

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 3.2 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending March 27, 2000**. Wet conditions continue to slow down fieldwork across many parts of the state. Soil moisture was rated 4 percent very short, 30 percent short, 50 percent adequate, and 16 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	1999	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Planted	55	47	21	21	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	40	28	3	9					
Rice	Planted	1	--	1	0	--	--	--	--	--
Wheat	Jointing	63	42	61	52	0	1	17	65	17
	Heading	6	2	3	1					
Watermelons	Planted	11	1	9	12	--	--	--	--	--
Blueberries						0	7	17	61	15
Cattle						1	9	28	53	9
Pasture						3	11	34	43	9

County Agent Comments

“Adequate moisture for the first time is allowing spring grazing to really grow. No corn has been planted yet. Wheat is looking very good.”

— Dalton G. Garner, Prentiss County

“Early planted corn is emerging slowly. Farm ponds are still at low levels, even with the recent rain it fell slowly and soaked into the ground. Livestock producers are applying lime and fertilizer to pastures and applying herbicides.”

— Stanley Wise, Union County

“Thank the Lord! We have finally gotten enough rain to fill the ditches and streams. I hope this will continue throughout the growing season.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower County

“Rains have stopped all row crop work. Pastures and ryegrass are really looking. It will be several days before we can resume any fieldwork.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin County

“More rain was received over the weekend. Fieldwork was halted until drier conditions occur.”

— Shelby W. Bearden, Copiah County

“Most fruit trees are at petal fall. Most spring flowering ornamentals have reached full bloom. Spring and early summer vegetables have been planted for 2-3 weeks. Turfgrass is growing rapidly, as many lawns have had their initial application of fertilizer.”

— Chance McDavid, Harrison County

“Cattle are leaving the hay chasing the first flush of young grass. Ample rainfall has helped the planting outlook. Corn and early soybeans are being planted.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie County

Weather Summary from March 20, 2000 to March 26, 2000 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													
Clarksdale				55		E0.30	-0.88	1	2.77				0.21
Cleveland	76	43	60			0.30		1	3.83				
Tunica	77	41	58	55	+3	0.30	-0.96	1	4.20	68	49	57	
Extreme/Average	77	41	59	56	+3	E0.30	-0.96	1	3.60	68	49	57	0.21
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs	80	32	60	53	+7	1.38	+0.0	2	4.90	69	50	61	
Memphis	79	40	61	55	+6	0.10	-1.16	2	4.25				
Oxford	82	35	60	53	+7	1.61	+0.3	2	5.28				
Extreme/Average	82	32	60	55	+5	1.03	-0.30	2	4.81	69	50	61	
3. Northeast													
Booneville	80	35	58	54	+4	1.19	-0.24	2					
Corinth	80	31	58	54	+4	0.99	-0.34	2	3.96				
Iuka	79	29	54			1.70		2	4.29				
Pontotoc	77	37	56	55	+1	E1.45	+0.0	2	6.47	66	52	58	0.12
Tupelo	80	36	61	56	+5	0.46	-0.92	3	3.04				
Verona	80	37	60			0.33		1	4.76	71	47	58	0.14
Extreme/Average	80	29	58	55	+3	E1.02	-0.38	2	4.50	71	47	58	0.12
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni	83	42	61	58	+3	1.50	+0.0	2	6.95	78	56	68	
Greenwood	81	44	63	58	+5	0.03	-1.30	1	5.48				
Rolling Fork	83	38	63	58	+5	0.84	-0.49	2	2.72	82	57	68	0.13
Stoneville	78	40	60	57	+3	0.55	-0.64	2	6.43	71	51	61	
Yazoo City	83	42	63	59	+4	1.64	+0.2	2	5.88				
Extreme/Average	83	38	62	58	+4	0.91	-0.42	2	5.49	82	51	66	0.13
5. Central													
Carthage				58		E0.50	-0.89	1					
Jackson	83	39	64	59	+5	0.65	-0.68	3	3.59				
Winona	81	34	58	54	+4	0.69	-0.71	2	4.49				
Extreme/Average	83	34	61	58	+3	E0.61	-0.79	2	4.04				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville	80	41	60			1.31	-0.07	1	1.45	68	51	59	
Columbus	81	37	62			0.00		0	3.09				
State University	79	37	60	57	+3	0.42	-0.98	2	2.57	69	51	61	0.12
Extreme/Average	81	37	61	57	+4	0.58	-0.89	1	2.37	69	51	60	0.12
7. Southwest													
Crystal	83	38	63			2.50		3	5.44	80	45	66	
Natchez	83	35	65	62	+3	1.20	-0.25	2	5.17				
Oakley	83	38	63	59	+4	2.54	+1.1	3	11.76	81	52	66	
Vicksburg	83	43	64			1.38		4	6.13				
Extreme/Average	83	35	64	60	+4	1.91	+0.5	3	7.13	81	45	66	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	83	39	64	61	+3	0.30	-1.07	2	3.05				
McComb	82	35	65	60	+5	0.32	-1.06	1	2.71				
Extreme/Average	83	35	64	60	+4	0.31	-1.09	2	2.88				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont						1.92		1					
Hattiesburg	86	38	66	60	+6	0.39	-0.99	2	3.09				
Laurel	82	40	62	59	+3	0.92	-0.41	2	3.88				
Meridian	81	37	61	59	+2	0.45	-1.08	3	3.20				
Newton	81	36	61	57	+4	0.47	-0.93	3	3.01	62	48	54	0.15
Extreme/Average	86	36	63	59	+4	0.56	-0.88	3	3.30	62	48	54	0.15
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	85	39	64			0.52		1					
Biloxi AFB	79	50	66			0.00		0	5.40				
Gulfport	75	43	63	63	0	0.00	-1.12	0	2.91				
Pascagoula				61		0.01	-1.17	1	3.95				
Poplarville	83	39	64	61	+3	0.16	-1.16	1	1.93	80	56	67	0.13
Extreme/Average	85	39	64	62	+2	0.14	-1.13	1	3.55	80	56	67	0.13
State	86	29	62	58	+4	0.79	-0.59	2	4.17	82	45	61	0.14

DFN = Departure from Normal.

"E" = Estimated Values.