



Weather & Crops

CW 0311

April 18, 2011

Rain Continues to Interfere With Field Activity

For the week ending, April 17, 2011, the days suitable for fieldwork were **3.5** days in Maryland and **4.9** days in Delaware. Rain throughout the week prompted a significant increase in soil moisture surplus ratings. However, the majority of soil moisture ratings remained in adequate. One crop reporter on the Upper Eastern Shore reported *“Excessive rain has caused farmers to stay out of the fields. One farmer said they did not take animals to market because it was too muddy to get the animals loaded.”*

Hay supplies remained adequate throughout Maryland and Delaware. **Green peas** planted increased significantly in Maryland and Delaware at 85 and 45 percent planted respectively. The remaining vegetable crops are 1 to 7 percent planted in both States. Potatoes are at 48 and 41 percent planted respectively in Maryland and Delaware. **Fruit** crops blooming remained behind historical trends with the highest percent blooming at 25 percent. **Strawberries** blooming followed the other fruit crops in lagging behind historical trends however; a significant increase was shown in both States with 30 percent in Maryland and 52 percent in Delaware. **Small grains** remained in good condition. Barley and wheat fields continue to be scouted for aphids and mites, as the recent cool and wet weather are favorable conditions for population increases. **Pasture** conditions continued to be rated fair to good in both states.

MARYLAND & DELAWARE'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING April 17, 2011

Crop	Maryland				Delaware			
	Apr 17 2011	Apr 10 2011	Apr 18 2010	5-Year Average	Apr 17 2011	Apr 10 2011	Apr 18 2010	5-Year Average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Corn, planted	3	1	8	7	5	2	5	8
Cucumbers, planted	2	1	9	9				
Green Peas, planted	85	20	71	54	45	35	76	74
Potatoes, planted	48	20	68	60	41	27	33	59
Snap Beans, planted	1		6	6				4
Sweet Corn, planted	7	4	15	15	6	3	4	6
Tomatoes, planted	4	4	6	14	1			
Cantaloups, planted				4				
Strawberries, bloomed	30	19	63	44	52	21	43	33
Watermelons, planted				7				
Apples, bloomed	6	2	83	25	12	3	40	32
Peaches, bloomed	18	8	72	42	25	18	74	70

CROP CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING April 17, 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	2	7	23	52	16	1	6	21	71	1
Barley	3	3	5	76	13		1	9	82	8
Winter Wheat	1	2	4	72	21	1	1	10	80	8

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING April 17, 2011

Condition	Maryland				Delaware			
	Topsoil Moisture		Subsoil Moisture		Topsoil Moisture		Subsoil Moisture	
	Apr 17	Apr 10	Apr 17	Apr 10	Apr 17	Apr 10	Apr 17	Apr 10
	<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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
Adequate	66	88	78	89	76	90	80	81
Surplus	34	12	22	11	24	10	19	15

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING April 17, 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	1.79	12.91	1.66	85	42	58	6
Frederick	3.06	13.40	3.84	83	40	55	8
Frostburg	2.32	15.59	2.99	81	34	50	5
Hagerstown	3.30	13.00	2.98	83	42	55	5
Mechanicsville	1.36	12.17	-0.43	84	41	57	4
Patuxent River	1.63	10.34	-0.90	80	43	58	4
Ocean City	0.47	9.47	-4.13	72	45	60	7
Salisbury	0.57	9.22	-3.90	78	41	60	7
Sharpsburg	4.79	15.98	5.77	85	36	55	7
Stevensville	1.88	11.82	0.06	78	46	57	5
Washington DC Reagan National	1.10	10.77	0.67	84	46	59	4
Delaware							
Dover	2.24	11.56	-0.51	80	44	57	5
Georgetown	1.11	10.63	-2.18	79	42	58	7
Wilmington	2.30	13.69	2.45	81	44	57	6

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