

LOUISIANA CROP WEATHER SUMMARY

For Crop Week Ending Sunday, May 15, 2005

Released May 16, 2005

Volume 05 Number 11

CROP INFORMATION

Days suitable for fieldwork: 6.8

Soil moisture supplies: 41% very short, 45% short and 14% adequate

Field Crops Report

Louisiana producers continued to struggle with the dry conditions. Light showers were received across the state, but they did not improve field conditions. Crops were in need of rain and were beginning to show signs of drought stress. Producers continued planting crops at a slow rate, hoping for some rain to improve soil moisture. Rice producers were running wells non-stop to flood fields and applying herbicides and fertilizers. Sugarcane continued doing well, but rain would improve growth. Harvesting of wheat began.

Fruits, Vegetables and Specialty Crops

Harvesting of strawberries was completed. Some citrus fruit was beginning to show scab disease, and trees were dropping fruit. Vegetable producers were spraying tomato and bell peppers to control insects and diseases. Some vegetable producers began irrigating crops.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Cattle and hay producers were taking advantage of the dry conditions to harvest hay. Rain was needed to improve pasture growth and conditions.

PERCENT OF PROGRESS					
CROP	STAGE	Current Week	Last Week	2004	5 YR AVG
Cotton	Planted	92	74	84	83
	Emerged	72	47	71	69
Hay	First Cutting	30	16	17	38
Rice	Planted	96	92	95	96
	Emerged	89	80	91	91
Sorghum	Planted	86	78	84	79
	Emerged	70	65	75	67
Soybeans	Planted	59	47	59	55
	Emerged	47	35	49	43
Sweet potatoes	Planted	5	4	9	13
Wheat	Headed	100	99	100	100
	Turning Color	81	50	81	86
	Harvested	4	0	3	13
Land Preparation	Spring plowing	99	97	95	97

CONDITIONS IN PERCENTAGES					
ITEM	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
Corn	3	12	40	45	0
Cotton	2	10	42	41	5
Rice	0	4	52	38	6
Sorghum	0	7	51	42	0
Sugarcane	1	7	52	33	7
Wheat	0	6	42	50	2
Livestock	2	8	48	36	6
Vegetables	2	23	45	23	7
Pasture	7	20	50	23	0

LOUISIANA OFFICE OF STATE CLIMATOLOGY, LSU, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
 LOUISIANA WEATHER SUMMARY FROM 05/09/05 TO 05/15/05

	AIR				PRECIPITATION				4 INCH SOIL			
	TEMPERATURE				WEEKLY	FOUR	YR. TO	NORM	TEMPERATURE			
	MAX	MIN	AVG	NRM					TOTAL	WEEKS	DATE	MAX
1. Northwest												
LSU-Bossier City	88	58	73	72	0.00	0.41	15.64	20.56				
Minden	89	60	74	70	0.38	0.93	16.51	22.73				
Mooringsport	88	58	73	MM	0.10	0.37	13.69	18.19				
Extreme/Average	89	58	73	71	0.16	0.57	15.28	21.01				
2. North-Central												
LSU-Calhoun	89	(51)	73	71	0.64	2.27	17.45	23.66				
Homer/Hill Farm	86	58	72	70	0.34	1.06	19.19	22.80				
ULM-Monroe	91	58	74	72	0.18	2.16	16.76	25.22				
Winnfield	89	60	74	71	0.19	1.01	16.71	24.31				
Extreme/Average	91	51	73	71	0.34	1.63	17.53	23.89				
3. Northeast												
Lake Providence	90	63	76	71	0.26	2.52	18.61	26.43				
LSU-St Joseph	(94)	55	76	73	0.71	2.00	17.78	25.73	MM	MM	MM	
LSU-Winnboro	92	61	76	72	0.16	2.01	19.05	24.98				
Tallulah	90	62	76	71	0.48	3.21	20.01	25.80				
Extreme/Average	94	55	76	72	0.40	2.41	18.95	25.65	MM	MM	MM	
4. West-Central												
Leesville	89	58	75	72	1.17	1.34	14.65	22.70				
LSU-Rosepine	89	61	75	72	2.00	2.06	18.19	22.41	MM	MM	MM	
Natchitoches	90	61	76	72	0.20	0.78	15.78	22.71				
Extreme/Average	90	58	75	72	1.12	1.70	16.21	22.56	MM	MM	MM	
5. Central												
Alexandria	89	64	76	73	0.09	0.21	16.72	24.21				
Brusly	90	59	75	73	0.25	1.87	14.90	24.86				
Bunkie	90	51	70	73	0.29	1.49	18.60	25.68				
LSU-Alexandria	91	59	75	73	0.06	0.45	16.37	23.23	MM	MM	MM	
Extreme/Average	91	51	74	73	0.17	1.01	16.65	24.42	MM	MM	MM	
6. East-Central												
Bogalusa	90	56	74	73	0.07	3.36	21.31	26.48				
LSU-Baton Rouge	92	59	75	74	0.06	1.43	13.17	23.64				
LSU-Clinton	87	60	73	72	0.20	1.07	18.64	26.08				
LSU-Hammond	89	59	74	73	0.51	1.63	15.92	25.68	MM	MM	MM	
Slideell	87	60	73	74	0.28	3.43	25.05	25.00				
Extreme/Average	92	56	74	73	0.22	1.89	18.20	26.00	MM	MM	MM	
7. Southwest												
De Ridder	88	61	76	73	1.47	1.47	16.61	22.79				
Jennings	88	63	75	74	0.36	1.01	16.84	20.97	MM	MM	MM	
LSU-Crowley	88	60	76	74	0.30	2.78	16.78	21.88	MM	MM	MM	
Extreme/Average	88	60	75	74	0.71	1.75	16.81	21.23	MM	MM	MM	
8. South-Central												
Donaldsonville	90	63	75	74	0.21	1.69	14.27	22.96				
LSU-Jeanerette	89	63	74	74	0.34	1.45	16.03	20.90				
Morgan City	87	61	75	74	0.38	1.86	17.83	21.62				
Extreme/Average	90	61	75	75	0.31	1.67	16.04	21.88				
9. Southeast												
Galliano	87	64	75	74	0.02	0.84	23.83	23.11				
Houma	89	65	77	75	0.38	0.98	26.19	21.93	MM	MM	MM	
NO Audubon Park	89	64	77	76	0.16	2.54	24.96	22.84				
Reserve	88	62	74	74	0.19	3.80	23.72	24.99				
Extreme/Average	89	62	76	75	0.19	2.04	24.68	23.34	MM	MM	MM	
State												
State Averages	94	51	75	73	0.39	1.62	18.15	23.46	MM	MM	MM	

M = Missing () = Extremes Yr. To Date = Through May 15, 2005

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