



Weather & Crops

CW 0112

April 2, 2012

Producers and Plants Take Advantage of Warm Temperatures

For the week ending, April 1, 2012, the days suitable for fieldwork were **6.0** days in Delaware and Maryland. Topsoil and subsoil moisture levels were mostly adequate. Barley and winter wheat conditions were mostly good in both States. A Delaware crop reporter responded, *“Consistent early warm weather has producers planting crops earlier than normal for the area.”* A Maryland crop reporter responded, *“Unseasonably warm weather so far this spring. Many farmers have worked the fields and are preparing to plant.”*

Hay supplies were adequate throughout Maryland and Delaware. **Green peas** planted in Maryland and Delaware were at 23 and 14 percent planted, respectively. Other vegetable crops remained under 5 percent planted in both States. **Potatoes** were 21 percent planted in Maryland and 5 percent planted in Delaware. **Apples, Peaches, and strawberries** were in complete bloom or past flowering. Apples were 50 percent bloomed in Maryland and 5 percent bloomed in Delaware. Peaches were 67 percent bloomed in Maryland and 33 percent in Delaware. Strawberries were 20 percent bloomed in Maryland and 21 percent bloomed in Delaware. Cool nighttime temperatures continued to be monitored closely by fruit producers. **Small grains** remained in good condition. **Pasture** conditions were mostly rated good in both States.

MARYLAND & DELAWARE'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING April 1, 2012

Crop	Maryland				Delaware			
	Apr 1 2012	Mar 25 2012	Apr 3 2011	5-Year Average	Apr 1 2012	Mar 25 2012	Apr 3 2011	5-Year Average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Green Peas, planted	23		14	15	34		25	19
Potatoes, planted	21		7	14	5		11	13
Strawberries, bloomed	20		4	11	21		1	2
Apples, bloomed	50				5		1	2
Peaches, bloomed	67		1	4	33		13	6

CROP CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING April 1, 2012

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	4	15	62	17	5	12	14	66	3
Barley		1	23	44	32		1	10	81	8
Winter Wheat			20	58	22			10	81	9

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING April 1, 2012

Condition	Maryland				Delaware			
	Topsoil Moisture		Subsoil Moisture		Topsoil Moisture		Subsoil Moisture	
	Apr 1	Mar 25						
	<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	3	0	1	0
Short	21	12	15	1	17	21	10	0
Adequate	75	88	81	92	80	79	88	100
Surplus	4	0	4	7	0	0	1	0

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING April 1, 2012

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	0.03	6.93	-2.82	73	31	51	3
Damascus ²	0.04	7.13	-1.88	70	26	47	-3
Frostburg	0.52	9.20	-1.29	72	22	46	5
Hagerstown	0.18	6.28	-2.09	75	27	49	3
Mechanicsville	0.06	6.19	-4.86	75	30	51	2
Patuxent River	0.01	6.04	-3.68	77	37	55	5
Ocean City		6.43	-5.52	73	31	51	3
Salisbury		6.78	-4.72	75	31	53	5
Sharpsburg	0.07	6.59	-2.01	75	26	47	4
Stevensville	0.02	5.33	-4.81	73	37	50	1
Washington DC Reagan National	0.01	5.64	-3.14	72	34	54	3
Delaware							
Dover	0.14	4.88	-5.48	71	32	49	
Georgetown	0.03	4.77	-6.28	74	33	52	4
Wilmington	0.07	5.53	-4.06	66	28	48	2

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

² Frederick replaced with Damascus.