



## LOUISIANA CROP WEATHER SUMMARY

For Crop Week Ending Sunday, March 19, 2006

Released March 20, 2006

Volume 06 Number 03

### CROP INFORMATION

**Days suitable for fieldwork:** 5.7

**Soil moisture supplies:** 2% very short, 14% short, 68% adequate and 16% surplus

#### Field Crops Report

Dry conditions throughout the week allowed producers to progress with field activities. Corn planting was in full swing, with planting 10 points ahead of the 5 year average. Some rice producers began planting as well as doing pre-plant burndown, while others were still hesitant about planting due to drought conditions and prices. Sugarcane producers were fertilizing, spraying pre-emergence herbicides to fields, and cultivating row middles. Winter wheat began to head and very little rust had been reported.

#### Fruits, Vegetables and Specialty Crops

Citrus producers were scouting trees for insects and diseases. Strawberry producers continued harvesting and marketing their crop, while spraying to control insects and diseases. Vegetable producers began planting bell peppers and field tomatoes. Crawfish harvest continued with low catches, but larger sizes were being reported.

#### Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

With warmer weather, spring plowing continued with reports of ryegrass growing well. Calving was in full swing, and cattlemen were fertilizing and spraying weeds in pastures throughout the week. Hay producers and cattlemen began to cut hay.

PERCENT OF PROGRESS					
CROP	STAGE	Current Week	Last Week	2005	5 YR AVG
Corn	Planted	37	11	19	16
Rice	Planted	3	1	3	5
Winter Wheat	Headed	24	0	1	1
Land Preparation	Spring plowing	34	14	19	27

CONDITIONS IN PERCENTAGES					
ITEM	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
Sugarcane	12	18	48	22	0
Wheat	0	1	27	66	6
Livestock	1	9	52	36	2
Vegetables	3	12	49	34	2
Pasture	4	18	49	28	1



LOUISIANA OFFICE OF STATE CLIMATOLOGY, LSU, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA  
 LOUISIANA WEATHER SUMMARY FROM 03/13/06 TO 03/19/06

	AIR TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION			
	MAX	MIN	AVG	NRM	WEEKLY TOTAL	FOUR WEEKS	YR. TO DATE	NORM
<b>1. Northwest</b>								
LSU-Bossier City	86	37	58	56	1.32	3.31	11.49	11.94
Minden	86	34	58	56	2.63	4.61	13.65	13.00
Mooringsport	83	42	58	MM	3.02	5.18	12.42	11.09
Extreme/Average	86	34	58	57	2.32	4.37	12.52	12.24
<b>2. North-Central</b>								
LSU-Calhoun	85	(31)	58	57	1.96	6.33	16.17	14.09
Homer/Hill Farm	83	36	58	55	3.13	5.71	15.85	13.17
ULM-Monroe	(88)	32	59	57	1.83	5.32	15.86	14.61
Winnfield	88	32	60	58	0.65	4.73	14.43	13.80
Extreme/Average	88	31	59	58	1.89	5.52	15.58	14.01
<b>3. Northeast</b>								
Lake Providence	86	38	59	56	0.78	5.48	15.76	14.79
LSU-St Joseph	85	38	59	58	0.82	5.36	15.41	15.09
LSU-Winnboro	85	35	60	57	0.10	4.98	15.78	14.41
Tallulah	85	39	60	57	2.00	8.09	18.20	14.89
Extreme/Average	86	35	60	58	0.93	5.98	16.29	14.75
<b>4. West-Central</b>								
Leesville	84	36	64	59	0.08	1.79	9.22	13.70
LSU-Rosepine	78	37	60	59	0.01	3.17	10.61	13.53
Natchitoches	86	35	64	58	0.37	4.30	14.06	13.43
Extreme/Average	86	35	63	59	0.15	3.09	11.30	13.44
<b>5. Central</b>								
Alexandria	84	41	65	60	0.07	3.88	13.04	14.50
Brusly	86	44	65	60	0.22	1.69	5.99	14.92
Bunkie	83	41	66	60	0.00	1.49	10.66	14.81
LSU-Alexandria	84	38	61	59	0.02	2.30	10.35	14.12
Extreme/Average	86	38	64	60	0.08	1.83	9.00	14.52
<b>6. East-Central</b>								
Bogalusa	84	41	64	60	0.05	2.35	5.61	15.90
LSU-Baton Rouge	85	43	65	60	0.28	1.62	6.26	13.97
LSU-Clinton	84	41	62	59	1.10	3.00	8.24	15.29
LSU-Hammond	83	38	64	60	0.09	2.49	6.95	15.41
Slidell	81	42	65	61	0.37	0.89	6.85	15.18
Extreme/Average	85	38	64	61	0.38	1.67	6.69	15.28
<b>7. Southwest</b>								
De Ridder	82	44	64	60	0.29	4.30	12.01	14.23
Jennings	81	43	65	61	0.08	2.07	10.21	12.70
LSU-Crowley	81	46	65	61	0.00	0.99	7.84	13.08
Extreme/Average	82	43	65	62	0.19	3.19	11.11	12.73
<b>8. South-Central</b>								
Donaldsonville	84	44	65	61	0.28	1.56	6.20	13.55
LSU-Jeanerette	82	45	66	61	0.03	0.81	4.28	12.16
Morgan City	81	50	67	61	0.00	0.94	6.15	13.12
Extreme/Average	84	44	66	62	0.10	1.10	5.54	12.89
<b>9. Southeast</b>								
Galliano	82	51	67	62	0.05	0.07	4.76	13.88
Houma	82	50	67	63	0.39	0.94	6.77	13.07
NO Audubon Park	83	52	68	64	0.17	0.43	5.74	13.41
Reserve	83	47	67	61	0.53	1.47	6.75	15.26
Extreme/Average	83	47	67	63	0.29	0.73	6.01	14.08
State Averages	88	31	63	60	0.65	2.98	10.42	13.83

M = Missing ( ) = Extremes Yr. To Date = Through March 19, 2006

The Louisiana Crop-Weather Summary (USPS-0273-8848) is published weekly beginning the second week of March and ending the first week of December by the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, USDA-NASS, Louisiana Field Office, 5825 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806. Subscription is free to respondents and cooperators, \$12.00 annually to all others, and is available from the above address. Periodicals postage is paid at Baton Rouge, LA 70806 and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Louisiana Crop-Weather Summary, PO Box 65038, Baton Rouge, LA 70896.

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 Jackson, MS 39201

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 (ISSN 0273-8848) (225) 922-1362  
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