



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Issue 28

Julie Schmidt, Ag. Statistician

Rainfall Needed for Peanut Harvest and Pastures

CROP PROGRESS

Sunday, October 8, 2006

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2005	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Harvested	96	93	91	90
Cotton Bolls Opening	93	89	95	93
Cotton Harvested	38	27	17	22
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	89	82	80	80
Soybeans Harvested	40	30	35	22
Peanuts Dug	21	12	59	65
Peanuts Combined	12	6	42	54

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Friday, October 6, 2006

Crop	Very Poor				
	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.	
Percent					
Cotton	38	33	20	8	1
Soybeans	42	40	15	3	0
Peanuts	7	34	37	20	2
Pasture	31	31	27	9	2
Livestock	9	34	36	18	3

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	6.5	48	40	12	0
District 20	6.2	36	17	47	0
District 30	7.0	9	40	51	0
District 40	6.8	48	30	22	0
District 50	6.7	15	37	48	0
District 60	7.0	22	54	24	0
State: Current Week	6.7	35	39	26	0
State: Previous Week	6.1	26	37	37	0

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: Temperatures during the past week were as many as six degrees above normal, with little or no rain received across most of the state. Soil moisture remains mostly very short or short. Daytime highs ranged from 85 in northern Alabama to 93 along the coast. Overnight lows varied from 41 in northwestern areas of the state to 56 in Mobile.

Cotton/Corn: Very light rains in Franklin County hindered harvest during the past week. Tim Reed, Franklin County Extension Agent reported that cotton yields have ranged from 250 to 850 pounds per acre. The average yield is expected to be as high as a bale per acre or better once all fields have been harvested. Donald Mann in the Jackson County FSA office commented that cotton yields in the county are

coming in with most around 500 pounds per acre. Leonard Kuykendall mentioned that Autauga County farmers are still defoliating some fields. Those producers that have completed harvest have seen yields run from less than a half bale to just under a bale per acre. John S. Pulliam stated that Macon County cotton growers have started harvesting their crop. James D. Miles, Regional Horticulturist at the Jon Archer Agricultural Center noted that cotton plants in Mobile County are putting on new growth and setting new bolls. The bolls on the lower part of the plants are open, and ready for harvest. However, the number of bolls is down due to the drought experienced throughout the summer. Mr. Reed indicated that the average yield for Franklin County corn will be around 50 bushels per acre. Corn yields in Jackson County ranged from 10 to 150 bushels per acre, with the average falling between 50 and 60 bushels per acre.

Peanuts/Soybeans: Dallas Hartzog, Peanut Agronomist at the Wiregrass Research and Extension Center stated that peanut harvest is underway across the thirty counties that now produce peanuts. The dry weather has negatively impacted yields and quality grades of most peanut stands. Hulls are thicker, and out-turn in shelling peanuts will be less because the crop did not develop normally. Many growers are waiting to start digging in hopes of warm temperatures and moisture during the month of October to allow for more crop maturity. Mr. Kuykendall indicated that producers have begun digging peanuts in Autauga County. Mr. Miles reported that peanut stands in Mobile County are trying to recover with the recent rains that have fallen. Mr. Reed mentioned that all soybean fields in Franklin County will probably be combined, and yields will range from 15 to 30 bushels per acre. Mr. Mann noted that Jackson County soybeans are yielding between 15 to 20 bushels per acre.

Vegetables/Other: Doug Chapman, Regional Horticulturist commented that although soil conditions are dry, enough moisture remains to plant winter vegetables and cover crops. Late apples and the short supply of fall pumpkins are being harvested. Strawberry growers are busy planting new plants. Mr. Miles stated that fall vegetables are beginning to play out except for greens. The pecan crop looks better than expected, with approximately 30 to 50 percent of a normal crop. Satsumas are also reported to be in good condition.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Pasture conditions have improved with the help of rains over the past two weeks, but most livestock producers are experiencing major hay shortages going into the winter months. Mr. Pulliam reported that farmers in Macon County have made their last hay cutting for the year. Jimmy Smitherman, Montgomery County Extension Agent noted that some of the fall and winter grazing that has been planted is dying as a result of the lack of adequate moisture. Livestock are being maintained on hay supplies in numerous areas.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather For the Period: Monday, October 2, 2006 To Sunday, October 8, 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	90	49	69	4	0.00	-0.76	0	36.85	-4.39	89		136	29	66	20
Russellville	88	48	65	3	0.00	-0.80	0	33.36	-10.10	77		110	20	40	7
Belle Mina	92	41	67	3	0.05	-0.65	1	29.17	-12.92	69	72	121	22	55	15
Huntsville Ag	89	46	69	4	0.07	-0.67	1	30.37	-13.69	69		133	27	63	18
Hamilton	90	41	68	5	0.00	-0.80	0	32.84	-13.42	71		126	31	58	21
<i>District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 22% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 23% of Soybean Acreage.</i>															
Anniston AP	88	50	70	5	0.00	-0.65	0	33.70	-8.66	80		146	31	76	27
Cullman Ag	87	45	66	2	0.00	-0.89	0	39.40	-6.75	85	71	117	19	48	8
Sand Mountain	86	47	67	5	0.00	-0.78	0	32.60	-10.44	76	70	124	33	55	20
Gadsden AP	88	46	67	3	0.00	-0.66	0	29.58	-14.03	68		124	19	54	11
Bridgeport	85	45	65	3	0.02	-0.83	1	37.35	-8.52	81		113	23	44	10
Guntersville	86	47	67	2	0.07	-0.67	1	31.37	-10.21	75		131	18	61	11
<i>District 30 North Central Alabama - 10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 6% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees.</i>															
Thorsby	90	51	72	6	0.00	-0.68	0	30.28	-14.47	68	74	154	38	84	33
Talladega	87	46	68	3	0.05	-0.68	1	33.22	-12.01	73		132	21	62	15
Birmingham AP	90	48	72	6	0.03	-0.64	1	45.26	2.16	105		157	41	87	36
Alabaster	87	52	71	5	0.00	-0.66	0	39.55	-6.14	87		147	29	77	26
Pinson	88	46	69	6	0.10	-0.60	1	33.19	-11.48	74		142	42	72	32
Opelika Wtr Plt	86	48	69	2	0.40	-0.33	1	33.55	-12.20	73		140	24	70	19
Alexander City	90	48	69	4	0.00	-0.77	0	34.83	-10.84	76		138	25	68	19
Tuscaloosa AP	91	46	71	4	0.00	-0.67	0	33.47	-9.92	77		149	22	79	19
Jasper	89	48	68	5	0.00	-0.80	0	41.50	-3.54	92		130	33	60	22
<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	92	49	73	6	0.00	-0.65	0	26.82	-17.32	61		173	46	103	44
Marion Junction	93	49	73	6	0.00	-0.65	0	23.19	-19.50	54	79	165	45	95	41
Montgomery AP	92	51	74	5	0.00	-0.63	0	30.22	-12.21	71		166	27	96	27
Livingston	93	44	72	5	0.78	0.01	1	33.22	-11.11	75		156	37	87	33
<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	91	53	75	4	0.00	-0.80	0	38.03	-16.07	70		180	28	110	28
Brewton AG	93	50	74	6	0.36	-0.37	1	39.59	-12.71	76	78	174	46	104	44
Thomasville	91	48	73	5	0.45	-0.20	1	34.43	-11.37	75		171	39	101	38
Mobile Bates	91	56	76	5	0.02	-0.80	1	30.74	-21.83	58		182	28	112	28
<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	90	51	73	5	0.06	-0.50	1	37.46	-3.27	92		170	42	100	41
Troy Municipal	91	47	72	4	0.00	-0.59	0	29.31	-12.80	70		155	21	85	21
Highland Home	89	45	69	0	0.00	-0.61	0	35.76	-9.25	79		138	6	68	5
Geneva Ag	93	48	72	2	0.00	-0.72	0	33.90	-12.72	73	82	163	20	93	21
Headland	89	53	74	6	0.00	-0.64	0	25.86	-19.64	57	85	180	42	110	42
Dothan	93	52	75	5	0.00	-0.65	0	30.27	-14.17	68		173	32	103	33

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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POSTAGE PAID
at MONTGOMERY, AL



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