



Weather & Crops

CW 1611

July 18, 2011

Crops Stressed Under Continued Hot, Dry Conditions

For the week ending, July 17, 2011, the days suitable for fieldwork were **7.0** days in Delaware and **6.7** days in Maryland. Soil moisture ratings were very short to adequate in both states. A Delaware crop reporter reported, "All non-irrigated crops are under stress." A Maryland crop reporter reported, "The soil is very dry and crops are suffering."

Hay supplies were adequate throughout Maryland and Delaware. The second cutting of **Alfalfa Hay** was 93 percent complete in Delaware and 96 percent in Maryland. The third cutting of **alfalfa hay** progressed with 3 percent and 26 percent for Delaware and Maryland, respectively. Harvest of **Other Hay** continued with the second cutting at 78 percent in Delaware and 80 percent in Maryland. Producers had not started a third cutting of other hay. Pasture areas were suffering due to continued hot temperatures and lack of rain. Pasture condition ranged from very poor to good in both Delaware and Maryland. **Corn for grain** was 81 percent silked and 45 percent dough in Delaware and 66 percent silked, 9 percent dough in Maryland. Corn conditions in both States ranged from poor to good. **Soybean** emergence was at 98 percent in Delaware and 96 percent in Maryland. Blooming was at 20 percent in Delaware and 27 percent in Maryland. Pod set progressed with Delaware at 7 percent and Maryland at 14 percent. Dry and hot conditions stressed dry land field crops. Most areas in Delaware and Maryland suffered from dry conditions, but some areas in central Maryland received localized rainfall which helped during critical growth periods. However, more rain will be needed soon as temperatures have been in the low to mid nineties and a heat wave is forecast for the coming week. Fruit and vegetable crops were doing well despite hot and dry weather. Producers irrigate these crops and the hot temperatures have helped fruits and vegetables advance quickly. The **Peach** season continued with Delaware reporting 53 percent harvested and Maryland at 20 percent. **Apples** were 31 percent harvested in Delaware. The apple harvest in Maryland begins later in the season. Summer **Vegetable** harvest was in full swing. In Delaware, cucumbers, snap beans, and sweet corn were over 25 percent harvested. The melon harvest picked up over the last week. Maryland vegetable growers harvested over 25 percent of most major commodities. No major problems were reported for fruits and vegetables and progress is expected to continue at a steady pace over the next few weeks.

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

Crop	Maryland				Delaware			
	Jul 17 2011	Jul 10 2011	Jul 18 2010	5-Year Average	Jul 17 2011	Jul 10 2011	Jul 18 2010	5-Year Average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Alfalfa Hay, 2nd cutting	96	94	94	87	93	81	79	86
Alfalfa Hay, 3rd cutting	26	11	16	18	3	3	13	
Other Hay, 2nd cutting	80	75	89	59	78	68	72	77
Corn, silked	66	48	74	64	81	70	80	64
Corn, dough	9	2	16	8	45	34	10	14
Soybeans, planted	98	94	100	99	100	99	100	98
Soybeans, emerged	96	89	100	96	98	94	100	91
Soybeans, bloomed	27	10	47	21	20	15	42	22
Soybeans, setting pods	14	2	12	4	7	1	19	6
Winter Wheat, harvested	99	95	98	93	100	100	100	95
Cucumbers, planted	93	91	90	87	81	70	98	90
Cucumbers, harvested	47	45	25	29	57	44	21	23
Lima Beans, planted (ALL)	96	92	75	85	96	93	88	90
Lima Beans, harvested (Proc)	19	14		18	7	5	86	20
Snap Beans, planted	97	95	100	89	92	85	100	97
Snap Beans, harvested	27	25	26	37	42	18	60	35
Sweet Corn, planted	97	94	100	99	100	99	100	98
Sweet Corn, harvested	30	18	24	23	31	14	23	22
Tomatoes, harvested	25	12	21	18	14	7	21	11
Cantaloups, planted	100	95	100	100	100	100	100	100
Cantaloups, harvested	28	13	25	21	18	13	23	15
Watermelons, harvested	17	8	11	8	24	8	20	13
Apples, harvested				4	31	28	5	3
Peaches, harvested	20	9	9	14	53	38	19	25

CROP CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING July 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	10	25	31	33	1	14	16	25	45	
Corn	11	11	22	46	10	11	25	29	28	7
Soybeans	12	14	25	42	7	4	17	26	50	3
Winter Wheat	1	3	15	71	10	1	3	26	65	5
Apples			2	97	1		1	5	89	5
Peaches		2	11	81	6	1	1	8	87	3

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING July 17, 2011

Condition	Maryland				Delaware			
	Topsoil Moisture		Subsoil Moisture		Topsoil Moisture		Subsoil Moisture	
	Jul 17	Jul 10	Jul 17	Jul 10	Jul 17	Jul 10	Jul 17	Jul 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	17	12	16	15	26	9	20	17
Short	44	43	45	39	40	35	37	34
Adequate	37	43	36	43	34	56	43	49
Surplus	2	2	3	3	0	0	0	0

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING July 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	0.43	21.70	-0.34	93	60	79	2
Damascus ²	0.83	27.23	4.98	93	61	75	1
Frostburg	0.03	30.78	4.32	88	57	72	5
Hagerstown		20.64	-0.56	95	61	78	4
Mechanicsville	0.96	19.46	-5.17	95	58	75	-2
Patuxent River	0.14	17.87	-4.46	95	63	80	4
Ocean City	0.05	14.79	-9.14	95	59	78	3
Salisbury	0.09	14.28	-9.67	95	57	78	2
Sharpsburg	0.47	26.80	4.90	94	55	74	2
Stevensville	0.72	22.21	-0.92	91	62	79	3
Washington DC Reagan National	1.05	17.94	-2.44	97	67	81	2
Delaware							
Dover	0.03	18.12	-5.56	94	62	79	2
Georgetown	0.05	16.64	-6.50	95	59	79	3
Wilmington		23.08	0.59	92	62	78	3

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

² Frederick replaced with Damascus.