

LOUISIANA CROP WEATHER SUMMARY

For Crop Week Ending Sunday, March 20, 2005

Released March 21, 2005

Volume 05 Number 03

CROP INFORMATION

Days suitable for fieldwork: 3.2

Soil moisture supplies: 51% adequate and 49% surplus

Field Crops Report

Louisiana producers were once again limited on field activities due to the continuing wet conditions across the state. Rice producers made little progress with aerial planting. Much dryer conditions are needed for planting rice. Corn planting has begun, but is behind last year's average of 31 percent. Sugarcane producers were applying fertilizers, beginning to cultivate row middles and plowing old stubble. Some wheat fields continued to show rust symptoms.

Fruits, Vegetables and Specialty Crops

Some vegetable producers were able to plow early in the week, but they are still behind schedule. Strawberry producers continued harvesting and selling their crop. Crawfish harvesting continued, with reports of better catches compared to previous years.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Spring pastures continued to green up and ryegrass was growing well. Cattlemen were fertilizing pastures as weather permitted. Spring calving was in full swing, while most producers have stopped supplemental feeding.

PERCENT OF PROGRESS					
CROP	STAGE	Current Week	Last Week	2004	5 YR AVG
Corn	Planted	22	0	31	23
Land Preparation	Spring plowing	19	13	28	37
Rice	Planted	3	0	11	9
Wheat	Headed	1	0	3	9

CONDITIONS IN PERCENTAGES					
ITEM	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
Sugarcane	0	18	57	25	0
Wheat	0	21	38	41	0
Livestock	1	12	49	35	3
Vegetables	2	29	52	17	0
Pasture	4	28	51	16	1



**LOUISIANA OFFICE OF STATE CLIMATOLOGY, LSU, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
LOUISIANA WEATHER SUMMARY FROM 03/14/05 TO 03/20/05**

	AIR TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				4 INCH SOIL TEMPERATURE		
	MAX	MIN	AVG	NRM	TOTAL	WEEKLY FOUR WEEKS	YR. TO DATE	NORM	MAX	MIN	AVG
1. Northwest											
LSU-Bossier City	85	35	53	57	0.11	1.57	8.98	12.08			
Minden	82	(30)	52	56	0.04	1.54	8.12	13.16			
Mooringsport	82	35	53	MM	0.01	2.20	8.37	11.22			
Extreme/Average	85	30	53	58	0.05	1.77	8.49	12.38			
2. North-Central											
LSU-Calhoun	MM	MM	MM	58	0.61	2.38	9.99	14.28			
LTI-Ruston	MM	MM	MM	57	M.MM	1.95	12.72	13.90			
ULM-Monroe	81	35	51	57	1.40	3.79	10.34	14.81			
Winnfield	(87)	34	52	58	1.33	3.38	10.51	13.99			
Extreme/Average	87	34	51	58	1.11	2.88	10.25	14.19			
3. Northeast											
Lake Providence	79	39	52	56	0.64	3.56	11.30	15.00			
LSU-St Joseph	80	35	53	59	1.59	4.26	12.15	15.30	MM	MM	MM
LSU-Winnsboro	81	36	53	57	1.24	4.29	12.40	14.60			
Tallulah	79	39	52	58	0.76	3.72	11.77	15.10			
Extreme/Average	81	35	52	58	1.06	4.09	12.11	14.96	MM	MM	MM
4. West-Central											
Leesville	84	31	54	60	1.26	3.90	9.85	13.87			
LSU-Rosepine	82	33	54	59	1.32	4.17	13.61	13.71	MM	MM	MM
Natchitoches	85	38	53	58	0.98	4.18	10.62	13.60			
Extreme/Average	85	31	54	59	1.19	4.08	10.62	13.61	MM	MM	MM
5. Central											
Alexandria	82	40	55	60	1.73	4.86	13.97	14.69			
Brusly	81	35	56	61	0.82	3.26	10.84	15.08			
Bunkie	78	39	54	60	1.62	4.48	13.07	15.00			
LSU-Alexandria	80	34	52	59	0.79	2.92	13.29	14.30	MM	MM	MM
Extreme/Average	82	34	54	60	1.24	3.88	12.79	14.70	MM	MM	MM
6. East-Central											
Bogalusa	82	33	54	60	1.46	3.17	10.23	16.11			
LSU-Baton Rouge	80	35	56	61	1.84	3.91	9.64	14.13			
LSU-Clinton	78	31	52	59	1.02	2.65	12.15	15.47			
LSU-Hammond	81	33	54	60	1.38	3.24	10.28	15.61	MM	MM	MM
Slidell	78	32	56	61	2.68	5.29	14.04	15.37			
Extreme/Average	82	31	55	61	1.68	3.65	10.58	15.48	MM	MM	MM
7. Southwest											
De Ridder	81	36	55	60	0.85	4.73	10.69	14.40			
Jennings	75	41	54	61	1.62	5.23	14.91	12.85			
LSU-Crowley	73	40	54	61	1.07	4.28	12.70	13.23	MM	MM	MM
Extreme/Average	81	36	54	62	1.24	5.23	14.91	12.88	MM	MM	MM
8. South-Central											
Donaldsonville	78	37	56	61	1.39	4.23	11.50	13.72			
LSU-Jeanerette	77	38	55	61	1.66	5.42	13.69	12.30			
Morgan City	75	42	56	61	1.13	6.39	15.10	13.27			
Extreme/Average	78	37	55	62	1.39	5.35	13.43	13.04			
9. Southeast											
Galliano	76	36	59	63	4.22	8.86	17.25	14.06			
Houma	78	40	57	63	3.43	11.33	22.72	13.23	MM	MM	MM
NO Audubon Park	79	39	60	64	2.32	7.66	17.24	13.58			
Reserve	78	42	58	62	2.68	7.57	18.07	15.45			
Extreme/Average	79	36	58	63	3.16	8.86	18.82	14.26	MM	MM	MM
State											
State Averages	87	30	54	60	1.41	4.54	12.79	14.00	MM	MM	MM

M = Missing () = Extremes Yr. To Date = Through March 20, 2005

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