



Weather & Crops

Continued Dry Conditions, Little Relief from Scattered Storms

For the week ending, July 24, 2011, the days suitable for fieldwork were **6.0** days in Delaware and **6.9** days in Maryland. Soil moisture ratings were very short to adequate in both states. A Delaware crop reporter reported, "Record heat last week after some heavy area thunderstorms." A Maryland crop reporter reported, "It is very dry and the spotty showers have not offered any significant amount of rain."

Hay supplies were adequate in Maryland and adequate to surplus in Delaware. The second cutting of **Alfalfa Hay** was complete in Delaware and 97 percent in Maryland. The third cutting of **alfalfa hay** was 11 percent and 37 percent for Delaware and Maryland, respectively. In Maryland, dry conditions have slowed development after the second cutting. Harvest of **Other Hay** continued with the second cutting at 91 percent in Delaware and 85 percent in Maryland. The third cutting of **Other Hay** began in Maryland with 2 percent complete. Pasture conditions became drier in Maryland due to limited rainfall over the past week. One reporter said pastures are drying up and farmers are feeding hay. Pasture condition in Delaware was good with some areas drier than others. **Corn for grain** was 98 percent silked and 73 percent dough in Delaware and 87 percent silked, 17 percent dough in Maryland. Corn conditions in Delaware were fair and in Maryland were good. The corn crop in both States was suffering from dry conditions, reporters indicate more rain is needed as ears are forming. **Soybean** emergence was at 100 percent in Delaware and 97 percent in Maryland. Blooming was at 34 percent in Delaware and 41 percent in Maryland. Pod set progressed with Delaware at 13 percent and Maryland at 18 percent. Dry land crops were still stressed from the hot, dry conditions. Limited rainfall was received, but only in localized areas. The **Peach** season continued with Delaware reporting 58 percent harvested and Maryland at 33 percent. Local peaches have not reached the expected size for late July peaches. **Apples** were 36 percent harvested in Delaware. The apple harvest in Maryland began with 5 percent harvested. Summer **Vegetable** harvest was in full swing. In Delaware, cucumbers and snap beans were over 50 percent harvested. Most other vegetable crops in Delaware were over 10 percent harvested. Delaware growers reported vegetables were doing great despite the hot, dry conditions. Maryland vegetable growers were actively harvesting with most major commodities over 20 percent. No major problems were reported for fruits and vegetables and progress is expected to continue at a steady pace over the next few weeks.

MARYLAND & DELAWARE'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING July 24, 2011

Crop	Maryland				Delaware			
	Jul 24 2011	Jul 17 2011	Jul 25 2010	5-Year Average	Jul 24 2011	Jul 17 2011	Jul 25 2010	5-Year Average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Alfalfa Hay, 2nd cutting	97	96	95	93	100	93	82	92
Alfalfa Hay, 3rd cutting	37	26	28	34	11	3	20	27
Other Hay, 2nd cutting	85	80	92	68	91	78	80	88
Corn, silked	87	66	83	82	98	81	91	87
Corn, dough	17	9	32	23	73	45	32	27
Soybeans, planted	100	98	100	100	100	100	100	100
Soybeans, emerged	97	96	100	100	100	98	100	98
Soybeans, bloomed	41	27	60	34	34	20	52	34
Soybeans, setting pods	18	14	32	11	13	7	36	13
Cucumbers, planted	95	93	94	89	99	81	99	93
Cucumbers, harvested	55	47	26	39	60	57	49	36
Lima Beans, planted (ALL)	96	96	88	90	98	96	90	91
Lima Beans, harvested (Proc)	24	19	7	24	8	7	100	26
Snap Beans, planted	97	97	100	93	97	92	100	99
Snap Beans, harvested	40	27	33	46	50	42	73	47
Sweet Corn, planted	98	97	100	100	100	100	100	100
Sweet Corn, harvested	36	30	33	35	38	31	46	33
Tomatoes, harvested	29	25	34	29	21	14	31	18
Cantaloups, harvested	38	28	41	35	33	18	33	22
Watermelons, harvested	23	17	17	16	35	24	29	21
Apples, harvested	5		4	10	36	31	7	4
Peaches, harvested	33	20	37	28	58	53	26	34

CROP CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING July 24, 2011

Crop	Maryland					Delaware				
	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Pasture	18	35	26	21		17	19	24	40	
Corn	14	17	28	38	3	11	24	32	27	6
Soybeans	16	19	28	36	1	4	8	29	56	3
Apples			7	92	1		2	6	88	4
Peaches		1	9	83	7		1	9	87	3

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING July 24, 2011

Condition	Maryland				Delaware			
	Topsoil Moisture		Subsoil Moisture		Topsoil Moisture		Subsoil Moisture	
	Jul 24	Jul 17						
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Very Short	32	17	29	16	15	26	13	20
Short	47	44	50	45	32	40	52	37
Adequate	21	37	21	36	53	34	35	43
Surplus	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	0

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING July 24, 2011

Station	Precipitation ¹			Temperatures			
	Total This Week	Since January 1		High	Low	Average	Departure From Normal
		Total	Departure From Normal				
	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Degrees Fahrenheit</i>	<i>Degrees Fahrenheit</i>	<i>Degrees Fahrenheit</i>	<i>Degrees Fahrenheit</i>
Maryland							
Baltimore/Washington AP	0.22	20.92	-1.96	106	70	87	10
Damascus ²		27.23	4.14	103	68	84	10
Frostburg	0.43	31.21	3.57	95	62	78	11
Hagerstown	2.81	23.45	1.48	100	71	86	11
Mechanicsville	0.19	19.65	-5.93	100	67	83	7
Patuxent River	0.90	18.77	-4.47	100	72	85	10
Ocean City	0.42	15.21	-9.68	101	73	85	10
Salisbury	0.63	14.91	-10.05	101	69	86	9
Sharpsburg	0.72	27.52	4.92	101	61	82	10
Stevensville	0.01	22.22	-1.75	100	72	85	8
Washington DC Reagan National	0.24	18.18	-3.06	102	73	88	9
Delaware							
Dover	1.32	19.44	-5.22	101	70	85	9
Georgetown	0.27	16.91	-7.10	104	69	87	11
Wilmington	0.35	23.43	-0.04	102	70	86	10

¹ Precipitation totals as of 7 A.M. on recorded date.

² Frederick replaced with Damascus.