



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# Crop Progress & Condition



Maryland  
& Delaware

Dale Hawks, Maryland State Statistician  
50 Harry S. Truman Pkwy Ste 210, Annapolis, MD 21401  
Phone: 410-841-5740 Fax: 410-841-5755

Dale Hawks, Delaware State Statistician  
2320 S. DuPont Hwy. Dover, DE 19901  
Phone: 302-698-4537 Fax: 302-697-4450

[www.nass.usda.gov/md](http://www.nass.usda.gov/md)  
Week ending March 31, 2019

Issued weekly on the internet, April - November  
by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS  
[nassrfoner@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nassrfoner@nass.usda.gov)

[www.nass.usda.gov/de](http://www.nass.usda.gov/de)  
Released April 1, 2019

**Good Week for Field Work:** Maryland had an average of 5.0 days suitable for fieldwork while Delaware had an average of 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork this reporting period. Favorable weather conditions allowed farmers to proceed with field activities, some of which have seen delay this year resulting from precipitation. Both states are reporting soil moisture in adequate or surplus levels. Reporters noted that some winter wheat is coming in late as a result of late planting last fall due to weather conditions. Some portions of winter wheat crops have been damaged due to continued standing water. Fieldwork activities this reporting period included top dressing small grains, spreading of manure and fertilizer, spraying, ground prep, and preliminary planting of vegetable crops.

## DE Soil Moisture for Week Ending March 31, 2019 (in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	0	59	41
SUBSOIL	0	0	51	49

## DE Crop Conditions as of March 31, 2019 (in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
WINTER WHEAT	1	2	59	31	7

## MD Soil Moisture for Week Ending March 31, 2019 (in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	0	31	69
SUBSOIL	0	0	44	56

## MD Crop Conditions as of March 31, 2019 (in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
WINTER WHEAT	0	4	79	14	3

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit [www.usda.gov/oce/weather](http://www.usda.gov/oce/weather) and click on "[Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin](#)."

## REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

*Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.*

### **Frederick County, MD – Matt Morris**

A few warm dry days have allowed for some field work to occur. N topdress on wheat is in full swing.

### **Howard & Montgomery Counties, MD – Charles Schuster**

Wheat rates low because of the amount of acreage that has had standing water on it for extended periods of time. Some wheat fields were difficult to topdress this spring with nitrogen.

### **St Mary's County, MD – Ben Beale**

Wet weather had hampered field operations. Last week producers were finally able to get over ground and begin field operations. Lots of manure, fertilizer, spraying and ground prep are occurring now.

### **Sussex County, DE – Harry T Hudson III**

One whole week without rain is a miracle now in Sussex. Farmers top dressing small grain and spreading manure now. Trying to avoid wet spots. First person reported peas planted.

### **Sussex County, DE - John Timmons**

Fall wheat in 2018 as late planted due to wet weather and push to get 2018 crops out when soil conditions allowed. What is up, is late and just beginning to green up this week. Some of the wheat will receive nitrogen and weed control applications. Farmers are spreading poultry manure and disking areas that they tracked up during harvest of 2018.