United States Department of Agriculture

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce

Weekly Weather Crop Report

Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service

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Week Ending June 15, 2003

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 2.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending June 15, 2003**. While rain fell across most all of the state, the lower two-thirds received the majority of precipitation. Drier weather conditions are needed to progress more rapidly with wheat and hay harvesting, and insect control applications. Soil moisture was rated 37 percent adequate and 63 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2002	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Silked	58	29	52	49	0	5	16	53	26
Cotton	Planted	99	98	100	100	1	7	22	48	22
	Emerged	98	93	100	98					
	Squaring	33	10	30	47					
Rice	Planted	100	99	100	100	0	3	16	59	22
	Emerged	99	95	100	100					
Sorghum	Planted	100	100	100	100	0	2	20	59	19
	Emerged	100	99	99	97					
Soybeans	Planted	97	94	97	96	1	5	22	53	19
	Emerged	93	89	93	91					
	Blooming	30	16	18	22					
Wheat	Mature	99	90	98	97	0	8	29	54	9
	Harvested	71	40	77	76					
Sweetpotatoes	Planted	60	50	56	59	0	14	20	66	0
Hay (Cool Season)	Harvested	96	93	99	99	0	4	30	53	13
Hay (Warm Season)		37	30	28	30					
Blueberries						0	5	36	49	10
Watermelons						0	20	27	43	10
Cattle						1	8	23	57	11
Pasture						1	9	22	55	13

County Agent Comments

"Rains across the entire county stopped the fieldwork on drier land. Some losses have occurred in low areas where water has stood or backed out of the streams."

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

"We've been having daily thundershowers. There were some with 3 inches or more of rain. This has caused delays in all types of fieldwork, particularly with weed and insect control applications. We need 2 weeks of sunshine to get back on track."

— Karen Benson, Attala

"The Mississippi River has finally retreated from most of our fields and they are getting close to being ready to plant. We have received a rain shower everyday since Wednesday that has really helped the corn and cotton crops, but delayed soybean planting. All corn and cotton fields have been light on insect pressure so far this year."

— Cheryl McClure, Adams

“Hay harvest is on hold; the watemelons are suffering from fungi as a result of the rain and soils are leaching fertilizers past the root zone on corn crops.”

— Mark Gillie, Greene

“The moisture situation has improved. Commercial tomato harvest has begun and yield potential looks good. Bacterial spot is a little worse than normal due to wet weather. Producers are spraying bactericides as a control measure.”

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

“Rain continues to keep growers out of the field. Crops look good, but we need some sunshine so growers can get back in the field.”

— Don Respess, Bolivar

“Rains continue to hamper fieldwork. Farmers need to get in the field.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“On Wednesday some parts of the county got 6.5 inches in less than an 8-hour period, followed by rain all weekend. Crops went back under water, but may be big enough to withstand the flooding if it gets off soon enough. Corn and grain sorghum are loving all this moisture and it shows.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Some fields are still too wet to complete planting soybeans. Wheat harvest is about to begin. Corn and cotton are benefitting from the scattered showers.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Rain Thursday and Friday stopped everything. The forecast for rain this upcoming week will get us behind again if it happens!”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“There are still hundreds of acres of soybeans that need to be planted. Scattered showers over the weekend have halted many field activities. Corn in fields shows multiple growth stages due to late re-planting and heavy water damage.”

— Patrick Poindexter, Alcorn

“Excess rainfall throughout the area has caused delays in all kinds of fieldwork. Weed pressure is becoming a problem in many fields because equipment can't be used to apply applications, and insect control measures that may be indicated cannot be applied. Following this period of rain, salvage measures will be required in many areas to prevent severe crop losses. We need a 10-14 day break in rainfall to get the crops back on track.”

— Sonia Hancock, Rankin

“The corn really appreciated the rains last week. Most of it was in dire need of a good rain, and it got it. Most areas received 2+ inches. This also was a welcome sight for beef and dairy producers as they look to their pasture situations, and can now expect some summer grazing and hay crop. The damp, cool weather though has brought out the vegetable and plant diseases. It just always seems that we go from ‘feast to famine’.”

— Richard Hay, Amite

“Wet weather has brought farming activities to a halt. Conditions have only become more favorable for disease problems. Insect pressure continues to rise.”

— Perry Brumfield, Lincoln

“It is very wet here. It has rained every day the last 7 days. Some rain was extremely heavy.”

— Carolyn Conger, Covington

“Rain this past week has fields and pastures soaked but not at the point where anything is suffering. Grass in pastures is responding to rain. Some gardens are beginning to hurt from excess moisture. Cattle are looking good due to good grazing conditions. Weeds in pastures are really taking off, and most pastures need spraying or bush hogging.”

— Lee Taylor, Forrest

"Intermittent rains last week brought most field activity to a stand-still. Heavy rain Friday will keep most producers out of the fields for most of this week. More rain is forecast. Corn still looks great. Cotton and soybeans could use a few days of sunshine."

— Victor Lee, Newton

"Summer thunderstorms continue to move through the area making it impossible to work any crops; however livestock and pastures continue to improve."

— Billy Joe Lee, Pearl River

Additional comments appear on the Internet at: http://www.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

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Weather Summary from June 9, 2003 to June 15, 2003 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Charleston				76		1.02E	-0.17	2	4.22E				
Cleveland	92	58	75	78	-3	1.43	+0.26	2	2.61				
Tunica	89	60	76	78	-2	1.38	+0.12	4	2.90	87	71	78	0.29
Extreme/Average	92	58	76	78	-2	1.28	+0.30	3	3.24	87	71	78	0.29
2. North-Central													
Batesville	89	55	75	76	-1	1.32	+0.11	1	3.34				
Calhoun City				76		2.01	+0.96	3	4.16				
Independence	88	55	73	76	-3	0.54	-0.60	3	3.45				
Oxford	91	54	75	76	-1	0.70	-0.39	1	1.56				
Extreme/Average	91	54	74	76	-2	1.14	+0.25	2	3.13				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	88	58	73	75	-2	0.37	-0.68	1	1.65				
Corinth City				77		0.30	-0.66	1	2.33				
Iuka	89	51	72	73	-1	0.71	-0.21	3	1.75				
Ripley				75		0.59	-0.49	2	1.92				
Tupelo	91	59	76			0.74		3	2.55				
Extreme/Average	91	51	74	76	-2	0.54	-0.31	2	2.11				
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni	95	64	78	79	-1	3.49	+2.61	3	5.09	97	73	86	
Rolling Fork	95	63	79	78	+1	3.60E	+2.60	3	5.85E	101	80	88	
Stoneville	92	60	77	79	-2	2.89	+1.96	4	4.66	94	74	81	0.24
Yazoo City	92	62	77	79	-2	5.58	+4.65	4	6.53				
Extreme/Average	95	60	78	79	-1	3.89	+2.98	4	5.53	101	73	85	0.24
5. Central													
Canton	92	63	77	79	-2	4.83	+4.06	4	6.02				
Carthage				77		4.13E	+3.36	4	6.91E				
Eupora	88	58	74	76	-2	2.49E	+1.51	4	6.89E				
Extreme/Average	92	58	75	77	-2	3.82	+3.02	4	6.61				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	91	61	76	76	0	2.16	+1.15	3	4.60				0.26
Houston	89	54	73	75	-2	3.04	+1.79	4	5.15				
Louisville	87	62	74	76	-2	3.67	+2.83	5	6.34				
State University	91	62	76	77	-1	2.52	+1.61	4	4.71	82	75	78	0.20
Extreme/Average	91	54	75	77	-2	2.85	+2.01	4	5.20	82	75	78	0.21
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	93	65	78	79	-1	2.64	+1.34	4	3.89	98	75	83	
Natchez	91	64	79	78	+1	2.66	+1.54	4	3.84				
Oakley	93	65	78	78	0	4.60	+3.48	4	6.89	92	77	84	
Vicksburg	91	66	77			4.38		3	7.40				
Extreme/Average	93	64	78	78	0	3.57	+2.59	4	5.51	98	75	84	
8. South-Central													
Collins	93	63	78	77	+1	2.32	+1.41	4	6.55				
Columbia	94	68	80	79	+1	4.06	+2.94	3	5.59				
Tylertown	94	67	79	78	+1	3.87	+2.75	5	6.71				
Extreme/Average	94	63	79	78	+1	3.42	+2.47	4	6.28				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	94	68	80			2.65E		4	9.76E				
Hattiesburg	92	67	79	79	0	3.43E	+2.45	4	5.41E				
Laurel	93	67	79	78	+1	3.62E	+2.76	4	5.81E				
Newton	92	62	77	77	0	2.79	+1.95	4	4.93	86	71	77	0.22
Extreme/Average	94	62	79	78	+1	3.12	+2.28	4	6.48	86	71	77	0.22
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	95	68	80	79	+1	0.96	-0.03	5	4.24				
Gulfport	90	72	81	80	+1	3.52	+2.40	4	8.26				
Pascagoula				78		0.21	-0.98	2	1.75				
Poplarville	94	68	80	79	+1	1.79	+0.79	5	8.49	87	73	80	
Waveland	92	70	81	79	+2	2.24	+1.06	5	7.46				
Extreme/Average	95	68	80	80	0	1.74	+0.69	4	6.04	87	73	80	
State	95	51	77	78	-1	2.72	+1.82	4	5.21	101	71	80	0.24

DFN = Departure from Normal.