



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Issue 27

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Harvest Gaining Momentum as Weather Permits

CROP PROGRESS

Sunday, October 1, 2006

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2005	5-Yr Avg.
Corn Harvested	93	87	83	83
Cotton Bolls Opening	89	84	91	89
Cotton Harvested	27	20	6	10
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	82	73	71	69
Soybeans Harvested	30	20	27	15
Peanuts Dug	12	4	42	49
Peanuts Combined	6	1	27	38

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Friday, September 29, 2006

Crop	Very Poor				
	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.	
	Percent				
Cotton	39	32	20	8	1
Soybeans	45	37	15	3	0
Peanuts	7	32	40	20	1
Pasture	30	28	31	9	2
Livestock	10	35	36	16	3

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	6.0	44	38	18	0
District 20	4.8	40	8	52	0
District 30	6.5	8	33	59	0
District 40	6.1	12	50	38	0
District 50	6.4	13	28	49	0
District 60	6.6	17	42	41	0
State: Current Week	6.1	26	37	37	0
State: Previous Week	5.6	28	35	36	1

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: Top Soil Moisture is still showing improvements as the week continued. There were cooler temperatures this past week that did not have a major impact on crop harvesting. Temperatures ranged from the high 30's to low 50's and the mid to upper 80's across the state. Evening lows ranged from the low to mid 40's throughout the state.

Cotton/Corn: Franklin County FSA Agent, Tim Reed stated the cotton harvest progressing satisfactorily. There are some fields yielding 200 to 250 lbs per acre, but most fields are picking 500 lbs or better. If rain holds off through mid-October, then there will be a bale average per acre. One farmer is harvesting 500 acres of corn

and he says it will average 30 bushels per acre. Mr. Reed also commented most of the corn fields averaged 50 to 80 bushels per acre. Autauga County Extension Agent, Leonard Kykendall, stated cotton defoliation and picking are terrible for the most part. The short cotton is green as in July and many defoliation failures are common. The cotton picking is underway by about half the farmers with the cotton tagging bad with yields, about half a bale or less. North Regional Agronomist, Charles Brumester, said that there was a little of rain fall in the area last week, also the farmers are making good progress in harvesting cotton. On the other hand, the yields are still coming up low. Conditions for this week look to be in the farmers favor for having faster pickings for cotton.

Peanuts/Soybeans: Kris Balkcom of the Wiregrass Research and Extension in Headland, commented having received little to no rain this past week. Most growers will start to dig their peanut crop this week. The ground conditions are getting drier and harder. Mr. Balkcom also stated that farmers will struggle trying to dig their peanuts out of the hard ground if they don't receive any rain. Mr. Brumester added that soybeans are being cut with an average yield between 10-20 bushels per acre. Progress for harvesting soybeans has been made with about 80 percent complete harvest. Last weeks cooler morning weather did not have any negative effects towards harvesting soybeans.

Tree/Nuts: Auburn Horticulturalist, Monte Nesbitt, stated Rainfall was absent during the past week, which is preferable for pecans and satumas, which are in late maturation/early ripening phase. Early pecan varieties in South Alabama are at the shuck split stage, indicating that harvest should be commencing within 14 days, pending weather. Early varieties that are near harvest include Elliott, Cape Fear and Oconee. Stuart and Desirable are making progress, but will require additional development time before shaking trees can commence. Quality (kernel filling) appears to be good; perhaps better than average for Baldwin and Mobile counties. Stinkbugs and leaffooted bugs are a serious concern for pecan orchards, cotton is being defoliated, peanut harvest is underway in earnest and soybeans are maturing.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Limestone County FSA Agent, Shane Seay stated having received several reports that army worms have destroyed some pasture acreage. The damage caused is as bad as the drought or worse. Winston County Extension Agent, Mike Henshaw also commented that armyworm problems in hayfields and pastures have been common. Macon County Extension Agent, John S. Pulliam, said that the rainfall has help pasture land recover and aided farmers in reducing feed cost.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather For the Period: Monday, September 25, 2006 To Sunday, October 1, 2006

Weather Station	Air Temperatures				Precipitation			Precipitation since Jan 1			Avg. 4" Soil Temp	GDD Base 50		GDD Base 60	
	High	Low	Avg	DFN	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	% Normal		Total	DF	Total	DFN
<i>District 10 Northwest Alabama - Tennessee Valley 25% of Corn Acreage, 32% of Cotton Acreage, 41% of Soybean Acreage.</i>															
Muscle Shoals	85	46	66	-3	0.05	-0.85	2	36.85	-3.63	91		115	-14	45	-18
Russellville	83	43	64	-3	0.06	-0.86	1	33.36	-9.30	78		110	-1	41	-8
Belle Mina	85	43	64	-4	0.01	-0.78	1	29.12	-12.27	70	71	108	-12	38	-18
Huntsville Ag	84	44	65	-3	0.02	-0.86	1	30.30	-13.02	70		109	-17	39	-22
Hamilton	85	39	62	-6	0.00	-0.95	0	32.84	-12.62	72		98	-19	31	-23
<i>District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 22% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 23% of Soybean Acreage.</i>															
Anniston AP	82	45	65	-5	0.49	-0.25	2	33.70	-8.01	81		106	-30	36	-32
Cullman Ag	81	45	64	-4	0.00	-1.08	0	39.40	-5.86	87	70	105	-14	36	-19
Sand Mountain	79	43	62	-5	0.79	-0.18	2	32.60	-9.66	77	70	93	-19	25	-24
Gadsden AP	81	43	64	-5	0.53	-0.24	2	29.58	-13.37	69		96	-30	28	-33
Bridgeport	81	43	61	-5	0.36	-0.58	3	37.33	-7.69	83		91	-20	23	-26
Guntersville	81	44	63	-6	0.35	-0.56	4	31.30	-9.54	77		112	-22	42	-26
<i>District 30 North Central Alabama - 10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 6% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees.</i>															
Thorsby	85	46	67	-4	0.09	-0.71	1	30.28	-13.79	69	74	128	-8	58	-10
Talladega	82	44	64	-6	0.87	0.01	2	33.17	-11.33	75		105	-26	35	-28
Birmingham AP	83	47	67	-3	0.09	-0.72	2	45.23	2.80	107		122	-14	52	-16
Alabaster	80	48	66	-4	0.11	-0.68	1	39.55	-5.48	88		115	-22	45	-25
Pinson	84	42	64	-4	0.07	-0.79	1	33.09	-10.88	75		106	-15	36	-20
Opelika Wtr Plt	87	44	64	-6	0.33	-0.49	1	33.15	-11.87	74		110	-27	41	-29
Alexander City	88	45	65	-5	1.20	0.35	1	34.83	-10.07	78		119	-15	49	-18
Tuscaloosa AP	85	45	67	-5	0.00	-0.71	0	33.47	-9.25	78		119	-29	49	-30
Jasper	83	43	63	-5	0.10	-0.79	1	41.50	-2.74	94		107	-13	37	-18
<i>District 40 South Central Alabama - Black Belt 9% of Corn Acreage, 12% of Cotton Acreage, 13% of Soybeans Acreage, 21% of Pecan Trees.</i>															
Union Springs	89	45	68	-4	0.34	-0.42	2	26.82	-16.67	62		132	-16	62	-17
Marion Junction	89	46	68	-3	0.03	-0.72	1	23.19	-18.85	55	77	137	-4	67	-5
Montgomery AP	86	47	68	-5	0.25	-0.56	2	30.22	-11.58	72		129	-30	59	-31
Livingston	88	44	66	-4	0.60	-0.17	1	32.44	-11.12	74		128	-13	58	-15
<i>District 50 Southwest Alabama - Coastal Plain 11% of Corn Acreage, 20% of Cotton Acreage, 13% of Soybean Acreage, 32% of Peanut Acreage, 51% of Pecan Trees.</i>															
Bay Minette	87	52	69	-5	0.40	-0.61	1	38.03	-15.27	71		144	-24	74	-24
Brewton AG	87	47	69	-3	0.32	-0.53	1	39.23	-12.34	76	75	137	-12	67	-13
Thomasville	86	49	69	-4	0.71	-0.04	1	33.98	-11.17	75		137	-14	67	-14
Mobile Bates	87	53	71	-5	0.89	-0.19	1	30.72	-21.03	59		147	-25	77	-23
<i>District 60 Southeast Alabama - Wiregrass 23% of Corn Acreage, 27% of Cotton Acreage, 4% of Soybean Acreage, 64% of Peanut Acreage, 23% of Pecan Trees.</i>															
Eufaula Wildlife	88	48	69	-4	0.35	-0.33	1	36.29	-3.88	90		136	-13	66	-14
Troy Municipal	88	46	68	-5	0.98	0.29	1	29.31	-12.21	71		128	-26	58	-26
Highland Home	86	42	64	-8	0.49	-0.28	1	35.76	-8.64	81		111	-39	43	-38
Geneva Ag	91	45	68	-6	0.10	-0.71	1	33.90	-12.00	74	81	132	-30	62	-30
Headland	89	52	70	-3	0.29	-0.44	1	25.86	-19.00	58	85	146	-10	76	-10
Dothan	91	49	70	-3	0.33	-0.45	1	30.27	-13.52	69		143	-16	73	-16

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Air and Soil Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit. PCT of Norm : Cumulative Rainfall since January 1 as a percent of normal (using 1961-90 normals period) , 2006 Weather data prepared By AWIS, Inc., For more weather information visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955.

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