



Louisiana Crop Progress and Condition Report



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Cooperating with Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry

Week Ending March 29, 2015

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According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Louisiana, there were 3.8 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, March 29, 2015**. Topsoil moisture supplies were 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 48 percent adequate, and 52 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 51 percent adequate, and 49 percent surplus. Low temperatures ranged from 42.0 degrees Fahrenheit at Calhoun to 56.3 degrees Fahrenheit at Galliano. Highs ranged from 66.9 degrees Fahrenheit at Lake Providence to 81.0 degrees Fahrenheit at New Orleans. The precipitation for this week was spread throughout the state, with the highest concentration in the southeast part of the state with an average of 0.53 inch.

Crop progress for week ending March 29, 2015

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, planted	16	1	67	81
Rice, planted	23	4	29	40
Sorghum, planted	0	-	0	19
Soybeans, planted	0	-	1	2
Winter Wheat, headed	14	2	8	28

Crop condition for week ending March 29, 2015

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Livestock	2	8	47	39	4
Pasture	2	18	43	32	5
Sugarcane	2	14	46	31	7
Vegetables	3	28	40	27	2
Winter Wheat	1	16	41	40	2

Comments from Cooperative Extension Service Parish Agents

“Great weather this week. Fields still a little wet, but drying quickly. Rice planting in full swing.”

– James ‘Jimmy’ Meaux, Calcasieu Parish

“Rain and cool temperatures have slowed crop growth. Crawfish farmers catching crawfish, vegetable producers planting crops, pastures are beginning to come out of dormancy, sugarcane farmers working crops where dry.”

– B Barton Joffrion Jr., Terrebonne Parish

“With weather improving considerably, with lots of sunshine and wind, the soil is drying out to working condition. Several large plantings of watermelons are being planted with expectations that weather conditions will continue to favor planting.”

– Henry Harrison, Washington Parish

“Rice planting progressing with missed rains and warmer weather, ryegrass really jumping, with improved weather conditions; all livestock enjoying lush forage and clearer, sunnier weather. Crawfish catch and quality improving as water conditions of low dissolved oxygen cleared up. Land preparations for drill seeded rice and soybeans, corn, and gardens making headway with clearer weather.”

– Keith A Fontenot, Evangeline Parish

“Rice planting was in full swing last week with excellent progress being made both drill seeding and by plane. Delay in seed treatment by dealers prevented even greater progress. Some Sugarcane fieldwork has begun with weed control beginning. Cattle ranchers are grazing ryegrass with a few still offering hay. Spring calving is at its peak time. Crawfish ponds have rebounded from health issues last week.”

– Andrew Granger, Vermilion Parish

“Improved weather conditions have allowed producers to ramp up spring field activities. 80% of sugarcane crop has been sprayed and 40% has been off-bared allowing for real good grass and weed control. Some potash has also been put out in sugarcane fields. Plowing and leveling of fallow ground in preparation of soybean and sugarcane planting also kept farmers busy. Cattle and home gardens continue to improve with the good weather.”

– Blair Hebert, Iberia Parish

Louisiana Weather Summary for Week Ending March 29, 2015

Division/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	Rain Days	DFN	Four Weeks	Four Weeks DFN
Northwest										
Minden	71.9	44.7	58.3	58.0	0.3	0.18	NA	-0.88	7.97	3.65
Mooringsport	69.9	48.9	59.4	59.3	0.1	0.05	2	-0.92	7.07	3.21
Red River	71.9	48.6	60.2	59.3	0.9	NA	NA	NA	8.02	4.18
Shreveport	71.7	46.7	59.2	58.9	0.3	NA	1	-0.93	9.53	5.57
Extreme/Average	71.4	47.2	59.3	58.9	0.4	0.11	2	-0.91	8.15	4.15
North Central										
Calhoun	71.4	42.0	56.7	57.8	-1.1	0.14	NA	-0.91	5.10	0.71
Farmerville	69.1	47.4	58.3	58.9	-0.6	0.16	2	-1.11	6.53	1.80
Homer	70.9	43.4	57.1	56.7	0.5	0.11	2	-0.96	5.65	3.48
Extreme/Average	70.5	44.3	57.4	57.8	-0.4	0.14	2	-0.99	5.76	2.00
Northeast										
Lake Providence	66.9	47.7	57.3	58.3	-1.0	1.01	2	-0.05	4.03	1.85
St Joseph	71.9	47.9	59.9	60.7	-0.8	0.03	2	-1.11	8.56	3.55
Tallulah	70.3	50.3	60.3	59.9	0.4	0.20	2	-0.92	5.17	0.90
Winnsboro	NA	NA	NA	60.0	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.92	-0.35
Extreme/Average	69.7	48.6	59.1	59.7	-0.5	0.41	2	-0.69	4.67	1.49
West Central										
Ashland	NA	NA	NA	59.3	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hodges Gardens	71.2	50.8	61.0	61.0	0.3	0.04	NA	-0.73	7.09	2.99
Leesville	75.6	47.0	61.3	61.0	0.2	0.02	2	-1.01	6.40	2.20
Natchitoches	71.0	48.7	59.9	61.1	-1.2	NA	1	-1.41	6.04	1.48
Extreme/Average	72.6	48.8	60.7	60.6	-0.2	0.03	2	-1.05	6.51	2.22
Central										
Alexandria	72.3	49.6	60.9	61.6	-0.7	0.00	2	-1.17	6.31	1.54
Bunkie	74.1	47.9	61.0	62.0	-1.0	0.00	2	-1.05	7.44	3.04
Eunice	NA	NA	NA	63.6	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jonesville Locks	73.1	49.0	61.1	60.4	0.7	0.06	NA	-1.16	6.55	1.53
New Roads	74.1	51.4	62.8	62.4	0.4	0.68	NA	-0.34	6.94	2.94
Extreme/Average	73.4	49.5	61.4	62.0	-0.2	0.18	2	-0.93	6.81	2.26
East Central										
Baton Rouge	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.02	1	-0.87	4.44	0.52
Hammond	NA	NA	NA	61.7	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Norwood	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.00	1	NA	9.26	NA
Slidell	72.3	53.9	63.1	NA	NA	0.33	1	NA	5.87	NA
Extreme/Average	72.3	53.9	63.1	61.7	NA	0.45	1	-0.87	6.52	0.52
Southwest										
Crowley	75.3	53.1	64.2	62.9	1.3	0.00	1	-0.92	4.38	0.79
DeRidder	73.3	48.1	60.7	62.3	-1.6	0.02	1	-1.13	6.29	1.78
Jennings	74.7	50.4	62.6	62.7	-0.2	0.02	2	-0.97	3.20	-0.56
Oberlin Fire	72.6	48.4	60.5	62.7	-2.2	0.00	0	-0.96	7.42	3.55
Extreme/Average	74.0	50.0	62.0	62.7	-0.7	0.01	2	-0.99	5.32	1.39
South Central										
Donaldsonville	73.7	52.1	62.9	62.9	0.0	0.19	NA	-0.81	4.13	0.26
Jeanerette	73.6	51.7	62.6	63.6	-1.0	0.05	1	-0.87	3.04	-0.47
Lafayette	74.1	53.0	63.6	62.8	0.8	0.11	1	-0.76	4.88	1.27
Morgan City	73.0	55.0	64.0	63.3	0.7	1.42	1	0.57	4.07	0.55
Extreme/Average	73.6	53.0	63.3	63.2	0.1	0.44	1	-0.47	4.03	0.40
Southeast										
Galliano	72.6	56.3	64.4	64.1	0.3	1.03	1	0.02	5.63	1.42
Gonzales	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.03	1	-1.06	4.95	0.68
Grand Isle	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
New Orleans	81.0	55.0	68.0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Extreme/Average	76.8	55.6	66.2	64.1	0.3	0.53	1	-0.52	4.41	1.05
State	72.9	50.1	61.5	61.3	-0.2	0.24	1	-0.84	5.80	1.70

DFN = Departure from Normal.

Normal = Averaged Collected Data from the Years 1981-2010.

NA = Not Available.