

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 5.8 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending July 8, 2001**. Weather conditions continue to be hot and dry throughout most of the state. Soil moisture was rated 6 percent very short, 28 percent short, 62 percent adequate, and 4 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	Silked	96	91	94	89	0	2	15	54	29
	Dough	75	56	68	61					
	Dent	28	19	29	27					
	Mature	3	1	0	0					
Cotton	Squaring	95	89	95	92	0	7	17	53	23
	Setting Bolls	55	30	47	49					
Rice	Heading	9	6	6	13	0	2	16	58	24
Sorghum	Heading	74	53	56	56	0	2	14	54	30
	Turning Color	13	7	0	3					
Soybeans	Blooming	78	63	70	61	0	3	24	52	21
	Setting Pods	60	42	42	28					
Sweetpotatoes	Planted	97	95	95	94	0	1	26	66	7
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	55	50	46	54	1	5	41	41	12
Watermelons	Harvested	37	25	21	29	3	9	26	49	13
Cattle						0	3	21	63	13
Pasture						1	5	28	51	15

County Agent Comments

“Scattered rains were a big help to some farmers. There are some crops that are beginning to look like the Mojave Desert. Pastures are beginning to suffer. The high temperatures and humidity are taking a toll on the livestock too.”

—Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie County

“Rain showers have been scattered throughout the county. Hay harvesting has been delayed in some areas due to showers but this delay shouldn't pose too much of a problem. Early indications of crop yields look promising as long as needed rain is received in a timely manner.”

— Patrick Poindexter, Alcorn County

“Dry, hot weather is sapping the soil moisture rapidly. Crops are being irrigated to supplement the lack of rainfall. Not much insect spraying is taking place in cotton so far. Corn and soybeans are in the critical moisture-demanding period. Over half of the county's rice is receiving mid-season fertilizer or is ready to head.”

— Tommy Baird , Sunflower County

“Our corn crop looks as good as I have ever seen. Cotton and soybeans are looking just about as good. Roundup technology has really made all farmers' crops virtually weed-free. Hot temperatures and showers have increased cotton growth and fruiting activity. Pastures and hay fields are growing so fast that it has been hard to keep up with the new growth whether baling or grazing.”

—Houston Therrell, Rankin County

“Powdery mildew on ornamentals has become quite prevalent. Blossom-end rot of tomatoes and watermelons is decreasing due to more consistent rainfall amounts. Coast rainfall amounts still average ten inches below normal, but the latest drought index has cleared us of drought conditions.”

— Chance McDavid, Harrison County

Weather Summary from July 2, 2001 to July 8, 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	94	70	81	82	-1	0.00	-0.97	0	1.22	92	74	82	
Cleveland	95	71	83			0.77		2	1.33				
Tunica	97	73	84	81	+3	0.00	-0.78	0	0.89	106	79	92	0.21
Extreme/Average	97	70	83	82	+1	0.26	-0.72	1	1.15	106	74	87	0.73
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs													
Memphis	95	72	84	82	+2	1.32	+0.48	2	1.86				
Oxford	95	68	82	79	+3	0.26	-0.68	1	1.43				
Extreme/Average	95	68	83	80	+3	0.79	-0.17	2	1.65				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	92	68	80	79	+1	0.17	-0.74	2	3.79				
Corinth	93	68	80	80	0	0.26	-0.64	1	1.04				
Iuka	91	62	76			1.09		3	4.93				
Pontotoc	93	68	80	79	+1	0.15	-0.90	2	0.81	88	77	83	0.20
Tupelo	95	70	82	80	+2	1.59	+0.62	3	2.58				
Verona													0.30
Extreme/Average	95	62	80	80	0	0.65	-0.32	2	2.63	88	77	83	0.20
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni													
Greenwood	95	68	83	81	+2	0.54	-0.50	1	1.21				
Rolling Fork	97	69	83	81	+2	0.00	-1.03	0	1.52	108	83	96	0.22
Stoneville	96	71	83	82	+1	0.00	-0.93	0	1.02	103	78	92	0.25
Yazoo City	94	67	81	82	-1	0.45	-0.55	2	3.27				
Extreme/Average	97	67	83	82	+1	0.25	-0.79	1	1.76	108	78	94	0.22
5. Central													
Carthage	94	65	80	81	-1	0.70	-0.34	1	1.95				
Jackson	95	70	82	81	+1	0.37	-0.58	4	4.82				
Winona	92	64	78	78	0	0.40	-0.64	2	1.49				
Extreme/Average	95	64	80	80	0	0.49	-0.53	2	2.75				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville						0.33	-0.63	3	1.98				
Columbus	101	67	82	81	+1	1.65	+0.57	4	3.60				
State University	94	67	80	81	-1	0.61	-0.49	2	1.54	91	79	85	0.22
Extreme/Average	101	67	81	80	+1	0.86	-0.29	3	2.37	91	79	85	0.22
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	95	70	82			0.15		1	2.61	103	79	91	
Natchez	92	66	80	82	-2	1.15	+0.14	5	5.61				
Oakley	97	70	83	81	+2	0.96	-0.02	2	2.31	104	76	87	
Vicksburg	95	68	82			0.31		1	1.81				
Extreme/Average	97	66	82	81	+1	0.64	-0.41	2	3.09	104	76	89	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	94	71	81	82	-1	1.80	E+0.6		1	3.43			
McComb	94	69	81	80	+1	0.06	-1.10	3	1.45				
Extreme/Average	94	69	81	81	0	0.93	-0.20	2	2.44				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont						0.74	E	3	13.09				
Hattiesburg	96	66	81	81	0	0.96	-0.19	1	7.39				
Laurel	93	67	80	81	-1	0.07	-1.02	2	7.72				
Meridian	97	67	81	81	0	0.03	-1.10	1	1.06				
Newton	96	65	80	80	0	0.13	-0.88	2	0.79	93	74	81	0.20
Extreme/Average	97	65	81	81	0	0.30	-0.86	2	4.24	93	74	81	0.20
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	97	68	81			0.65		3	8.45				
BiloxiAFB	90	72	80			2.40		4	7.21				
Gulfport	90	69	81	83	-2	1.56	+0.17	5	10.51				
Pascagoula	93	69	80			2.96		4	8.45				
Poplarville	96	70	82	81	+1	1.42	+0.12	2	7.84	98	70	84	0.29
Extreme/Average	97	68	81	82	-1	1.80	+0.44	4	8.49	98	70	84	0.29
State	101	62	81	81	0	0.67	-0.41	2	3.04	99	70	86	0.28

DFN = Departure from Normal.