04				
Laurel	95	66	81	79	2	0.22	-0.73	2	1.22				
Newton	97	59	79	78	1	0.03	-0.81	1	1.68				
Extreme/Average	97	59	81	79	2	0.22	-0.66	2	0.00				
<b>Coastal</b>													
Gulfport	93	68	82	81	1	0.10	-1.34	2	3.88				
Pascagoula 3 NE				80		0.00	0.00	0	1.20				
Picayune				80		0.50	-0.73	1	4.10				
Extreme/Average	93	68		80		0.00	0.00	0	0.00				
<b>State</b>	98	56	78	79	-1	0.73	-0.07	2	2.27				

DFN = Departure from Normal.