



Weekly Weather Crop Report



In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending September 14, 2003

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 5.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending September 14, 2003**. A break in frequent rain showers allowed for continued harvest of corn, rice, and soybeans throughout the State. The hay harvest is making headway as well, due to the drier weather conditions. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent very short, 17 percent short, 76 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	Mature	99	96	99	99	--	--	--	--	--
	Harvested	85	65	81	83					
Cotton	Open Bolls	74	56	86	92	2	6	15	52	25
	Harvested	9	2	8	11					
Rice	Mature	84	70	92	85	0	2	9	53	36
	Harvested	52	32	36	42					
Sorghum	Mature	100	94	100	98	--	--	--	--	--
	Harvested	80	52	77	79					
Soybeans	Turning Color	88	71	78	84					
	Shedding Leaves	70	52	62	66	0	4	19	46	31
	Harvested	50	33	34	30					
Wheat	Planted	2	--	2	1	--	--	--	--	--
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	92	89	93	91	--	--	--	--	--
Sweetpotatoes	Harvested	35	28	21	27	0	11	29	25	35
Cattle						0	3	24	59	14
Pasture						0	4	30	55	11

County Agent Comments

“A lot of cotton will be defoliated in the next 3 to 5 days depending upon the weather. Corn harvest is nearing completion with yields in the range of 180 to 210 bushels per acre. There are a lot of cattle going to the auction sales this week due to the high prices.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Producers are harvesting corn. Cotton is opening and soybeans are shedding leaves. Yields are expected to be good.”

—Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Last week was another hot and humid one. Predictions for this week are for cooler and clear weather. Much of the hay cut last week had a scattered shower on it. We had widespread rain on Saturday. There should be another cutting of hay out there. Corn harvest should pick up now and there will be some weeds to slow things down. A little ryegrass has been planted. Ryegrass preparation and planting should be in full swing this week.”

— Clayton Rouse, Lamar

“Some daily rains are still occurring in the county. Peanuts look good. Cotton is hurting from excess moisture. More hay needs to be harvested, but quality will be low. Some cattle are losing condition due to poor forages.”

— Lee Taylor, Forrest

“Hay harvest is winding down. Pastures are being prepared for ryegrass planting. Some areas are beginning to show signs of low moisture and could use a rain. Cooler temperatures have been good for dairy cattle and poultry.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Cotton harvest is in full swing and gins are putting together night shift workers. Grain harvest is going well with good to excellent yields being reported.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Harvesting activities are coming along nicely. Cotton, rice, and soybean yields continue to be very good.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“Cotton harvest should start up next week. Most Group IV soybeans have been harvested and yields are averaging around 38-40 bushels per acre. We have sprayed about 60-70% of our Group V beans for stinkbug and loopers. Milo harvest is about over and rice harvest is progressing well.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“Soybean harvest is really progressing and yields are really good. Some disease pressure in the Group V's. Late cotton does not have the fruit load we want.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“A lot of progress was made last week harvesting corn and soybeans. Cotton fields that were planted early are being defoliated. Bolls have been damaged by stinkbugs and wet weather. Soybean fields are looking good. With clear weather this week, the corn harvest should be complete.”

— Karen Benson, Attala

“Some areas of the county have received rain, while others remain extremely dry.”

— Donna Cliett, Clay

“Only light rain was received this week which allowed for crops to continue maturing toward harvest. Corn harvest has begun and soybeans in our area will be starting in about another week to 10 days. Pastures continue to be in excellent condition considering the time of year. Hay harvest is still behind, but with better drying conditions predicted this week, some good progress should be made.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“The army worms are still causing problems in pastures and hay fields. We need to keep a close eye on these insects. The gins are ready and the cotton harvest has started!!!”

— Theresa Sanders, Hinds

“Planting of ryegrass and small grains for winter grazing is in full swing. Although much of the county received rainfall Saturday, it wasn't enough to regenerate soil moisture to ideal levels for optimal seed germination and grass growth.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

“Cooler weather was welcomed by poultry operations. Lower humidity is helping more than any thing; mortality should go down and average daily gains up. This is poultry growing weather at last!!!! Fall army worms are present in pastures, but populations are below threshold.”

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

“Corn harvest was almost completed last week. Record yields are being reported by local farmers. Cotton harvest began and hay harvest continued. Some spotted showers interrupted field work. Ryegrass ground is ready to be seeded, with some already planted.”

— Victor Lee, Newton

“Cooler temperatures, along with drier conditions, have moved into the area and producers are busy putting in winter pastures for cattle.”

— 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 September 8, 2003 to September 14, 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					75	0.40 E	-0.38	1	6.39 E				
Cleveland					76	0.76	+0.13	2	3.31				
Tunica	90	63	77	75	+2	0.40	-0.23	1	2.67	89	70	81	0.20
Extreme/Average	90	63	77	76	+1	0.52	-0.25	1	4.12	89	70	81	0.20
2. North-Central													
Batesville	89	62	76	74	+2	0.03	-0.74	1	1.27				
Calhoun City	86	62	74	75	-1	0.16	-0.68	1	3.29				
Independence	87	58	73	74	-1	1.13	+0.29	1	3.03				
Oxford	90	61	76	74	+2	0.06	-0.80	1	2.09				
Extreme/Average	90	58	75	75	0	0.35	-0.54	1	2.42				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	85			74		0.14	-0.76	1	4.11				
Corinth City	87	57	72	75	-3	0.00	-1.01	0	3.44				
Iuka	88	53	70	72	-2	0.12	-0.89	1	2.66				
Ripley	86	58	73	73	0	0.32	-0.58	1	4.69				
Tupelo	87	63	75			0.40		1	4.95				
Verona				75		0.18	-0.82	1	3.87				0.27
Extreme/Average	88	53	73	75	-2	0.19	-0.72	1	3.95				0.27
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni				77		0.35	-0.28	1	1.90				
Rolling Fork	93	62	78	77	+1	0.44	-0.24	3	1.79	97	80	88	
Stoneville	92	62	78	76	+2	1.03	+0.28	2	3.55	94	74	85	0.25
Yazoo City	90	63	77	77	0	0.00	-0.63	0	4.11				
Extreme/Average	93	62	78	77	+1	0.46	-0.28	2	2.84	97	74	86	0.25
5. Central													
Canton	87	61	76	77	-1	0.33	-0.37	1	4.18				
Carthage	87	61	75	76	-1	0.35	-0.49	1	4.03				
Lexington	88	61	74	75	-1	0.07	-0.63	1	3.34				
Eupora	88	60	75	74	+1	0.42	-0.49	1	1.44				
Extreme/Average	88	60	75	76	-1	0.29	-0.51	1	3.25				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	89	63	76	75	+1	0.17	-0.69	1	2.10				0.17
Houston				74		0.32	-0.63	1	2.27				
Louisville	86	61	75	75	0	0.45	-0.42	1	4.26				
State University	86	61	76	76	0	0.39	-0.45	1	2.32	88	79	83	0.15
Extreme/Average	89	61	76	76	0	0.33	-0.58	1	2.74	88	79	83	0.15
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	88	62	75	77	-2	1.23	+0.17	2	3.04	87	75	81	
Natchez	91	66	78	78	0	1.86	+0.96	1	6.44				
Oakley	92	61	77	76	+1	0.61	-0.09	2	1.50	94	78	85	
Vicksburg	90	63	78			1.60		3	2.81				
Extreme/Average	92	61	77	78	-1	1.33	+0.49	2	3.45	94	75	83	
8. South-Central													
Collins	87	64	76	76	0	1.17	+0.19	2	2.55				
Columbia	90	65	78	78	0	0.26	-0.74	1	1.38				
Tylertown	90	67	78	78	0	0.94	-0.04	1	2.53				
Extreme/Average	90	64	78	78	0	0.79	-0.18	1	2.15				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont						0.36 E		2	1.83 E				
Hattiesburg				78		0.36 E	-0.69	1	2.71 E				
Laurel	89	65	77	77	0	0.52	-0.53	3	2.01				
Newton	89	59	75	76	-1	0.47	-0.37	1	2.90	81	70	76	0.18
Extreme/Average	89	59	76	77	-1	0.43	-0.52	2	2.36	81	70	76	0.18
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis				79		0.10 E	-1.23	1	4.97 E				
Gulfport	90	69	80	80	0	1.47	-0.11	4	6.08				
Pascagoula				78		0.70 E	-0.95	1	3.74 E				
Poplarville				78		2.56	+1.51	1	6.26				
Waveland	87	69	80	78	+2	1.09	-0.57	2	4.75				
Extreme/Average	90	69	80	79	+1	1.18	-0.18	2	5.16				
State	93	53	76	77	-1	0.59	-0.31	1	3.14	97	70	82	0.20

DFN = Departure from Normal.