

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.4 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending October 1, 2000**. Cotton and soybean harvests continue at a fast pace throughout the state. Fall plantings are slowing down in many parts of the state due to lack of soil moisture, which soil moisture was rated 39 percent very short, 38 percent short, and 23 percent adequate.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	1999	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Harvested	100	98	98	95	--	--	--	--	--
Cotton	Open Bolls	100	98	100	96	--	--	--	--	--
	Harvested	63	44	47	38	--	--	--	--	--
Rice	Mature	96	92	95	97	--	--	--	--	--
	Harvested	72	56	80	84	--	--	--	--	--
Sorghum	Harvested	99	96	99	93	--	--	--	--	--
Soybeans	Turning Color	98	96	95	92	--	--	--	--	--
	Shedding Leaves	92	86	91	79	--	--	--	--	--
	Harvested	62	51	58	45	--	--	--	--	--
Wheat	Planted	7	4	8	9	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	1	--	2	2	--	--	--	--	--
Sweetpotatoes	Harvested	50	45	49	48	--	--	--	--	--
Hay (warm season)	Harvested	93	91	94	98	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle						4	14	46	33	3
Pasture						30	32	25	11	2

County Agent Comments

“Some parts of the county received enough rain to germinate fall planted crops. Cotton producers are defoliating this week.”

— Dalton G. Garner, Prentiss County

“Recent rains have helped the pasture and hay situation, but have also put a halt to cotton and soybean harvesting for one day. Cotton and soybean yields are still very low.”

— Otis L. Davis, Madison County

“Producers are planting winter pasture and baling hay. More rain is needed for planted pastures and late summer hay fields to survive. Cooler temperatures have been a blessing to dairy farmers as cows begin to calve.”

— Richard Hay, Amite County

“Beef and dairy producers continue efforts to scrap up light cuttings of summer grass hay. Yields are approximately ten percent of normal. Ryegrass planting continues, but significant rainfall is needed to ensure successful germination and survival of seedlings.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall County

“The late planted cotton is producing an average yield. We still have not begun to plant fall and winter grazing due to lack of moisture. Producers are feeding hay. We are in serious trouble if we do not get some moisture soon!”

— Stephen Winters, Grenada County

“Cotton harvest is in full swing with average yields, and group 5 beans are well below average. Dry conditions continue for pastures. Little preparation has been done for winter grasses because of low moisture conditions.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah County

Weather Summary from September 25, 2000 to October 1, 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	87	47	66	71	-5	0.24	-0.44	1	0.71	79	65	72	0.25
Cleveland	90	44	64			0.18		2	2.04				
Tunica	83	46	64	69	-5	0.20	-0.48	1	1.15	57	46	50	0.16
Extreme/Average	90	44	65	70	-5	0.21	-0.53	1	1.30	79	46	61	0.20
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs	94	34	63	67	-4	0.37	-0.43	1	1.29	86	61	72	0.16
Memphis	88	46	67	70	-3	0.23	-0.52	1	1.08				
Oxford	86	39	63	68	-5	0.23	-0.64	2	1.70				
Extreme/Average	94	34	64	69	-5	0.28	-0.51	1	1.50	86	61	72	0.16
3. Northeast													
Booneville	86	44	64	68	-4	0.11	-0.70	2	1.35				
Corinth				68		0.32	-0.51	2	1.53				
Iuka	84	39	62			0.98		2	3.19				
Pontotoc	87	42	64	69	-5	0.06	-0.82	1	1.62	80	69	74	0.14
Tupelo	87	43	65	70	-5	0.03	-0.80	1	1.11				
Verona	89	43	66			0.05		2	2.82	84	65	74	0.18
Extreme/Average	89	39	64	69	-5	0.26	-0.60	2	1.94	84	65	74	0.16
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni	92	47	70	71	-1	0.38	-0.37	1	1.60	93	71	80	
Greenwood	88	39	65	71	-6	0.08	-0.73	1	0.86				
Rolling Fork	96	46	67	71	-4	0.17	-0.58	1	0.85	98	69	80	0.17
Stoneville	92	46	67	71	-4	0.33	-0.41	1	2.53	87	62	73	0.21
Yazoo City	90	43	66	73	-7	0.51	-0.32	2	2.02				
Extreme/Average	96	39	67	71	-4	0.29	-0.48	1	1.57	98	62	78	0.18
5. Central													
Carthage	93	39	64	71	-7	0.15	-0.62	1	4.09				
Jackson	86	44	67	72	-5	0.23	-0.55	1	3.49				
Winona	89	40	63	69	-6	0.02	-0.79	1	5.81				
Extreme/Average	93	39	65	71	-6	0.13	-0.64	1	4.46				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville						0.00	-0.77	0	0.93				
Columbus	86	43	65			0.07		1	1.49				
State University	92	44	67	71	-4	0.03	-0.84	2	0.99	86	70	77	0.23
Extreme/Average	92	43	66	70	-4	0.03	-0.82	1	1.14	86	70	77	0.23
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	89	45	68			0.91		2	2.78	91	62	75	
Natchez	87	43	65	74	-9	0.08	-0.76	1	0.65				
Oakley	92	43	66	71	-5	0.61	-0.03	2	3.77	90	60	75	
Vicksburg	92	45	67			0.77		2	2.74				
Extreme/Average	92	43	66	72	-6	0.59	-0.24	2	2.49	91	60	75	
8. South-Central													
Columbia				73		0.20	-0.58	1	3.39				
McComb	86	51	68	72	-4	0.06	-0.84	2	4.16				
Extreme/Average	86	51	68	72	-4	0.13	-0.68	2	3.78				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont						0.00		0	2.08				
Hattiesburg	92	48	70	73	-3	0.01	-0.71	1	4.90				
Laurel	85	49	66	72	-6	0.00	-0.81	0	1.54				
Meridian	87	44	66	71	-5	0.00	-0.77	0	1.71				
Newton	94	38	66	70	-4	0.00	-0.80	0	1.29	86	62	73	0.16
Extreme/Average	94	38	67	72	-5	0.00	-0.81	0	2.36	86	62	73	0.16
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	85	47	68			0.00		0	1.30				
Biloxi AFB	90	55	72			0.03		1	3.89				
Gulfport	86	56	72	76	-4	0.06	-1.05	1	4.54				
Pascagoula	90	49	68			0.00		0	3.44				
Poplarville	93	52	70	74	-4	0.00	-0.88	0	2.01	88	65	78	0.21
Extreme/Average	93	47	70	75	-5	0.02	-1.00	0	3.04	88	65	78	0.21
State	96	34	66	71	-5	0.20	-0.62	1	2.44	98	46	74	0.18

DFN = Departure from Normal.