

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

Phone:601-965-4575
Facsimile:601-965-5622
www.nass.usda.gov/ms/
nass-ms@nass.usda.gov/

Week Ending November 3, 2002

Released: 3:00 P.M., November 4, 2002

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 2.0 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending November 3, 2002**. Crop harvesting continues to lag behind last year and the 5-year average due to one of the wettest Octobers on record. Soil moisture was rated 15 percent adequate and 85 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2001	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Cotton	Harvested	60	52	87	94	--	--	--	--	--
Rice	Harvested	94	93	99	99	--	--	--	--	--
Soybeans	Harvested	78	75	94	93	--	--	--	--	--
Sweetpotatoes	Harvested	92	90	96	93	--	--	--	--	--
Wheat	Planted	31	27	68	71	0	19	63	17	1
	Emerged	16	6	47	43					
Cattle						1	6	24	58	11

County Agent Comments

"It's been too wet to harvest crops. It's getting critical for farmers because wet conditions will not allow them to get their crops in."

— Melvin Oatis, Benton County

"Wet, cloudy weather continues to delay harvest for cotton and soybean producers. Soybeans are about 50% harvested and cotton is about 35% harvested for Union County. The quality of the unharvested crops is deteriorating rapidly. Yield/Quality losses could amount to 40% or more. We need some SUNSHINE!"

— Stanley Wise, Jr., Union County

"The rains have really hampered cotton, rice, and soybean harvests. Rains over the weekend have stopped harvesting altogether. It has been really hard for cotton pickers to run in the mud, and rice is laying down everywhere, causing a slow harvest. The beans that are still left in the field have already started to rot."

— Guy Wilson, Washington County

"Our ryegrass has been overtaken by blast and our yards are being overtaken by brown patch. No field work of any kind was even attempted this past week because of the saturated soil conditions."

— Houston Therrell, Rankin County

"Wet weather continues to be the dominant story, unfortunately. Soybean and cotton farmers are waiting on drier conditions that will allow them back into the field. Some fields of beans will not be harvested due to moisture damage. There could be a significant reduction in harvested soybean acres if conditions do not improve rapidly. Most pastures are in great shape. A few dairymen report not being able to get ryegrass planted. We averted a frost this weekend but recent cooler temperatures will slow summer grass growth significantly. Ryegrass and fescue pastures are doing well. Most producers have adequate hay supplies for the winter."

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha County

"Ryegrass is showing signs of fungus and blast. Grass blades that were 8 to 12 inches tall have died back to the crown."

— Mark Mowdy, Franklin County

"Recent heavy rains have soaked our soils to the point that it may take a week or more to dry out. Hay harvest may be able to resume by this weekend. Some ryegrass has been lost to blast or wet soils."

— Lee Taylor, Forrest County

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Cooperative
Extension Service
Dr. Joseph H. McGilberry, Director

Southern Regional Climate Center
Louisiana State University
Elizabeth Mons
Service Climatologist
www.srcc.lsu.edu

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Agricultural
Statistics Service
Thomas L. Gregory, State Statistician

Weather Summary from October 28, 2002 to November 3, 2002 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				58		0.70	-0.29	2	5.77				
Cleveland	73	37	51	58	-7	1.33	+0.35	3	7.24				
Tunica				57		0.77 E	-0.24	3	5.71E				
Extreme/Average	73	37	51	58	-7	0.93	-0.01	3	6.24				
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs				55		1.12 E	+0.07	3	7.99E				0.17
Memphis	68	38	51	58	-7	1.08	+0.06	4	7.24				
Oxford	74	33	54	56	-2	0.85	-0.19	3	6.53				
Extreme/Average	74	33	53	57	-4	1.02	+0.07	3	7.25				0.17
3. Northeast													
Booneville	73	37	55	55	0	1.22	+0.23	4	4.28				
Corinth				58		1.65 E	+0.65	4	5.30E				
Iuka	74	29	52	53	-1	1.76	+0.77	4	4.03				
Pontotoc				58		1.35 E	+0.48	4	5.19E				0.18
Tupelo	77	35	54	56	-2	1.30	+0.38	4	4.77				
Verona				57		2.68	+1.86	4	6.53				
Extreme/Average	77	29	54	57	-3	1.46	+0.53	4	4.71				0.18
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni				59					5.00				
Rolling Fork	79	44	58	59	-1	1.03	+0.02	3	7.44	78	60	68	0.07
Stoneville	71	40	56	59	-3	0.10	-0.85	3	4.58	74	50	61	0.04
Yazoo City	76	44	60	60	0	1.77	+0.69	3	7.35				
Extreme/Average	79	40	58	60	-2	0.97	-0.00	3	6.46	78	50	65	0.05
5. Central													
Carthage	77	42	61	58	+3	4.02	+3.04	2	7.94				
Greenwood	77	39	55	59	-4	1.38	+0.44	5	6.50				
Jackson	76	45	59	59	0	2.33	+1.36	3	7.13				
Winona	76	37	54	55	-1	1.72	+0.81	4	4.73				
Extreme/Average	77	37	57	59	-2	2.36	+1.44	4	6.58				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville	77	44	63			0.31	-0.56	1	3.00	71	59	66	
Columbus	79	38	59	59	0	1.27	+0.32	3	2.78				
State University	78	38	58	58	0	1.05	+0.15	4	4.01	71	56	64	0.06
Extreme/Average	79	38	60	58	+2	0.88	+0.02	3	3.26	71	56	65	0.06
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	77	45	62	61	+1	2.87	+2.04	2	5.46	74	56	65	
Natchez	76	47	63	62	+1	2.78	+1.71	4	7.60				
Oakley	75	42	61	59	+2	3.07	+2.07	4	9.16	73	60	68	
Vicksburg	74	45	60			1.90		3	9.06				
Extreme/Average	77	42	61	61	0	2.66	+1.74	3	7.82	74	56	67	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	76	47	61	61	0	0.44	-0.48	2	3.99				
McComb	78	48	63	62	+1	1.86	+0.94	4	6.80				
Extreme/Average	78	47	62	61	+1	1.15	+0.33	3	5.40				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	77	44	63			2.03		3	8.27				
Hattiesburg	80	45	64	62	+2	1.81	+0.80	3	6.23				
Laurel				60		1.47	+0.58	3	4.02				
Meridian	82	43	60	60	0	4.44	+3.53	3	8.95				
Newton	82	41	63	58	+5	3.53	+2.55	3	7.34	72	57	65	0.27
Extreme/Average	82	41	63	60	+3	2.66	+1.86	3	6.96	72	57	65	0.27
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	80	46	63	63	0	2.20	+1.27	3	3.58				
BiloxiAFB	82	50	66			1.13		1	7.20				
Gulfport	82	48	67	65	+2	1.42	+0.65	4	5.89				
Pascagoula	84	48	66			0.74		1	6.34				
Poplarville	78	47	67	63	+4	4.57	+3.67	3	7.94	75	64	70	
Extreme/Average	84	46	66	64	+2	2.01	+1.28	2	6.19	75	64	70	
State	84	29	59	60	-1	1.72	+0.84	3	6.17	78	50	66	0.13

DFN = Departure from Normal.