

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 3.1 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending April 1, 2001**. Cool weather has delayed the progress of winter wheat across many parts of the state. Rain continues to hamper the planting of row crops in some parts of the state. Soil moisture was rated 3 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 37 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2000	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Planted	44	28	65	43	0	27	24	41	5
	Emerged	13	--	50	21					
Rice	Planted	1	--	1	3	--	--	--	--	--
Sorghum	Planted	3	--	2	2	--	--	--	--	--
Soybeans	Planted	8	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Watermelons	Planted	25	--	26	18	--	--	--	--	--
Wheat	Jointing	59	42	80	70	3	8	40	35	14
	Heading	1	0	21	8					
Blueberries						3	9	37	37	14
Cattle						3	12	34	43	8
Pasture						3	17	37	33	10

### County Agent Comments

“Scattered showers fell over the weekend, but not enough to keep farmers out of the field. Some rice and soybeans have already been planted. With warmer weather in the forecast, many farmers will start planting this week.”

— Anthony Bland, Tunica County

“Weather continues to be unusually cold for this time of the year. Hay is in very short supply. Some spring grass is putting out, but it does not have much nutritional value. Soil temperature on this past Monday was 47 degrees Fahrenheit, but some producers were planting corn.”

— Ronald L. Jones, Marshall County

“Wet conditions kept most producers from any field activities. Pasture fertilizing and spraying were going strong before the rain. Cattle producers are still feeding hay where pastures are poor. Most of the crop land is in excellent condition for reduced tillage, which will be at an all time high for this county.”

— Dalton G. Garner, Prentiss County

“Many producers are preparing fields for planting of corn. Rain late in the week has stopped field preparation. Winter grasses are just beginning to come alive. Producers are hoping to at least have grazing and receive maybe one cutting of winter hay. Fertilization of fields is continuing on hilly land.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah County

“Corn planting would have been completed had the rain on Thursday not stopped planters. Soybean planting was taking place on farms selecting to plant Group IV Soybeans. Decisions on what to plant are still not confirmed on many farms.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower County

“Continued rainfall has prohibited any field activity. Corn and soybean planting has been delayed until conditions are adequate for planting. Winter forages have started to grow even better with fertilizer and warmer weather.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin County

**Weather Summary from March 26, 2001 to April 1, 2001 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													
Cleveland	66	36	49			0.20		2	2.75				
Tunica	66	33	49	57	-8	0.43	-0.85	4	2.28	62	41	50	0.11
Extreme/Average	66	33	49	58	-9	0.32	-0.94	3	2.52	62	41	50	0.11
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs	65	18	45	55	-10	0.79	-0.48	3		60	43	51	
Memphis	65	31	49	57	-8	1.03	-0.23	4	2.51				
Oxford	64	24	48	55	-7	0.51	-0.73	3	2.67				
Extreme/Average	65	18	47	57	-10	0.78	-0.50	3	2.59	60	43	51	
3. Northeast													
Booneville	65	26	46	56	-10	0.12	-1.25	3	2.35				
Corinth	64	23	46	56	-10	0.59	-0.70	3	2.65				
Iuka	62	18	43			0.43		3	3.44				
Pontotoc	62	28	46	56	-10	0.57	-0.82	4	3.13	56	49	51	0.17
Tupelo	64	25	48	58	-10	0.42	-0.89	2	2.97				
Verona	64	28	48			0.50		3	3.47	59	42	51	0.14
Extreme/Average	65	18	46	57	-11	0.44	-0.94	3	3.00	59	42	51	0.15
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni				60									
Greenwood	65	38	51	59	-8	0.82	-0.46	4	3.72				
Rolling Fork	72	40	51	59	-8	0.83	-0.45	2	4.63	70	52	57	0.06
Stoneville	68	37	49	59	-10	0.46	-0.73	3	3.41	65	45	54	0.15
Yazoo City	67	39	50	61	-11	0.48	-0.88	2	4.34				
Extreme/Average	72	37	50	60	-10	0.65	-0.66	3	4.03	70	45	56	0.07
5. Central													
Carthage	67	38	50	59	-9	0.54	-0.79	2	4.69				
Jackson	68	39	51	60	-9	0.68	-0.65	3	4.34				
Winona	64	30	46	56	-10	0.54	-0.84	2	3.78				
Extreme/Average	68	30	49	59	-10	0.59	-0.79	2	4.27				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville	58	35	48			0.14	-1.26	1		60	45	50	
Columbus	71	33	51	59	-8	0.17	E-1.30	3	5.19				
State University	65	33	48	59	-11	0.30	-1.10	3	4.84	56	48	51	0.11
Extreme/Average	71	33	49	59	-10	0.20	-1.23	2	5.02	60	45	51	0.11
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	70	40	51			0.53		4	3.57	70	47	56	
Natchez	71	37	52	63	-11	1.37	-0.03	4	4.61				
Oakley	70	39	52	60	-8	1.21	-0.12	4	4.71	70	52	58	
Vicksburg	69	43	52			0.43		2	4.95				
Extreme/Average	71	37	52	62	-10	0.89	-0.48	4	4.46	70	47	57	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	71	39	53	62	-9	0.93	-0.40	4	3.98				
McComb	73	42	53	62	-9	0.84	-0.49	4	4.14				
Extreme/Average	73	39	53	62	-9	0.89	-0.46	4	4.06				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont													
Hattiesburg	65	38	51	62	-11	1.02	-0.27	4	5.84				
Laurel	63	40	51	61	-10	0.35	-0.92	3	5.89				
Meridian	66	37	50	60	-10	0.45	-1.01	4	3.53				
Newton	60	37	49	59	-10	0.48	-0.92	4	3.66	55	45	50	0.07
Extreme/Average	66	37	50	61	-11	0.58	-0.80	4	4.73	55	45	50	0.07
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	78	38	56			1.04		2	4.73				
BiloxiAFB	73	43	57			0.76		2	5.80				
Gulfport	75	40	56	64	-8	0.70	-0.42	1	7.82				
Pascagoula	77	36	57			0.57		2	6.62				
Poplarville	77	38	53	63	-10	1.52	+0.26	4	4.60	70	51	61	0.15
Extreme/Average	78	36	56	64	-8	0.92	-0.29	2	5.91	70	51	61	0.15
State	78	18	50	60	-10	0.63	-0.71	3	4.14	70	41	53	0.12

DFN = Departure from Normal.