

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending October 22, 2000**. Weather conditions continue to be dry throughout most of the state. Winter wheat planting continues to be slow due to low soil moisture in many parts of the state. Soil moisture was rated 57 percent very short, 31 percent short, and 12 percent adequate.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	1999	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Cotton	Harvested	94	87	91	84	--	--	--	--	--
Rice	Harvested	97	91	96	98	--	--	--	--	--
Soybeans	Shedding Leaves	100	98	100	97	--	--	--	--	--
	Harvested	89	81	88	78					
Wheat	Planted	35	21	48	50	15	36	28	19	2
	Emerged	8	6	22	24					
Sweetpotatoes	Harvested	90	82 *	82	78	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle						10	23	32	31	4
Pasture						39	25	25	11	0

\* Revised.

### County Agent Comments

“Row crop producers are busy cleaning equipment and getting ready for next year. Pastures are very dry and need a good, slow rain. Most of the ryegrass that was planted is up and also needs a good rain.”

— Otis L. Davis, Madison County

“Harvest of soybeans and cotton is rapidly coming to a close. Cattlemen scrapped up the last of the hay last week and hay feeding continues. Early plantings of ryegrass failed and planting is now at a standstill. Ponds are very low. Fire hazard is severe for timberland.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha County

“Dairy and beef producers are still waiting for significant rainfall to fully germinate plantings of ryegrass and/or small grains for grazing. Without rainfall soon, cool season grass and small grain seedlings will die. Being forced to replant large acreages of cool season forages will only add further insult to the severe drought injury Walthall County has suffered this spring, summer, and thus far this fall.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall County

“Bedding for the next crop on old rows seems to be the most prevalent activity at this time. Not much subsoiling is taking place due to high fuel cost.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower County

“We need rain for winter forages. Some forages are dying in the field and others (planted later) haven't started germination, which will delay grazing.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin County

“Dry weather is a main concern. Ryegrass is not up and growing due to low moisture conditions. Pine trees are dying due to stress and beetle activity. Pastures are really low and most producers are feeding hay or some grain. Hay this year is going to be in short supply.”

— Lee Taylor, Forrest County

“We missed the rain last weekend. Cattlemen are waiting for some kind of moisture to plant winter grazing. Row crop harvest is all but complete. Most cotton is being discounted for short staple and light spot. Discounts are running about 5 cents.”

— Stephen Winters, Grenada County

## Weather Summary from October 16, 2000 to October 22, 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					62	0.00	-0.65	0	0.34				0.50
Cleveland	85	47	66			0.04		1	0.42				
Tunica	85	48	66	61	+5	0.00	-0.73	0	0.28	50	45	47	0.10
Extreme/Average	85	47	66	62	+4	0.01	-0.70	0	0.35	50	45	47	0.17
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs	86	37	62	59	+3	0.00	-0.78	0	0.47	80	62	71	0.17
Memphis	83	48	68	62	+6	0.00	-0.65	0	0.68				
Oxford	87	44	67	59	+8	0.00	-0.78	0	0.33				
Extreme/Average	87	37	65	61	+4	0.00	-0.71	0	0.40	80	62	71	0.17
3. Northeast													
Booneville	84	48	67	60	+7	0.00	-0.75	0	0.11				
Corinth	85	42	65	60	+5	0.00	-0.70	0	0.32				
Iuka	84	38	64			0.00		0	0.98				
Pontotoc	83	50	67	61	+6	0.00	-0.70	0	0.50	70	59	66	0.11
Tupelo	84	49	69	61	+8	0.00	-0.77	0	0.58				
Verona	88	49	67			0.00		0	0.40	77	63	71	0.16
Extreme/Average	88	38	66	60	+6	0.00	-0.73	0	0.48	77	59	68	0.12
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni	86	46	68	63	+5	0.00	-0.85	0	1.00	84	68	77	
Greenwood	85	41	67	63	+4	0.00	-0.82	0	0.33				
Rolling Fork	86	46	68	63	+5	0.00	-0.81	0	0.48	85	67	75	0.15
Stoneville	85	45	67	63	+4	0.00	-0.70	0	0.94	82	62	67	0.17
Yazoo City	85	45	65	65	0	0.00	-0.89	0	2.25				
Extreme/Average	86	41	67	63	+4	0.00	-0.79	0	1.00	85	62	73	0.15
5. Central													
Carthage	84	43	64	62	+2	0.00	-0.76	0	0.26				
Jackson	84	48	67	63	+4	0.00	-0.71	0	1.69				
Winona	82	43	64	60	+4	0.00	-0.74	0	0.74				
Extreme/Average	84	43	65	62	+3	0.00	-0.77	0	0.90				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville						0.00	-0.66	0	1.11				
Columbus	84	48	68			0.00		0	0.76				
State University	85	47	66	63	+3	0.00	-0.70	0	1.69	75	64	70	0.13
Extreme/Average	85	47	67	62	+5	0.00	-0.71	0	1.19	75	64	70	0.13
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	83	48	68			0.00		0	1.99	81	61	72	
Natchez	83	45	67	66	+1	0.03	-0.82	1	1.50				
Oakley	85	46	68	63	+5	0.00	-0.76	0	2.36	84	62	74	
Vicksburg	83	47	66			0.00		0	2.13				
Extreme/Average	85	45	67	65	+2	0.01	-0.81	0	2.00	84	61	73	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	83	46	68	65	+3	0.00	-0.63	0	2.14				
McComb	83	49	68	65	+3	0.00	-0.70	0	1.26				
Extreme/Average	83	46	68	64	+4	0.00	-0.70	0	1.70				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont						0.00		0	2.13				
Hattiesburg	83	53	69	65	+4	0.00	-0.70	0	1.29				
Laurel	83	44	66	64	+2	0.00	-0.63	0	1.32				
Meridian	84	45	67	63	+4	0.00	-0.67	0	1.39				
Newton	85	42	64	62	+2	0.00	-0.73	0	1.20	65	50	60	0.15
Extreme/Average	85	42	67	64	+3	0.00	-0.66	0	1.30	65	50	60	0.15
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis						0.00		0	0.30				
Biloxi AFB						0.00		0	2.04				
Gulfport	81	53	68	68	0	0.00	-0.63	0	1.19				
Pascagoula	84	49	67			0.06		1	0.80				
Poplarville	85	52	68	67	+1	0.00	-0.74	0	0.58	86	64	76	0.15
Extreme/Average	85	49	69	67	+2	0.01	-0.62	0	0.98	86	64	76	0.15
State	88	37	67	63	+4	0.00	-0.72	0	1.10	86	45	68	0.16

DFN = Departure from Normal.