



Weekly Weather Crop Report



In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending November 2, 2003

Released: 3:00 P.M., November 3, 2003

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.3 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending November 2, 2003**. To a large extent, harvesting activities are nearing completion due to favorable weather conditions throughout the week. Many producers are already making field preparations for next year's crop. Soil moisture was rated 5 percent very short, 29 percent short, 64 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2002	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Cotton	Harvested	92	85	59	88	--	--	--	--	--
Rice	Harvested	100	99	94	98	--	--	--	--	--
Soybeans	Harvested	97	92	78	91	--	--	--	--	--
Wheat	Planted	85	75	30	61	0	1	22	56	21
	Emerged	68	54	15	33					
Sweetpotatoes	Harvested	96	95	92	94	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle						1	8	26	53	12
Pasture						4	18	31	42	5

County Agent Comments

"Harvest is winding down. Most of the cotton, the late rice and late soybeans will be out of the fields after this week. Most of the wheat has been planted and producers are taking advantage of the warm, dry weather to prepare fields for next year."

— Anthony Bland, Tunica

"Although cotton was extremely late, yields are good. The corn crop is great with above average yields. Winter pastures are improving with last week's rain. We need a few more days of dry weather to wrap up the harvest season."

— Tim Needham, Tippah

"Row crop harvest is virtually complete. Ryegrass pastures are growing well. Hay harvest is complete."

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

"Beef and dairy producers continue suffering from lack of rainfall. Many producers who are normally grazing cattle on ryegrass pastures or ryegrass and small grain mixtures are being forced to keep cattle off pastures because of insufficient plant growth and root system development. Summer bahia and bermuda pastures are going dormant and many producers are feeding hay to compensate for lack of grazing."

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

"The dry weather has assisted producers in getting ryegrass planted but the grass is in need of moisture to get the boost needed before the first frost of the season."

— Florieda K Mason, Perry

"Most of the ryegrass has been planted and is up; however, rain is needed for growth. Overall cattle remain in good condition. Corn and hay harvest is complete. Blueberry fields are being prepared for planting."

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

"Good weather has allowed growers to just about finish harvesting all crops. They are also getting the ground ready for next year. What a difference a year makes. Last year we were rutting up fields and cutting poor quality soybeans."

— Don Respass, Bolivar

"Harvest is winding down. The south half of Quitman County still has about 40 percent of their cotton to harvest, but should get it in about 10-12 days with good weather. Farmers are getting fields ready for next year's crop as fast as they get the existing crop off."

— Mack Young, Quitman

"Good harvest weather has allowed farmers to gather a bumper crop with good quality."

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“With the weather we had this year, a lot of our old, dry ridges that normally pick poorly have produced some of our best cotton. You can definitely tell where the low spots were this year.”

— Stephen R Winters, Grenada

“Crops are all in except for a few late soybeans and some cotton waiting to be scrapped. Very good yields have been reported from all over the county.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

"The harvest here is nearly complete. We have been blessed with good weather. A few cotton fields that were planted late are still trying to open, but growers are going ahead with picking in most cases."

— Karen Benson, Attala

“Dry weather is continuing to delay ryegrass planting.”

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

“Summer grass pastures are in fair shape but dry weather is hurting. Ryegrass pastures need rain because there is still some ryegrass to be planted. The dry weather has also affected commercial vegetable producers who grow turnip and mustard greens. Planting is delayed until we get some rain.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Producers that got their winter grazing pastures in early are almost ready to begin grazing; those that planted later are in need of moisture. Some producers are starting to feed hay!”

— 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 October 27, 2003 to November 2, 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	89	41	62	57	+5	0.30	-0.67	1	2.49				
Cleveland	81	44	61	59	+2	0.00	-0.93	0	1.72				
Tunica				58		0.00	-0.98	0	2.68				0.09
Extreme/Average	89	41	61	59	+2	0.10	-0.81	0	2.30				0.09
2. North-Central													
Batesville	83	41	62	57	+5	0.00	-0.99	0	0.65				
Calhoun City	80	38	59	57	+2	0.00	-0.82	0	5.13				
Independence	81	38	59	56	+3	0.00	-0.86	0	2.08				
Oxford	83	41	61	56	+5	0.00	-1.02	0	2.76				
Extreme/Average	83	38	60	57	+3	0.00	-0.92	0	2.66				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	77	37	59	56	+3	0.00	-0.97	0	3.16				
Corinth City	81	40	62	58	+4	0.00	-0.96	0	2.55				
Iuka	81	32	56	54	+2	0.05	-0.92	1	1.85				
Ripley	78	38	56	55	+1	0.03	-0.93	1	2.90				
Tupelo	80	41	62			0.61		2	4.29				
Verona				57		0.03	-0.77	1	4.08				0.12
Extreme/Average	81	32	59	57	+2	0.14	-0.77	1	2.95				
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni				60		0.00	-1.02	0	3.30				
Rolling Fork	84	43	62	60	+2	0.00	-1.00	0	1.65	79	59	68	
Stoneville	84	46	64	59	+5	0.01	-0.91	1	3.98	79	56	67	0.11
Yazoo City	83	43	63	60	+3	0.00	-1.07	0	1.70				
Extreme/Average	84	43	63	60	+3	0.00	-0.95	0	2.66	79	56	68	0.11
5. Central													
Canton	81	38	60	60	0	0.03	-0.97	1	2.57				
Carthage	81	38	60	59	+1	0.10	-0.85	1	2.72				
Lexington	82	37	59	58	+1	0.00	-1.01	0	3.67				
Eupora	82	36	59	57	+2	0.00	-0.96	0	3.06				
Extreme/Average	82	36	59	59	0	0.03	-0.87	1	3.01				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	80	40	60	57	+3	0.03	-0.90	1	2.89				0.06
Houston	80	34	58	56	+2	0.00	-0.90	0	2.70				
Louisville				59		0.00	-0.92	0	3.79				
State University	81	40	60	58	+2	0.00	-0.88	0	3.28	70	61	65	0.05
Extreme/Average	81	34	59	59	0	0.01	-0.83	0	3.17	70	61	65	0.06
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs				62		0.05	-0.76	1	1.03				
Natchez	83	39	62	62	0	0.13	-0.92	1	2.59				
Oakley				59		0.00	-0.98	0	1.01				
Vicksburg	83	44	63			0.04		1	2.14				
Extreme/Average	83	39	63	62	+1	0.06	-0.85	1	1.69				
8. South-Central													
Collins	81	44	61	60	+1	0.00	-0.92	0	1.50				
Columbia	85	47	66	61	+5	0.02	-0.88	1	1.28				
Tylertown	84	47	63	63	0	0.01	-0.96	1	2.71				
Extreme/Average	85	44	63	61	+2	0.01	-0.80	1	1.83				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	86	45	63			0.00		0	2.51				
Hattiesburg	83	47	65	62	+3	0.00	-0.98	0	0.79				
Laurel	83	45	64	60	+4	0.00	-0.86	0	1.22				
Newton	83	37	60	58	+2	0.02	-0.94	1	2.91	70	54	63	0.09
Extreme/Average	86	37	63	61	+2	0.01	-0.78	0	1.86	70	54	63	0.09
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis				64		0.00	-0.90	0	1.83				
Gulfport	80	51	66	65	+1	0.00	-0.73	0	2.69				
Pascagoula				63		0.19	-0.74	2	1.65				
Poplarville				63		0.00	-0.88	0	0.00				
Waveland	82	49	66	63	+3	0.05	-0.72	1	0.74				
Extreme/Average	82	49	66	64	+2	0.06	-0.66	1	1.73				
State	89	32	62	60	+2	0.04	-0.82	1	2.38	79	54	65	0.08

DFN = Departure from Normal.