



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Crop Progress & Condition



Maryland
& Delaware

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Week ending May 6, 2018

Issued weekly on the internet, April - November
by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS
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www.nass.usda.gov/de
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Excellent Week for Field Work: Maryland had an average of 6.5 days suitable for field work last week while Delaware had an average of 6 days. The region experienced large temperature fluctuations during the reporting period. The low was 26°F in Sines Deep Creek, MD while the high reached 92°F in multiple reporting locations. Average temperatures ranged from 55°F to 70°F. Most parts of the region received 0-2 days of precipitation with little or no inches received. Corn and soybean planting was reportedly in full swing this week, while most vegetable plantings are completed or also in progress. Most fruit trees and surveyed fruit crops are in full bloom.

MD Soil Moisture for Week Ending May 6, 2018 (in percent)

| Item | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|---------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| TOPSOIL | 5 | 11 | 82 | 2 |
| SUBSOIL | 2 | 12 | 86 | 0 |

MD Crop Conditions as of May 6, 2018 (in percent)

| Item | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-------------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| BARLEY | 0 | 1 | 60 | 35 | 4 |
| PASTURE AND RANGE | 1 | 5 | 39 | 46 | 9 |
| WINTER WHEAT | 1 | 4 | 56 | 34 | 5 |

MD Crop Progress as of May 6, 2018 (in percent)

| Item | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5 Year Avg. |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| APPLES: FULL BLOOM | 75 | 39 | 81 | 77 |
| CORN: PLANTED | 39 | <5 | 52 | 37 |
| PEACHES: FULL BLOOM | 73 | 64 | 68 | 79 |
| STRAWBERRIES: FULL BLOOM | 65 | N/A | 61 | 61 |
| TOMATOES: PLANTED | 15 | N/A | 11 | 15 |
| WINTER WHEAT: HEADED | 29 | 0 | 63 | 27 |

DE Soil Moisture for Week Ending May 6, 2018

(in percent)

| Item | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|---------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| TOPSOIL | 0 | 21 | 64 | 15 |
| SUBSOIL | 1 | 3 | 81 | 15 |

DE Crop Conditions as of May 6, 2018

(in percent)

| Item | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-------------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| BARLEY | 2 | 12 | 33 | 46 | 7 |
| PASTURE AND RANGE | 1 | 2 | 34 | 60 | 3 |
| WINTER WHEAT | 1 | 23 | 31 | 40 | 5 |

DE Crop Progress as of May 6, 2018

(in percent)

| Item | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5 Year Avg. |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| APPLES: FULL BLOOM | 76 | 38 | 39 | 63 |
| CORN: PLANTED | 48 | 11 | 54 | 41 |
| PEACHES: FULL BLOOM | 87 | 62 | 64 | 81 |
| POTATOES: PLANTED | 89 | 72 | 22 | 59 |
| SOYBEANS: PLANTED | 7 | N/A | 11 | N/A |
| STRAWBERRIES: FULL BLOOM | 59 | N/A | 49 | 55 |
| SWEET CORN: PLANTED | 18 | N/A | 15 | 19 |
| TOMATOES: PLANTED | 56 | N/A | 24 | N/A |
| WATERMELONS: PLANTED | 61 | N/A | 22 | N/A |
| GREEN PEAS: PLANTED | 70 | N/A | 64 | 75 |

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit www.usda.gov/oce/weather and click on "[Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin.](#)"

May 6, 2018 Maryland and Delaware Weekly Weather Summary

| | | Last Week Weather Summary | | | | | | Accumulation Since April 1, 2018 | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|----|-----|------|---------------|------|----------------------------------|-------|------|--------------|-----|----------|
| | | Temperature | | | | Precipitation | | Precipitation | | | GDD Base 50F | | Base 40F |
| State | Station | Hi | Lo | Avg | DFN | Total | Days | Total | DFN | Days | Total | DFN | Total |
| Maryland | BALTIMORE-WASHI | 91 | 38 | 68 | +9 | 0.02 | 2 | 3.92 | +0.04 | 16 | 288 | +70 | 584 |
| | CUMBERLAND 2 | 92 | 40 | 63 | +3 | 0.87 | 1 | 5.22 | +1.19 | 14 | 183 | -70 | 422 |
| | EMMITSBURG 2 SE | 89 | 39 | 62 | +6 | 0.40 | 1 | 4.66 | -0.06 | 12 | 168 | +6 | 400 |
| | FREDERICK AP | 91 | 37 | 61 | 0 | 0.38 | 1 | 4.36 | +0.10 | 4 | 223 | -71 | 504 |
| | FROSTBURG 2 | 87 | 32 | 59 | +6 | 0.78 | 2 | 6.22 | +1.49 | 19 | 126 | +5 | 305 |
| | GAITHERSBURG AP | 91 | 38 | 66 | +6 | 0.29 | 2 | 4.43 | +0.52 | 11 | 258 | -4 | 534 |
| | HAGERSTOWN WASH | 92 | 39 | 67 | +9 | 1.56 | 2 | 7.13 | +2.89 | 19 | 258 | +51 | 532 |
| | MECHANICSVILLE | 89 | 35 | 65 | +5 | 0.00 | 0 | 3.68 | -0.57 | 8 | 234 | -11 | 517 |
| | MILLERS 4 NE | 88 | 38 | 66 | +8 | 0.15 | 1 | 4.87 | +0.34 | 11 | 198 | +18 | 446 |
| | OCEAN CITY MUNI | 80 | 41 | 65 | +7 | 0.09 | 1 | 3.38 | -0.46 | 14 | 208 | +18 | 493 |
| | OXON HILL | 92 | 39 | 66 | +5 | 0.01 | 1 | 3.28 | -0.97 | 12 | 255 | -43 | 556 |
| | PATUXENT RIVER | 90 | 42 | 70 | +9 | 0.12 | 2 | 4.60 | +0.07 | 14 | 348 | +85 | 682 |
| | REISTERSTOWN 2 | 88 | 39 | 64 | +6 | 0.37 | 5 | 4.14 | -0.17 | 12 | 182 | -32 | 402 |
| | SALISBURY WICOM | 88 | 40 | 67 | +8 | 0.00 | 0 | 2.75 | -1.42 | 14 | 270 | +42 | 562 |
| | SAVAGE RIVER DA | 84 | 31 | 58 | +4 | 0.87 | 1 | 5.87 | +1.75 | 12 | 103 | -23 | 272 |
| | SINES DEEP CREE | 80 | 26 | 55 | +3 | 0.00 | 0 | 4.50 | -0.28 | 12 | 34 | -68 | 128 |
| | STEVENSVILLE 2S | 88 | 45 | 66 | +7 | 0.01 | 1 | 1.83 | -2.75 | 9 | 236 | +9 | 519 |
| WASHINGTON DC A | 90 | 42 | 69 | +7 | 0.00 | 0 | 4.20 | +0.43 | 13 | 346 | +41 | 676 | |
| Delaware | DOVER AFB | 89 | 41 | 68 | +8 | 0.02 | 2 | 3.44 | -1.18 | 13 | 264 | +10 | 556 |
| | GEORGETOWN SUSS | 89 | 42 | 68 | +9 | 0.02 | 2 | 5.27 | +1.09 | 16 | 292 | +60 | 602 |
| | WILMINGTON NEW | 89 | 40 | 67 | +8 | 0.01 | 1 | 2.95 | -1.25 | 14 | 236 | +29 | 517 |

Summary based on NOAA Regional Climate Centers (RCCs) data. DFN = departure from normal.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit. Climate normals used are for the 1981-2010 period.

Notice please be advised, the Weekly Crop Progress and Condition Report's Weather Data Tables may be discontinued for budget reasons. This includes the possibility of discontinuing the weather data narratives and graphics Please contact your local NASS Regional Field Office with comments or compliments regarding this issue. The Weekly Crop Progress and Condition Report's Crop Progress and Condition data will remain and be available.

REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

Baltimore County, MD – Erika Crowl

Warm weather has finally arrived.

Frederick County, MD – Matt Morris

Good weather for planting allowed the majority of the corn in the county to get planted. Rains predicted for the end of the reporting period will help with emergence and herbicide activation. First alfalfa and grass hay is predicted for early next reporting period as good weather is predicted.

Howard & Montgomery Counties, MD – Charles Schuster

The reporting period provided some extremes in weather. In the early part of this reporting period, temperatures were cool to cold, with wind chills in the upper 30's. Frost was noted in limited locations on one occasion this week. Temperatures increased to the low 90 for two days as a high, and the soil temperatures started to follow suite. Temperatures moderated at the end of the reporting period with needed rain, though not very consistent across the region. Conditions have not been the best for corn emergence. The cold soil is slowing the germination progress. Seed is still viable, but spotty in germination. The same for sweet corn. Barley has come into head in the last several days, but no wheat has been noted. Pastures/forages are slowly developing this spring. Hay is still being utilized on many operations as forages are not coming on enough to keep pace. Very limited soybean planting has been done to date. Strawberries are in full bloom in the earliest locations, but not across the region yet. Most apples are in full bloom, and peaches are done.

Harford County, MD – Patricia Hoopes

Most cover crop fields have been killed to prepare for planting. Blueberries and strawberries are in full bloom. However the strawberries are behind schedule. The apricots have already bloomed, the plums are just past peak, and some varieties of peaches are blooming.

Kent County, DE – Lauren Huber


The average temperatures reached almost 80 with little to no precipitation allowing lots of field work to be done. Pea and Potato planting has finished and now corn and soybean planting is in full swing.

New Castle County, DE – Lauren Huber

With warm temperatures and no precipitation ground is being worked with corn and soybeans being planted.

Sussex County, DE - John Timmons

Temperatures above normal this week. More like summer temperatures. Areas that received 0.7 inches of rain 10 days ago is dry at the surface. However a rain would be welcome on most farms. Many fields of wheat will begin heading this week with only one foot of plant height. A few farmers that plan to no-till into vetch and clover are waiting for the vetch and clover to get a little more growth before planting in order to get nitrogen benefits from the legumes.



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