

MONTHLY REPORT OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS

REPORT FOR:

MONTH

MAY

YEAR

2013

TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH2
NOAA / National Weather Service
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Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283

SIGNATURE

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METEOROLOGIST-IN-CHARGE

DATE

JUNE 15, 2013

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (NWS Instruction 10-924)



An X inside this box indicates that no flooding occurred within this hydrologic service area.

...Heavy Rains and Floods Occurred Across Southern Mississippi and Southeastern Louisiana in May...

May started with storms across coastal and southern Mississippi, as well as southeastern Louisiana. A series of weather systems produced significant rainfall almost daily through May 5th. Several areas measured rain totals of 2 to 4 inches during the week. By May 5th, areal average rain totals ranged up to 3.10 inches, which occurred over extreme southeastern Louisiana. Heavy rainfall also developed along the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

High pressure dominated the weather, before another front pushed southeast starting May 9th and produced heavy rainfall area-wide through May 12th. During that week, Houma, LA measured 9.78 inches of rain; 6.70 inches fell at Bayou Sorrel Lock in south-central Louisiana; and 6.65 inches fell at Thibodaux in southeast Louisiana. Areal average rainfall totals ranged from 0.49 inches over coastal Mississippi up to 4.16 inches over extreme southeastern Louisiana.

High pressure, anchored over the northern Gulf of Mexico, produced drier weather through May 19th. Little to no rain developed. By May 20th, a strong cold front tracked southeast before shifting back north. With that boundary, severe weather and heavy rainfall occurred, mainly over southwest Mississippi and south-central Louisiana. Bayou Sorrel Lock recorded nearly 6 inches of rain during the two-day period of May 22nd and 23rd. The front eventually moved across Louisiana and Mississippi on May 24th. Areal rainfall totals for the weather week ending May 26th ranged from around 0.5 inch over southeast Louisiana and coastal Mississippi to 1.61 inches over east-central Louisiana. Starting May 27th through the end of May, scattered rain developed. The greatest amounts were measured over east-central and southeast agricultural districts of Louisiana, where rain totals ranged from 0.1 inch to near 3 inches by May 31st.

Flooding...

The Atchafalaya River went into flood at Morgan City in late April and flooding continued into May. Routed water contributed to the flows on the Lower Mississippi River and the river rose to flood at Red River Landing on May 1st. At Morgan City and Red River Landing, the waters remained above the respective flood stages throughout May.

Over the first days of May, flooding developed at several locations in southeastern Louisiana and southern Mississippi. On May 2nd, flooding developed on the West Hobolochitto River at McNeill, MS; on the Biloxi River near Lyman, MS; on the Escatawpa River at Orange Grove, MS; and on the Lower Pearl River in Louisiana at Bogalusa. By May 7th, additional flooding had developed in Louisiana on the Lower Pearl River at Pearl River, as well as on the Pascagoula River at Graham Ferry, MS. Flooding ended at all locations by May 7th except at Bogalusa and Pearl River in Louisiana. All flooding on the Pearl River ended by May 22nd.

During mid-May, heavy rainfall and route waters produced flooding on the Lower Mississippi River at Baton Rouge. On May 31st, flooding developed at Killian on the Tickfaw River. Flooding ended at Baton Rouge and Killian on May 31st.

Extreme Rainfall for the Month (Inches and Departure from Normal)

Bayou Sorrel Lock, LA	16.11	+11.27	Plaquemine, LA	11.25	+6.32
Houma, LA	12.36	+7.01	Baton Rouge/Sherwood, LA	10.58	+5.22

Monthly Reports by Agricultural Region	Areal Average	Departure from Normal
Southwest Mississippi (1 Site)	5.17	N/A
South Central Mississippi (1 Site)	3.74	-0.75
Coastal Mississippi	6.26	+1.35
Central Louisiana (2 Sites)	8.64	+3.46
East Central Louisiana	6.36	+0.74
South Central Louisiana (7 Sites)	10.21	+5.29
Southeast Louisiana	7.35	+2.22

Drought...

Normal soil moisture conditions continued through May 2013.