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In cooperation with:
 Louisiana State Department of
 Agriculture & Forestry
 Louisiana State University
 Agriculture Center

LOUISIANA CROP WEATHER SUMMARY

For Crop Week Ending Sunday, May 8, 2005

Released May 9, 2005

Volume 05 Number 10

CROP INFORMATION

Days suitable for fieldwork: 6.7

Soil moisture supplies: 25% very short, 42% short and 33% adequate

Field Crops Report

Dry, cool and windy weather conditions continued to hinder Louisiana producers last week. The state is currently 5 inches below the normal rainfall for the year. Crop conditions continued to decline as the weather remained uncooperative. Rice planting continued, but the dry conditions were causing problems for producers. Reports of salt water was found in surface water pumped for rice irrigation. Soybean planting was slow last week as conditions were too dry and windy. Many soybean producers have stopped planting until rain is received. Sugarcane producers were fertilizing fields and plowing out old stubble. Sweet potato planting began.

Fruits, Vegetables and Specialty Crops

Vegetable producers were working crops and selling turnips, beets and carrots. Rain was needed to help improve vegetable conditions. Crawfish producers continued draining ponds as commercial harvesting was slowing down.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Spring pasture and hay growth was limited due to the dry conditions. Cattlemen were cutting hay and fertilizing pasture. Cattlemen were also busy working cattle.

PERCENT OF PROGRESS					
CROP	STAGE	Current Week	Last Week	2004	5 YR AVG
Corn	Emerged	100	99	100	100
Cotton	Planted	74	54	74	72
	Emerged	47	20	55	47
Hay	First Cutting	16	7	15	29
Rice	Planted	92	80	92	93
	Emerged	80	64	86	83
Sorghum	Planted	78	58	78	67
	Emerged	65	42	64	51
Soybeans	Planted	47	37	52	44
	Emerged	35	19	43	31
Sweet potatoes	Planted	4	0	6	7
Wheat	Headed	99	97	100	99
	Turning Color	50	14	51	66
Land Preparation	Spring plowing	97	94	94	95

CONDITIONS IN PERCENTAGES					
ITEM	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
Corn	0	11	34	55	0
Rice	0	5	54	37	4
Sorghum	0	4	54	42	0
Sugarcane	1	7	51	33	8
Wheat	0	8	50	40	2
Livestock	1	6	37	51	5
Vegetables	1	17	47	32	3
Pasture	5	14	46	34	1

LOUISIANA OFFICE OF STATE CLIMATOLOGY, LSU, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
 LOUISIANA WEATHER SUMMARY FROM 05/02/05 TO 05/08/05

	AIR TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				4 INCH SOIL TEMPERATURE		
	MAX	MIN	AVG	NRM	WEEKLY TOTAL	FOUR WEEKS	YR. TO DATE	NORM	MAX	MIN	AVG
1. Northwest											
LSU-Bossier City	86	46	63	70	0.05	4.66	15.64	19.47			
Minden	85	(40)	61	69	0.06	5.37	16.13	21.54			
Mooringsport	84	45	63	MM	0.05	2.56	13.59	17.42			
Extreme/Average	86	40	62	69	0.05	4.20	15.12	19.89			
2. North-Central											
LSU-Calhoun	81	43	61	69	0.05	3.03	16.81	22.42			
Homer/Hill Farm	82	42	60	68	0.00	5.62	18.85	21.65			
ULM-Monroe	82	46	62	70	0.01	3.17	16.58	23.89			
Winnfield	84	44	62	69	0.00	2.22	16.52	23.05			
Extreme/Average	84	42	61	69	0.02	3.51	17.19	22.63			
3. Northeast											
Lake Providence	82	45	63	69	0.00	3.45	18.12	25.07			
LSU-St Joseph	85	45	64	71	0.00	2.17	17.07	24.46	MM	MM	MM
LSU-Winnboro	84	46	63	70	0.00	3.85	18.88	23.79			
Tallulah	82	43	62	69	0.00	4.09	19.26	24.42			
Extreme/Average	85	43	63	70	0.00	3.39	18.33	24.38	MM	MM	MM
4. West-Central											
Leesville	85	41	62	70	0.04	1.28	13.48	21.44			
LSU-Rosepine	84	44	64	70	0.00	1.44	16.19	21.14	MM	MM	MM
Natchitoches	86	46	62	70	0.00	2.50	15.58	21.38			
Extreme/Average	86	41	63	70	0.01	1.28	15.08	21.29	MM	MM	MM
5. Central											
Alexandria	83	48	64	71	0.03	1.12	16.63	23.02			
Brusly	83	47	64	71	0.00	2.42	14.65	23.85			
Bunkie	84	50	65	71	0.00	2.60	18.31	24.28			
LSU-Alexandria	85	43	62	71	0.01	1.31	16.31	21.98	MM	MM	MM
Extreme/Average	85	43	64	72	0.01	1.86	16.48	23.16	MM	MM	MM
6. East-Central											
Bogalusa	82	47	63	71	0.00	6.76	21.24	25.22			
LSU-Baton Rouge	85	48	66	72	0.00	2.77	13.11	22.52			
LSU-Clinton	80	48	63	70	0.00	2.50	18.17	24.82			
LSU-Hammond	85	46	64	71	0.00	3.55	15.41	24.67	MM	MM	MM
Slideell	79	47	65	72	0.00	4.85	23.88	23.63			
Extreme/Average	85	46	64	72	0.00	3.16	14.26	24.74	MM	MM	MM
7. Southwest											
De Ridder	84	49	65	71	0.00	2.04	15.13	21.59			
Jennings	82	44	66	72	0.00	1.07	16.48	19.72	MM	MM	MM
LSU-Crowley	82	48	66	73	0.00	2.82	16.45	20.57	MM	MM	MM
Extreme/Average	84	44	66	72	0.00	1.98	16.47	19.97	MM	MM	MM
8. South-Central											
Donaldsonville	83	50	65	72	0.00	1.82	13.53	21.98			
LSU-Jeanerette	82	50	65	72	0.00	1.65	15.69	19.79			
Morgan City	82	56	68	72	0.00	1.65	17.45	20.42			
Extreme/Average	83	50	66	73	0.00	1.65	16.57	20.76			
9. Southeast											
Galliano	80	55	67	73	0.00	1.78	23.26	21.80			
Houma	80	54	66	73	0.00	1.63	25.81	20.74	MM	MM	MM
NO Audubon Park	83	57	70	74	0.00	4.26	23.79	21.72			
Reserve	81	51	66	72	0.00	2.38	21.20	23.87			
Extreme/Average	83	51	68	73	0.00	4.26	23.79	22.22	MM	MM	MM
State											
State Averages	86	40	64	71	0.01	2.80	17.40	22.24	MM	MM	MM

M = Missing () = Extremes Yr. To Date = Through May 08, 2005

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