



Weather & Crops

CW 2610

September 27, 2010

Low Surface Moisture May Delay Fall Planting

For the week ending, September 26, 2010, the days suitable for fieldwork were 7.0 days in Delaware and 6.9 days in Maryland. Soil moisture ratings in Delaware were mostly adequate and Maryland was rated as short. One crop reporter in Delaware reported: "Still dry [which] has advanced pace of color change and loss of soybean leaves." Another reporter from Maryland reported: "Brown marmorated stink bugs are causing a reduction in quality and the populations are increasing."

Hay supplies were primarily adequate in Delaware and Maryland. Pasture conditions for both Delaware and Maryland were fair. The third cutting of alfalfa hay has finished in both States. The fourth cutting was 61 percent complete in Maryland and 25 percent in Delaware. The third cutting of other hay was almost complete with Delaware at 95 percent and Maryland at 85 percent. The fourth cutting of other hay was 37 and 27 percent, respectively, for Delaware and Maryland. Corn in Delaware was reported mature with 59 percent harvested for grain and 77 percent harvested for silage. The Maryland corn crop was 98 percent dent, 93 percent mature with 65 percent harvested for grain and 91 percent harvested for silage. Delaware soybean reports indicate pod set is complete, 81 percent turning color, and 35 percent dropping leaves. Harvest has not started. In Maryland, soybean reports indicate pod set is nearly complete at 99 percent, 74 percent turning color, 47 percent dropping leaves and 8 percent harvested. Soybean condition was primarily fair in both States. Delaware full season soybeans were reported as stunted and damaged with poor yields expected due to lack of rainfall. In Maryland, the stink bug invasion is causing a reduction in quality. Planting of small grains and fall cover crops is proceeding, however, many producers in Delaware are delaying planting of barley and winter wheat due to lack of surface moisture for germination. Barley was 13 percent planted in Delaware and 32 percent in Maryland. Winter wheat was 10 percent planted in Delaware and 18 percent planted and 2 percent emerged in Maryland. Apple harvest is ongoing with over 65 percent harvested in both States and good quality reported. Fresh market vegetable harvest was nearly complete with most producers expected to finish over the next couple weeks. Harvest of the processing lima bean crop was in full swing with just over 70 percent harvested in both Delaware and Maryland.

MARYLAND & DELAWARE'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING September 26, 2010

Crop	Maryland				Delaware			
	Sep 26 2010	Sep 19 2010	Sep 27 2009	5-Year Average	Sep 26 2010	Sep 19 2010	Sep 27 2009	5-Year Average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Alfalfa Hay, 3rd cutting	100	99	100	100	100	100	100	100
Alfalfa Hay, 4th cutting	61	55	66	72	25	22	81	62
Other Hay, 3rd cutting	85	82	78	72	95	94	98	86
Other Hay, 4th cutting	27	17	20	16	37	35	28	14
Barley, planted	32	13	24	21	13	7	6	7
Corn, dent	98	96	95	95	100	100	97	99
Corn, mature	93	89	68	83	100	99	72	91
Corn, harvested for silage	91	90	84	76	77	74	75	69
Corn, harvested for grain	65	48	14	33	59	47	21	39
Soybeans, setting pods	99	98	100	96	100	100	99	98
Soybeans, turned	74	57	48	65	81	56	52	65
Soybeans, dropping leaves	47	30	16	38	35	20	22	41
Soybeans, harvested	8	3		4				2
Winter Wheat, planted	18	9	12	10	10	7		
Cucumbers, harvested	96	95	95	96	100	99	99	96
Lima Beans, harvested (Proc)	72	67	82	75	74	73	80	70
Snap Beans, harvested	99	98	98	94	98	97	95	96
Sweet Corn, harvested	98	97	95	93	100	100	96	94
Tomatoes, harvested	95	94	92	94	98	97	95	95
Cantaloups, harvested	98	97	97	96	100	99	99	95
Watermelons, harvested	98	96	97	97	100	99	99	96
Apples, harvested	68	58	71	72	78	73	63	51

CROP CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING September 26, 2010

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	17	24	40	19		11	21	36	29	3
Corn	16	23	34	23	4	7	41	38	12	2
Soybeans	4	26	38	27	5	15	14	44	24	3
Apples	1	5	24	68	2	4	7	33	46	10

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING September 26, 2010

Condition	Maryland				Delaware			
	Topsoil Moisture		Subsoil Moisture		Topsoil Moisture		Subsoil Moisture	
	Sep 26	Sep 19	Sep 26	Sep 19	Sep 26	Sep 19	Sep 26	Sep 19
	<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	40	40	43	43	21	20	24	22
Short	47	43	46	41	32	23	30	23
Adequate	13	17	11	16	47	57	46	55
Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING September 26, 2010

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		29.88	-0.77	95	47	75	10
Frederick	0.15	30.31	0.93	94	47	72	11
Frostburg	0.06	31.40	-4.40	87	45	68	10
Hagerstown	0.01	17.62	-11.13	95	49	75	11
Mechanicsville	0.05	26.61	-7.34	95	47	72	8
Patuxent River		23.99	-7.86	98	53	76	11
Ocean City		28.64	-5.60	87	51	73	7
Salisbury		21.75	-12.89	95	49	75	9
Sharpsburg		22.48	-6.90	96	44	71	11
Stevensville	0.13	30.99	-0.69	93	52	73	7
Washington DC Reagan National		23.03	-5.94	99	56	79	11
Delaware							
Dover		28.70	-4.97	97	49	74	8
Georgetown	0.01	24.56	-8.92	97	47	76	11
Wilmington	0.38	27.93	-2.85	92	46	73	9

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