

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 2.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending April 2, 2000**. Most parts of the state received rainfall. Many parts of the state are waiting for dry conditions to continue planting of row crops. Soil moisture was rated 2 percent very short, 16 percent short, 49 percent adequate, and 33 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	67	55	42	41	0	2	32	58	8
	Emerged	52	40	15	15					
Rice	Planted	1	1	2	5	--	--	--	--	--
Sorghum	Planted	2	0	0	3	--	--	--	--	--
Wheat	Jointing	83	63	78	74	0	2	15	63	20
	Heading	24	6	6	5					
Watermelons	Planted	28	11	17	18	--	--	--	--	--
Blueberries						0	4	26	52	18
Cattle						1	8	24	57	10
Pasture						2	10	32	47	9

County Agent Comments

“If there is no rain, farmers will begin field work Monday on light soils. Most producers are eager to start planting soybeans and finish preparations for cotton planting.”

— Mack Young, Quitman County

“A general rain came on Saturday night and Sunday - approximately two inches. Farmers will be limited to fixing fences and maintaining equipment.”

— Ronald L. Jones, Marshall County

“How high is the water? High enough to satisfy current moisture needs and still rising with rainfall for this past weekend totaling over eight inches. Field conditions were dry enough to allow one day of work.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore County

“The rain that was received last week and the week before has been a big help. We still need much more rain to get pond levels where they need to be.”

— Ruby D. Rankin, Kemper County

“Ryegrass pastures are now providing excellent grazing after recent rains restored surface soil moisture. There are still concerns about subsoil moisture. Corn planting is near completion. A few dry days are needed to finish corn planting and to prepare to plant rice and beans.”

— Don Bales, Wilkinson County

“Recent rains have greatly helped our crop and forage situation. Farmers are waiting for fields to dry up to plant corn. Most of the peanut and cotton land has been broke up and will be ready to plant when the time comes. Ponds are as low as I have ever seen. We still have a long way to go to restore subsoil moisture.”

— Lee Taylor, Forrest County

Weather Summary from March 27, 2000 to April 2, 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					57	2.93	+1.81	3	5.10				0.23
Cleveland	76	46	61			4.77		4	8.48				
Tunica	76	46	59	57	+2	2.18	+0.90	3	6.18	70	52	60	
Extreme/Average	76	46	60	58	+2	E3.29	+2.03	3	6.59	70	52	60	0.23
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs	79	45	62	55	+7	1.18	-0.08	1	6.02	69	55	63	0.27
Memphis	78	47	60	58	+2	1.30	+0.04	4	5.46				
Oxford	78	41	61	56	+5	3.00	+1.77	3	8.28				
Extreme/Average	79	41	61	57	+4	1.83	+0.56	3	6.59	69	55	63	0.27
3. Northeast													
Booneville	79	45	59	56	+3	1.93	+0.57	2	6.64				
Corinth	80	44	59	57	+2	1.62	+0.34	1	5.58				
Iuka	78	39	57			2.05		2	6.34				
Pontotoc	73	46	59	57	+2	4.30	+2.92	3	10.69	67	56	61	0.21
Tupelo	77	46	60	58	+2	3.29	+1.99	3	6.20				
Verona	78	45	61			4.56		3	9.27	73	50	62	0.19
Extreme/Average	80	39	59	57	+2	2.96	+1.59	2	7.45	73	50	62	0.20
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni	79	45	61	60	+1	7.68	+6.32	4	14.63	78	62	68	
Greenwood	77	46	62	59	+3	7.42	+6.15	4	12.89				
Rolling Fork	81	47	61	60	+1	5.69	+4.42	4	8.41	81	62	70	0.13
Stoneville	78	47	61	59	+2	E6.79	+5.60	4	13.19	74	56	64	
Yazoo City	78	43	60	61	-1	E8.95	+7.60	4	14.83				
Extreme/Average	81	43	61	60	+1	E7.31	+6.01	4	12.79	81	56	67	0.13
5. Central													
Carthage	82	40	58	60	-2	E3.34	+2.01	5					
Jackson	81	43	62	61	+1	4.50	+3.17	5	8.09				
Winona	76	37	57	56	+1	5.69	+4.32	4	10.12				
Extreme/Average	82	37	59	60	-1	E4.51	+3.14	5	9.11				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville	80	46	60			0.64	-0.76	3	2.09	69	54	60	
Columbus	77	46	61			4.09		5	7.06				
State University	77	45	60	59	+1	4.09	+2.69	4	6.55	69	56	61	0.14
Extreme/Average	80	45	60	59	+1	2.94	+1.52	4	5.23	69	54	60	0.14
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	84	50	65			0.87		4	6.31	79	58	68	
Natchez	83	42	66	64	+2	1.97	+0.57	4	7.14				
Oakley	82	45	63	61	+2	1.68	+0.35	3	13.44	81	56	67	
Vicksburg	82	52	64			3.17		3	9.30				
Extreme/Average	84	42	64	62	+2	1.92	+0.56	4	9.05	81	56	68	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	83	43	67	63	+4	1.20	-0.12	3	4.13				
McComb	83	41	65	62	+3	2.82	+1.49	4	5.53				
Extreme/Average	83	41	66	62	+4	2.01	+0.67	4	4.83				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont						E2.59		3					
Hattiesburg	83	41	66	62	+4	0.98	-0.29	2	3.97				
Laurel	81	41	64	61	+3	1.12	-0.13	3	4.99				
Meridian	81	40	62	60	+2	2.33	+0.88	3	5.53				
Newton	82	39	61	59	+2	1.51	+0.11	3	4.47	60	50	56	0.11
Extreme/Average	83	39	63	61	+2	1.49	+0.12	3	4.74	60	50	56	0.11
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	85	42	67			E0.64		2					
Biloxi AFB	86	52	71			0.43		2	5.83				
Gulfport	87	46	70	65	+5	0.48	-0.64	4	3.38				
Pascagoula	84	45	68	63	+5	E0.24	-0.87	1	4.19				
Poplarville	82	44	66	63	+3	0.59	-0.67	3	2.52	82	54	68	0.16
Extreme/Average	87	42	68	64	+4	E0.48	-0.72	2	3.98	82	54	68	0.16
State	87	37	62	60	+2	E2.85	+1.52	4	7.04	82	50	63	0.16

DFN = Departure from Normal.

'E' = Estimated Values.