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Cooperating with Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry

Week Ending May 17, 2015

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According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Louisiana, there were 5.0 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, May 17, 2015**. Topsoil moisture supplies were 1 percent very short, 16 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 23 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were 1 percent very short, 6 percent short, 67 percent adequate, and 26 percent surplus. Low temperatures ranged from 63.2 degrees Fahrenheit at Homer to 75.0 degrees Fahrenheit at Galliano. Highs ranged from 77.4 degrees Fahrenheit at Mooringsport to 87.8 degrees Fahrenheit at New Orleans. Scattered showers throughout most of the state, with the highest concentration in the northwest part of the state with an average of 2.26 inches.

Crop progress for week ending May 17, 2015

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, emerged	99	97	99	100
Cotton, planted	84	68	81	80
Cotton, emerged	43	16	66	60
Hay, first cutting	36	26	49	53
Rice, planted	98	93	98	98
Rice, emerged	92	85	93	93
Sorghum, planted	97	88	99	97
Sorghum, emerged	86	73	85	87
Soybeans, planted	79	65	86	73
Soybeans, emerged	60	41	67	57
Sweet Potatoes, planted	13	8	7	12
Winter Wheat, headed	100	98	97	99
Winter Wheat, coloring	87	60	74	87
Winter Wheat, harvested	11	1	0	23

Crop condition for week ending May 17, 2015

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	0	2	41	47	10
Livestock	1	4	34	53	8
Pasture	0	8	35	48	9
Rice	0	5	30	57	8
Sorghum	0	5	46	45	4
Soybeans	0	4	51	34	11
Sugarcane	1	5	31	47	16
Vegetables	2	17	37	39	5
Winter Wheat	0	15	45	39	1

Comments from Cooperative Extension Service Parish Agents

“Spotty rain showers disrupted fieldwork across the parish last week on several days. Rice planting essentially complete, herbicides and fertilizer applications followed by flood are ongoing. Soybean planting continued where showers didn't fall, crawfish harvest continuing but low catches in some ponds leading to early drain and planting. Mosquitoes outbreaks from showers affecting livestock.”

– Keith A. Fontenot, Evangeline Parish

“Wheat cutting in low 40's waiting on dry weather to harvest wheat so we can finish planting soybeans. Hay cutting proceeding ok.”

– Miles J. Brashier, Pointe Coupee Parish

“We have been hit and miss with the rain, not getting what other areas have been. Finishing up some replanting on rice and soybean ground is being worked. If what is expected to hit the area as for as weather wise, we could be looking at first cutting of hay within the next two weeks.”

– Bradley Pousson, Cameron Parish

“Hit and miss showers have limited fieldwork. Rice farmers waiting for dry ground to fertilize will not wait much longer. Most of the rice is under permanent flood. Sugarcane farmers are fertilizing where dry and completing layby in some cases. Ranchers are looking for opportunity to harvest hay.”

– Andrew Granger, Vermillion Parish

“Rains continue to hamper field progress. Cool temperatures are extending spring like conditions. Some growers may curtail soybean planting expectations due to wet field conditions and late planting date. Sugarcane is making good growth with many growers waiting for drier conditions to finish up herbicide and fertilizer applications.”

– Stuart Gauthier, Saint Martin Parish

“Fieldwork continues with dry weather for soybeans and sugarcane. Crawfish producers still catching nice crawfish. Cattlemen cutting pastures for hay. Citrus producers spraying trees. Vegetable producers selling produce.”

– B Barton Joffrion Jr., Terrebonne Parish

Louisiana Weather Summary for Week Ending May 17, 2015

Division/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	Rain Days	DFN	Four Weeks	Four Weeks DFN
Northwest										
Minden	79.1	65.4	72.3	71.3	0.94	0.62	4	-0.26	4.39	-0.08
Mooringsport	77.4	64.6	71.0	72.0	-1.01	3.69	5	2.80	7.02	3.48
Red River	78.4	63.8	71.1	73.0	-1.66	NA	NA	NA	2.23	-1.83
Shreveport Sthrn Hills	79.0	64.2	71.6	72.0	-0.30	2.47	5	1.49	3.56	-1.19
Extreme/Average	78.5	64.5	71.5	72.1	-0.50	2.26	5	1.34	4.30	0.09
North Central										
Calhoun	79.4	64.9	72.1	70.6	1.57	1.79	5	0.53	7.14	2.64
Farmerville	78.7	63.7	71.2	71.8	-0.51	NA	NA	NA	5.90	1.01
Homer	81.5	63.2	72.4	69.7	2.70	1.78	5	1.30	6.19	3.32
Extreme/Average	79.9	63.9	71.9	70.7	1.3	1.79	5	0.92	6.41	2.32
Northeast										
Lake Providence	82.0	67.3	74.7	72.4	2.27	0.41	4	-0.29	2.64	1.19
St Joseph	86.8	70.0	78.4	73.9	4.47	NA	NA	NA	1.75	-2.23
Tallulah	85.1	69.1	77.1	72.6	4.57	0.50	2	-0.67	1.75	-2.28
Winnsboro	NA	NA	NA	73.3	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Extreme/Average	84.6	68.8	76.7	73.0	3.80	0.45	4	-0.48	2.05	-1.11
West Central										
Ashland	NA	NA	NA	71.4	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hodges Gardens	80.1	65.3	72.7	73.2	-0.50	3.10	6	2.08	5.29	1.10
Leesville	82.3	67.7	75.0	72.6	2.39	1.81	3	0.76	4.47	0.53
Natchitoches	80.8	65.2	73.0	74.3	-1.32	1.79	5	0.82	2.70	-1.13
Extreme/Average	81.1	66.1	73.6	72.9	0.20	2.23	6	1.22	4.15	0.17
Central										
Alexandria	83.1	68.7	75.9	74.1	1.80	0.10	6	-0.94	3.08	-0.86
Bunkie	86.1	68.7	77.4	74.3	3.16	0.64	1	-0.57	2.54	-2.17
Eunice	NA	NA	NA	76.0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jonesville Locks	82.3	68.9	75.6	73.9	1.74	0.87	1	-0.11	2.27	-1.57
New Roads	86.1	68.9	77.5	74.6	2.93	2.50	2	1.41	5.18	0.96
Extreme/Average	84.4	68.8	76.6	74.6	2.40	1.03	6	-0.05	3.27	-0.91
East Central										
Baton Rouge	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.81	5	-0.31	4.00	-0.52
Hammond	NA	NA	NA	73.6	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Norwood	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2.09	5	NA	3.42	NA
Slidell	84.4	71.0	77.7	NA	NA	1.70	5	NA	3.28	NA
Extreme/Average	84.4	71.0	77.7	73.6	NA	1.53	5	-0.31	3.57	-0.52
Southwest										
Crowley	84.9	69.6	77.2	75.3	1.96	3.93	4	2.81	7.38	3.03
DeRidder	83.0	67.9	75.4	74.0	1.47	1.08	3	-0.02	3.90	-0.40
Jennings	85.1	70.6	77.9	75.0	2.94	1.40	4	0.35	5.30	1.45
Oberlin Fire	82.9	69.6	76.2	74.1	2.13	1.12	4	-0.08	4.83	0.32
Extreme/Average	84.0	69.4	76.7	74.6	2.10	1.88	4	0.77	5.35	1.10
South Central										
Donaldsonville	86.9	70.3	78.6	74.6	4.01	1.74	2	0.78	6.91	3.09
Jeanerette	84.9	70.9	77.9	75.1	2.76	1.20	4	0.29	4.41	0.69
Lafayette	86.0	69.8	77.9	74.5	3.54	2.57	3	1.92	6.60	3.38
Morgan City	85.3	73.0	79.1	75.0	4.17	0.96	5	0.09	4.02	0.64
Extreme/Average	85.8	71.0	78.4	74.8	3.60	1.62	5	0.77	5.49	1.95
Southeast										
Galliano	85.0	75.0	80.0	75.3	4.74	0.01	3	-0.97	3.39	0.21
Gonzales	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2.13	1	1.23	5.62	1.75
Grand Isle	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
New Orleans	87.8	73.8	80.8	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2.55	NA
Extreme/Average	86.4	74.4	80.4	75.3	4.70	1.07	3	0.13	3.85	0.98
State	83.4	68.8	76.1	73.6	2.10	1.50	4	0.43	4.30	0.45

DFN = Departure from Normal.

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

NA = Not Available.