



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Issue 29

Julie Schmidt, Ag. Statistician

Freezing Temperatures Felt in Northern Alabama

CROP PROGRESS

Sunday, October 15, 2006

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2005	
			5-Yr Avg.	Percent
Corn Harvested	99	96	95	93
Cotton Bolls Opening	95	93	96	96
Cotton Harvested	48	38	32	32
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	93	89	92	89
Soybeans Harvested	52	40	51	30
Peanuts Dug	36	21	70	78
Peanuts Combined	25	12	47	65

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Friday, October 13, 2006

Crop	Very Poor				
	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.	Percent
Cotton	37	33	20	9	1
Soybeans	42	39	15	4	0
Peanuts	7	34	37	20	2
Pasture	31	31	28	8	2
Livestock	10	33	36	18	3

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	6.8	51	40	9	0
District 20	6.4	37	20	43	0
District 30	6.8	20	50	30	0
District 40	6.8	60	22	18	0
District 50	6.6	15	44	41	0
District 60	6.8	31	47	22	0
State: Current Week	6.8	41	38	21	0
State: Previous Week	6.7	35	39	26	0

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: Alabama producers experienced a week of scattered rainfall in limited amounts, as harvest continues to push forward. Most weather stations in the southern areas of the state reported receiving some precipitation. However, more is needed to help soften the ground in the peanut belt to ease digging in the fields. Temperatures over the past week were Fall-like, as weather stations reported averages up to seven degrees below normal. Daytime highs ranged from 78° in Sand Mountain and Guntersville to 86° throughout most of central and south Alabama. Weather stations in Belle Mina, Hamilton and Bridgeport reported nighttime low temperatures below freezing. Over-night lows varied from 29° in Belle Mina to 48° in Mobile. Tim Reed, Franklin County Extension Agent mentioned that more wheat acreage will be planted

in the county this year. John S. Pulliam, Macon County Extension Agent stated that row crop harvest continued as producers were harvesting the last cutting of hay.

Cotton/Corn: Nearly all cotton fields have plants with open bolls, as almost half of the crop has been harvested. Seventy percent is rated as being in very poor or poor condition. Leonard Kuykendall, Autauga County Extension Agent reported that defoliation is wrapping up, and dryland cotton acreage yields are still not good. Mr. Reed noted that the average yield for cotton in Franklin County will exceed 500 pounds per acre, and the average corn for grain yield is close to 50 bushels per acre. Corn harvest across the state is virtually complete.

Peanuts/Soybeans: Peanut harvest continued at a rapid pace during the past week. However, the cool, dry weather is not helping the late peanuts finish maturing. The hard, dry ground is presenting some growers with problems as they try to dig fields. Dallas Hartzog, Peanut Agronomist at the Wiregrass Research and Extension Center stated that yields and grades reflect the tremendous drought experienced this growing season. Reported grades remain in the sixties and low seventies with yields ranging from very poor to moderate. James R. Weeks, Extension Entomologist indicated that soil diseases such as cylindrocladium black rot and peanut root-knot nematode damage continue to be more evident as the season progresses. Late leafspot is becoming a problem in many of the peanut fields where growers are still waiting for maturity to occur. Soybean producers used the dry weather to make good progress on harvesting soybeans. Eighty-one percent of the crop is reported to be in very poor or poor condition. Dennis Delaney, Extension Soybean Specialist commented that yields from harvested fields have been in the low teen to low twenty bushel per acre range, with very few good spots of 40 to 50 bushels per acre. Several producers have been docked at the elevator for grain damaged as a result of extremely dry conditions. Asian soybean rust has been found in several counties across the state, but almost all fields are past the danger of yield loss. Mr. Reed commented that if current yields continue, the average soybean yield in Franklin County will be near 25 bushels per acre.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Darrell Rankins, Beef Cattle Nutritionist at Auburn University reported that most cattle producers are entering the winter months with about half of their usual hay supplies. Producers should examine their expected roughage needs, and plan accordingly by possibly culling some cows. Armyworm invasions have subsided as October has brought cooler temperatures. Winter annuals that have been planted on prepared seedbeds have received a few timely rain showers, and have produced good stands. The next two weeks should be the optimal time for over-seeding warm season sod pastures with ryegrass. Charlie Mason, Barbour County Extension Agent indicated that moisture is needed on recently planted winter grazing. Producers in Covington County are feeding cattle again.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather For the Period: Monday, October 9, 2006 To Sunday, October 15, 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	82	33	60	-4	0.01	-0.69	1	36.86	-5.08	88	68	72	-16	27	-4	
Russellville	81	34	58	-3	0.02	-0.69	1	33.38	-10.79	76		67	-3	21	0	
Belle Mina	81	29	57	-5	0.00	-0.69	0	29.17	-13.61	68		61	-19	20	-7	
Huntsville Ag	82	36	60	-3	0.01	-0.69	1	30.38	-14.38	68		72	-16	29	-2	
Hamilton	83	31	57	-4	0.08	-0.62	1	32.92	-14.04	70		60	-15	17	-6	
<i>District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 22% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 23% of Soybean Acreage.</i>																
Anniston AP	81	35	62	-2	0.00	-0.59	0	33.70	-9.25	78	69	86	-10	30	-4	
Cullman Ag	80	34	57	-5	0.00	-0.75	0	39.40	-7.50	84		61	-19	18	-9	
Sand Mountain	78	35	58	-4	0.29	-0.37	1	32.89	-10.81	75		63	-10	21	-3	
Gadsden AP	81	34	60	-3	0.03	-0.59	1	29.61	-14.62	67		73	-13	27	-2	
Bridgeport	80	30	57	-4	0.05	-0.72	1	37.40	-9.24	80		59	-11	19	-2	
Guntersville	78	34	60	-4	0.02	-0.62	2	31.39	-10.83	74		79	-17	31	-5	
<i>District 30 North Central Alabama - 10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 6% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees.</i>																
Thorsby	83	40	63	-2	0.05	-0.57	1	30.33	-15.04	67	70	99	1	36	-2	
Talladega	81	35	60	-4	0.00	-0.66	0	33.22	-12.67	72		77	-16	23	-9	
Birmingham AP	83	42	63	0	0.00	-0.59	0	45.26	1.57	104		96	-1	37	0	
Alabaster	82	41	63	-2	0.00	-0.57	0	39.55	-6.71	85		90	-8	29	-7	
Pinson	84	37	61	-1	0.04	-0.57	1	33.23	-12.05	73		86	5	32	5	
Opelika Wtr Plt	82	35	61	-4	0.45	-0.21	1	34.00	-12.41	73		87	-11	28	-10	
Alexander City	82	38	62	-2	0.00	-0.70	0	34.83	-11.54	75		95	0	36	1	
Tuscaloosa AP	83	38	63	-3	0.00	-0.63	0	33.47	-10.55	76		91	-15	32	-11	
Jasper	82	36	59	-3	0.00	-0.77	0	41.50	-4.31	91		69	-8	21	-3	
<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	86	37	65	-2	0.04	-0.53	1	26.86	-17.85	60	74	113	5	46	3	
Marion Junction	86	39	64	-1	0.00	-0.62	0	23.19	-20.12	54		106	5	42	4	
Montgomery AP	85	38	65	-3	0.07	-0.44	2	30.29	-12.65	71		106	-13	42	-9	
Livingston	85	38	63	-2	0.10	-0.67	1	33.32	-11.78	74		98	-2	33	-5	
<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	83	45	66	-4	0.25	-0.41	2	38.28	-16.48	70	72	123	-15	55	-12	
Brewton AG	86	37	64	-3	0.65	-0.01	1	40.24	-12.72	76		102	-8	41	-2	
Thomasville	84	44	66	0	0.04	-0.54	1	34.47	-11.91	74		113	1	46	0	
Mobile Bates	85	48	69	-2	0.15	-0.49	1	30.89	-22.32	58		131	-7	61	-7	
<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	84	40	65	-1	0.29	-0.20	1	37.75	-3.47	92	77	116	8	48	6	
Troy Municipal	84	38	64	-3	0.25	-0.28	2	29.56	-13.08	69		102	-14	37	-11	
Highland Home	82	35	61	-7	0.20	-0.32	2	35.96	-9.57	79		85	-28	25	-21	
Geneva Ag	86	37	63	-6	0.15	-0.52	1	34.05	-13.24	72		96	-29	34	-22	
Headland	84	45	66	-2	0.00	-0.59	0	25.86	-20.23	56		81	121	2	52	1
Dothan	86	41	66	-3	0.00	-0.56	0	30.27	-14.73	67		114	-11	47	-9	

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.

PERIODICALS
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