



# CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Issue 30

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## Welcomed Rainfall Limits Field Work, Slows Harvest

### CROP PROGRESS

Sunday, October 22, 2006

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2005		5-Yr Avg.
			Percent		
Cotton Bolls Opening	97	95	97	97	97
Cotton Harvested	56	48	36	40	40
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	95	93	95	93	93
Soybeans Harvested	59	52	57	35	35
Peanuts Dug	48	36	83	87	87
Peanuts Combined	33	25	71	76	76

### CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Friday, October 20, 2006

Crop	Very Poor				
	Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Peanuts	7	34	37	20	2
Pasture	27	30	31	11	1
Livestock	9	25	42	21	3

### TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	2.9	25	27	39	9
District 20	3.1	3	14	74	8
District 30	2.5	6	21	65	8
District 40	5.2	15	48	36	1
District 50	5.7	11	40	48	1
District 60	5.6	12	37	48	3
State: Current Week	4.3	15	32	48	5
State: Previous Week	6.8	41	38	21	0

### EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

**General:** Cool weather last week was followed with temperatures as much as 7 degrees above normal this week. Producers had a hard time getting any field work completed, as rain fell throughout most of the week. Growers in Districts 40, 50 and 60 were able to complete a little more fieldwork and get a larger portion of harvest finished. Daytime highs ranged from 73° in Sand Mountain to 89° in south Alabama. Over night lows varied from 31° in Belle Mina to 49° in Bay Minnette. All weather stations reported receiving precipitation during the week, with totals ranging from 1.17 inches over a four day period in Union Springs to 7.20 inches in six days in Jasper. Daniel Porch, Regional Extension Agent in the northeastern part of the state indicated that between 3 and 4.5 inches of rain fell across the area early in the week, with an additional 2 inches coming on Thursday,

October 19. T.H. Gregg reported that Etowah County experienced the wettest conditions since the spring. Cindy Owens in the Fayette County FSA office noted that the county received 4.72 inches of rain during a 24 hour period.

**Cotton:** Cotton harvest was sluggish throughout most counties as farmers fought wet weather, and field work was hindered. Substantial cotton acreage in northern Alabama remains unharvested as of yet. Approximately 2,400 acres of cotton harvested and to be harvested in Franklin County will reportedly average close to 600 pounds per acre. Leonard Kuykendall mentioned that some cotton yields in Autauga County are good, but most producers have harvested fields with poor yields. James D. Jones, Jr. commented that cotton yields in Henry County have ranged from 100 to 400 pounds per acre on most farms.

**Peanuts/Soybeans:** Peanut harvest was slow in some areas, but continued throughout most counties in the peanut belt where producers were able to complete more days of fieldwork. Mr. Kuykendall reported that preliminary yields in Autauga County are good. However, Mr. Jones added that Henry County peanuts are yielding and grading poorly, but that fields have softened to aid with harvest. Tim Reed, Franklin County Extension Agent noted that the first soybeans harvested yielded 35 bushels per acre, and that some fields that were too green for harvest last week are now quite soggy.

**Wheat/Vegetables:** Charles Burmester, Agronomist in northern Alabama reported that growers are planting more wheat and rye for use as winter cover crops this year. More wheat to be cut for grain is also being sown. Mr. Reed stated that a few hundred acres of wheat for grain will be seeded in Franklin County for harvest next year. A light to heavy frost across most of Jackson, DeKalb and Marshall Counties finished the summer vegetable crop harvest. Tomato harvest is winding down, with some volume still coming out of Blount and St. Clair Counties. Pumpkins are being harvested across northern Alabama, as entertainment farms are quite active.

**Pasture/Hay/Livestock:** Pasture conditions are likely to improve as substantial rainfall amounts fell across the state. John S. Pulliam, Macon County Extension Agent reported that pastures in the county have enough growth to allow cattle to graze. Most livestock remain in fair to good condition.

**ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather For the Period: Monday, October 16, 2006 To Sunday, October 22, 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	36	61	2	2.76	2.08	4	39.62	-3.00	93		81	10	27	6
Russellville	86	35	58	1	3.71	3.01	4	37.09	-7.78	83		81	27	28	16
Belle Mina	81	31	57	-3	2.64	1.94	4	31.81	-11.67	73	63	73	9	24	7
Huntsville Ag	82	35	61	1	2.50	1.80	3	32.88	-12.58	72		83	11	27	6
Hamilton	84	32	57	-2	5.42	4.72	4	38.34	-9.32	80		71	13	20	8
<i>District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 22% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 23% of Soybean Acreage.</i>															
Anniston AP	82	37	63	3	1.54	0.97	4	35.24	-8.28	81		102	23	42	18
Cullman Ag	81	36	58	-2	7.44	6.74	5	46.84	-0.76	98	64	74	10	19	2
Sand Mountain	73	32	55	-3	4.23	3.60	4	37.12	-7.21	84		65	6	14	-1
Gadsden AP	79	34	60	0	2.49	1.87	4	32.10	-12.75	72		77	8	19	1
Bridgeport	77	34	56	-2	2.66	1.89	5	40.06	-7.35	84		65	10	14	2
Guntersville	76	35	58	-3	5.25	4.62	6	36.64	-6.21	86		80	1	22	-2
<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	41	64	3	1.33	0.74	4	31.66	-14.30	69	68	115	33	55	30
Talladega	82	37	60	-2	2.96	2.32	4	36.18	-10.35	78		91	14	31	8
Birmingham AP	85	38	63	3	4.10	3.53	4	49.36	5.10	112		102	22	42	17
Alabaster	83	39	63	2	3.91	3.35	5	43.46	-3.36	93		98	16	38	13
Pinson	85	34	61	3	2.39	1.80	4	35.62	-10.25	78		93	29	34	17
Opelika Wtr Plt	84	39	63	2	1.94	1.28	3	35.94	-11.13	76		104	22	42	17
Alexander City	87	37	61	0	2.38	1.68	4	37.21	-9.86	79		96	18	36	12
Tuscaloosa AP	87	37	65	3	6.02	5.35	6	39.49	-5.20	88		107	18	47	16
Jasper	85	35	58	1	7.20	6.43	6	48.70	2.12	105		80	19	26	11
<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	88	39	67	4	1.17	0.61	4	28.03	-17.24	62		137	46	70	39
Marion Junction	87	34	64	2	1.85	1.24	4	25.04	-18.88	57	71	127	43	67	41
Montgomery AP	87	39	68	4	2.44	1.95	5	32.73	-10.70	75		128	27	67	29
Livingston	89	36	63	2	3.26	2.43	5	36.58	-9.35	80		121	37	61	36
<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	49	69	2	3.60	2.97	5	41.88	-13.51	76		149	27	80	25
Brewton AG	88	46	69	7	3.45	2.79	3	43.77	-9.85	82	71	153	60	85	54
Thomasville	87	40	65	2	2.35	1.75	4	36.82	-10.16	78		129	33	67	35
Mobile Bates	87	49	73	6	3.60	3.04	6	34.49	-19.28	64		160	39	90	37
<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	87	44	66	4	1.61	1.12	4	39.36	-2.35	94		134	43	66	36
Troy Municipal	87	43	69	6	1.58	1.05	2	31.14	-12.03	72		136	37	68	32
Highland Home	85	39	63	-1	2.36	1.85	3	38.32	-7.72	83		114	17	52	18
Geneva Ag	88	43	68	4	3.75	3.12	2	37.80	-10.12	79	76	145	37	75	32
Headland	87	48	69	5	2.08	1.51	2	27.94	-18.72	60	82	156	53	86	48
Dothan	89	48	71	6	2.03	1.47	2	32.30	-13.26	71		150	40	80	35

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](http://www.awis.com) or call 1-888-798-9955.

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