



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



BILL WEAVER, DIRECTOR
USDA/NASS ALABAMA FIELD OFFICE

RON SPARKS, COMMISSIONER
ALABAMA DEPT. OF AG. AND INDUSTRIES

PO Box 240578, Montgomery, AL 36124-0578 ● 1 (800) 832-4181 ● RELEASED: October 22, 2007 -- 3:00 P.M.
Visit our website at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/al> **Issue 30**

Julie Schmidt, Ag. Statistician

Isolated Rain Showers Too Little Too Late

The data reflects the week ending: **October 21, 2007.**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Cotton Bolls Opening	98	96	97	97
Cotton Harvested	52	38	55	42
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	95	91	95	94
Soybeans Harvested	51	40	58	42
Peanuts Dug	56	46	46	77
Peanuts Combined	45	33	32	66

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor				
	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.	
	Percent				
Cotton	40	28	23	8	1
Soybeans	53	27	19	1	0
Peanuts	16	25	33	24	2
Livestock	41	18	26	15	0
Pasture & Range	50	28	18	4	0

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short			
		Short	Adequate	Surplus	
		Percent			
District 10	6.6	78	21	1	0
District 20	6.0	87	13	0	0
District 30	6.7	81	19	0	0
District 40	5.5	56	33	11	0
District 50	4.3	14	9	59	18
District 60	5.9	33	44	22	1
State: Previous Week	6.9	66	28	6	0
State: Current Week	5.9	61	27	11	1

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS: General: The substantial accumulation of rainfall totaled at many weather stations during the past week, did very little to alleviate the worsening drought conditions experienced by most of the state. The U.S. Drought Monitor categorized 73.0 percent of Alabama as suffering from exceptional drought conditions compared to 58.8 percent a week ago, and none at the start of the calendar year. Donald Mann in the Jackson County FSA office stated that most of the county missed the rain again, with the majority of areas only receiving 0.25 inches or less. Temperatures for the past week remained above average, reaching as much 12 degrees warmer than normal in Pinson for this time of year. Daytime highs ranged from 83 degrees in Sand Mountain and Bridgeport to a sweltering 92 degrees in Montgomery. Overnight lows varied from a chilly 40 degrees in Russellville to 53

degrees in Headland. All weather stations reported receiving some precipitation during the past week. However, the total rainfall differed drastically not only from the northern to southern areas of the state, but also within Districts. Thorsby saw the lowest rainfall at 0.06 inches over a two-day period, while Geneva received a torrential 7.00 inches in four days.

Soybeans: The state's soybean harvest moved forward at a pace slower than last year, but ahead of the five-year average. Mr. Mann added that most soybean crops in Jackson County were worse than expected, with many farms realizing yields that ranged from 5 to 10 bushels per acre.

Cotton/Peanuts: In spite of the considerable amounts of rain that fell across the state, cotton harvest leapt forward by 14 percent, with the most progress taking place in Districts 10, 20, 30, and 40. Mr. Mann reported that cotton yields in Jackson County had ranged from as low as 150 to as high as 800 pounds per acre, with most yields between 300 to 500 pounds per acre. Leonard Kuykendall, Autauga County Extension Agent, noted that producers in the county were busy picking "sorry cotton." Covington County producers still had a number of cotton fields that had not been defoliated or picked. Russell C. Parrish, Jr., Crenshaw County Extension Agent, stated that most of the cotton in the county was about ready for picking, but was no more than knee high. Peanut harvest progressed well ahead of last year, but 21 percent behind the five-year average. Mr. Parrish also indicated that some peanuts in Crenshaw County had been plowed up and left for the insurance adjusters to inspect. A good majority of these peanut stands lacked development, only put on fruit near the main root of the plant, and were full of empty peanut hulls.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Pastures deteriorated as reporters rated a larger percentage in very poor condition during the past week. More water sources were drying up, and practically all livestock producers were feeding what hay and roughage supplies remained. Mr. Mann mentioned that Jackson County producers were waiting for soil moisture levels to increase before sowing their winter wheat crop. Alabama's livestock were reported in mostly very poor or poor condition, as the available feedstuffs were too scarce to warrant any improvement in body condition scores.

COMING SOON:

2007 | **CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE**
YOUR VOICE. YOUR FUTURE. YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather for the Period: Monday, October 15, 2007 To Sunday, October 21, 2007

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	DFN	Total	DFN
District 10 Northwest Alabama - Tennessee Valley 32% of Corn Acreage, 32% of Cotton Acreage, 39% of Soybean Acreage.															
Muscle Shoals	88	46	70	11	1.18	0.50	4	27.24	-15.28	64		141	68	71	48
Russellville	87	40	68	11	1.12	0.42	3	26.13	-18.64	58		131	75	63	50
Belle Mina	85	45	69	11	0.78	0.08	3	19.99	-23.39	46	76	139	73	69	51
Huntsville Ag	85	48	70	11	0.95	0.25	3	22.76	-22.60	50		144	70	74	51
Hamilton	88	42	67	9	1.31	0.61	2	30.62	-16.94	64		122	61	53	39
District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 21% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 35% of Soybean Acreage.															
Anniston AP	85	46	71	10	0.14	-0.42	2	16.69	-26.74	38		150	68	80	55
Cullman Ag	84	43	67	9	1.31	0.61	3	24.02	-23.69	50	70	129	63	59	41
Sand Mountain	83	47	67	10	0.10	-0.53	2	27.01	-17.84	60		130	70	60	44
Gadsden_AP	86	46	69	10	0.30	-0.31	2	22.95	-21.81	51		137	66	67	48
Bridgeport	83	43	66	10	0.99	0.22	3	26.11	-21.41	55		122	65	52	39
Guntersville	85	44	69	8	0.34	-0.29	3	25.87	-17.31	60		137	55	67	42
District 30 North Central Alabama - 10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 8% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees.															
Thorsby	89	47	71	10	0.06	-0.52	2	19.71	-26.16	43	72	151	67	81	54
Talladega	87	44	69	9	0.15	-0.48	2	20.67	-25.99	44		144	65	74	50
Birmingham_AP	89	50	72	11	0.09	-0.47	2	24.59	-19.58	56		155	73	85	59
Alabaster	89	46	70	9	0.18	-0.38	2	27.51	-19.23	59		143	59	73	47
Pinson	90	43	71	12	0.30	-0.28	3	22.58	-23.20	49		158	92	88	70
Opelika_Wtr_Plt	84	43	66	5	1.60	0.95	1	29.31	-17.66	62		125	41	55	28
Alexander_City	86	45	69	8	0.31	-0.39	1	24.75	-22.22	53		139	59	69	44
Tuscaloosa_AP	90	45	71	9	0.78	0.12	2	20.07	-24.52	45		147	56	77	45
Jasper	88	44	68	10	0.59	-0.18	3	27.55	-18.92	59		133	70	63	47
District 40 South Central Alabama - Black Belt 11% of Corn Acreage, 12% of Cotton Acreage, 9% of Soybeans Acreage, 21% of Pecan Trees.															
Union Springs	89	48	71	8	1.12	0.56	2	24.92	-20.27	55		150	57	80	48
Marion Junction	89	45	70	9	0.28	-0.32	2	23.27	-20.56	53	77	151	65	81	53
Montgomery_AP	92	49	72	8	1.83	1.34	2	31.19	-12.17	72		158	54	88	49
Livingston	89	44	70	8	0.90	0.08	2	32.39	-13.42	71		149	63	79	52
District 50 SW Alabama - Coastal Plain 6% of Corn Acreage, 20% of Cotton Acreage, 6% of Soybean Ac., 32% of Peanut Ac., 51% of Pecan Trees.															
Bay Minette	86	52	72	5	3.66	3.03	2	40.33	-14.97	73		163	39	93	36
Brewton_AG	87	49	72	9	3.78	3.13	3	48.58	-4.94	91	78	155	59	85	53
Thomasville	84	50	70	7	0.83	0.24	2	29.34	-17.78	62		150	52	80	46
Mobile_Bates	86	51	74	7	1.49	0.93	3	40.68	-13.01	76		171	47	101	46
District 60 SE Alabama - Wiregrass 20% of Corn Ac., 27% of Cotton Acreage, 3% of Soybean Ac., 64% of Peanut Acreage, 23% of Pecan Trees.															
Eufaula_Wildlife	87	49	70	7	1.49	1.00	2	37.82	-4.40	90		146	53	76	45
Troy_Municipal	90	46	70	7	2.39	1.87	3	31.70	-11.39	74		145	44	75	37
Highland Home	87	42	67	4	2.29	1.79	3	30.27	-15.69	66		125	26	55	19
Geneva_Ag	88	46	68	3	7.00	6.37	4	47.86	0.03	100	75	135	25	65	20
Headland	88	53	71	7	3.12	2.56	2	31.31	-15.26	67	81	155	50	85	46
Dothan	90	52	72	6	3.96	3.40	3	35.51	-9.97	78		152	40	82	36

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), 2007 Weather data prepared By AWIS, Inc. For more weather information visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955.

FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 36124
PERMIT NO. G-38

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Agricultural Statistician
P. O. Box 240578
Montgomery, Alabama 36124-0578

Official Business
Penalty For Private Use, \$300
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED