



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Issue 31

Julie Schmidt, Ag. Statistician

Producers Ready for Sunshine After Second Week of Wet Weather

CROP PROGRESS

Sunday, October 29, 2006

Crop	This Week		Last Week	5-Yr Avg.
	Week	Week		
	Percent			
Cotton Bolls Opening	98	97	98	99
Cotton Harvested	64	56	58	53
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	97	95	97	96
Soybeans Harvested	68	59	64	44
Peanuts Dug	62	48	93	93
Peanuts Combined	49	33	85	86

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Friday, October 27, 2006

Crop	Very				
	Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Peanuts	6	33	38	21	2
Pasture	24	26	32	16	2
Livestock	8	15	41	30	6

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
District 10	4.5	23	23	44	10
District 20	3.0	2	3	60	35
District 30	4.3	4	15	65	16
District 40	4.5	10	44	35	11
District 50	4.5	1	24	69	6
District 60	5.3	12	21	65	2
State: Current Week	4.5	12	24	53	11
State: Previous Week	4.3	15	32	48	5

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: Cool temperatures and rain showers prevailed for a second week, as storms hovered over Alabama mid-week. All weather stations reported rainfall totals, with accumulations ranging from 0.66 inches in Pinson to 3.12 inches in Highland Home. Temperatures dropped considerably, as weather stations in Highland Home and Geneva recorded thermometer readings 10 degrees below normal. Daytime highs ranged from 65° in Bridgeport to 78° in parts of central and southern Alabama. Overnight lows were quite chilly, as temperatures varied from 28° in Belle Mina and Hamilton to 42° in Bay Minnette. Growers are

hoping for two weeks of dry, cooperative weather so they can complete the 2006 crop harvest.

Cotton: The majority of the state's cotton crop has open bolls, and over 60 percent has been harvested. Tim Reed, Franklin County Extension Agent indicated that some producers will start scrapping cotton acres in several fields after thunderstorms during the past couple of weeks have damaged the bolls. Donald Mann in the Jackson County FSA office reported that cotton harvest has really slowed due to heavy rainfall in the county. Most cotton in already harvested in Jackson County has yielded in the 600 pound per acre range.

Peanuts/Soybeans: The wet weather during the past couple of weeks has improved soil conditions for digging peanuts. Harvest has progressed well, even with limited days for fieldwork. James D. Jones, Jr., Henry County Extension Agent stated rainfall during the past week has significantly hampered peanut condition. Producers have already seen some of the poorest yielding and grading crops in history, and now expect more loss due to the weather. Alabama's soybean crop is nearly 70 percent harvested. Mr. Mann commented that soybean yields in Jackson County are ranging from 5 to 40 bushels per acre, with most averaging between 15 to 20 bushels per acre.

Wheat/Vegetables: Mr. Reed mentioned that producers in Franklin County will plant nearly 500 acres of wheat to be harvested for grain during the 2007 crop season. Several farmers in Jackson County are also planning on sowing a larger than normal wheat acreage this fall. Doug Chapman, Regional Horticulturist in northwestern Alabama stated that production of winter greens is good, and that pumpkins are selling well. Most strawberry producers have completed their planting.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Pasture and livestock conditions have continually improved over the course of the past few weeks. Moisture levels have allowed for grass growth, and cattle are beginning to improve body condition. Mr. Mann noted that pastures in Jackson County have really improved in the last couple of weeks as soil moisture levels continue to recover. Producers continue to seed winter forages for livestock grazing.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather For the Period: Monday, October 23, 2006 To Sunday, October 29, 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	74	34	51	-7	0.88	0.16	3	40.50	-2.84	93		21	-36	0	-13
Russellville	71	32	49	-7	0.79	0.04	3	37.88	-7.74	83		18	-24	0	-7
Belle Mina	71	28	48	-9	0.99	0.23	2	32.80	-11.44	74	57	14	-36	0	-9
Huntsville Ag	69	34	51	-8	1.10	0.35	2	33.98	-12.23	74		20	-37	0	-14
Hamilton	73	28	48	-8	1.42	0.65	3	39.76	-8.67	82		14	-31	0	-7
<i>District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 22% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 23% of Soybean Acreage.</i>															
Anniston AP	72	34	52	-8	2.02	1.39	3	37.26	-6.89	84		25	-40	1	-14
Cullman Ag	69	32	49	-9	1.23	0.51	2	48.07	-0.25	99	65	12	-40	0	-10
Sand Mountain	66	33	48	-8	1.09	0.42	2	38.21	-6.79	85	57	15	-31	0	-7
Gadsden AP	70	32	51	-7	1.34	0.68	2	33.44	-12.07	73		21	-34	0	-11
Bridgeport	65	30	47	-9	1.72	0.87	2	41.78	-6.48	87		11	-33	0	-7
Guntersville	68	37	50	-9	1.12	0.48	3	37.76	-5.73	87		23	-41	0	-16
<i>District 30 North Central Alabama - 10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 6% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees.</i>															
Thorsby	75	38	53	-7	1.56	0.91	3	33.22	-13.39	71	62	36	-31	4	-13
Talladega	71	35	51	-9	1.54	0.83	2	37.72	-9.52	80		22	-42	1	-14
Birmingham AP	74	38	54	-6	0.83	0.17	3	50.19	5.27	112		28	-37	2	-15
Alabaster	74	37	53	-7	1.31	0.70	3	44.77	-2.66	94		26	-41	2	-15
Pinson	72	33	51	-6	0.66	0.00	2	36.28	-10.25	78		22	-30	1	-10
Opelika Wtr Plt	71	31	51	-9	2.92	2.20	3	38.86	-8.93	81		19	-49	0	-18
Alexander City	72	35	52	-8	1.83	1.11	2	39.04	-8.75	82		26	-38	0	-15
Tuscaloosa AP	78	35	54	-7	1.17	0.44	3	40.66	-4.76	90		33	-39	5	-15
Jasper	73	33	51	-6	1.90	1.13	3	50.60	3.25	107		19	-27	1	-6
<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	73	34	54	-8	2.35	1.74	3	30.38	-15.50	66		38	-39	3	-19
Marion Junction	78	33	54	-7	1.49	0.86	3	26.53	-18.02	60	63	37	-33	5	-13
Montgomery AP	75	37	55	-8	1.51	0.97	3	34.24	-9.73	78		40	-46	3	-24
Livingston	78	35	54	-7	1.56	0.72	3	38.14	-8.63	82		36	-33	6	-11
<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	75	42	59	-7	1.14	0.49	3	43.02	-13.02	77		69	-38	12	-32
Brewton AG	77	36	57	-5	2.02	1.29	3	45.79	-8.56	84	63	58	-21	8	-14
Thomasville	76	39	56	-6	1.31	0.64	3	38.13	-9.52	80		50	-31	6	-18
Mobile Bates	78	39	60	-6	1.86	1.27	4	36.35	-18.01	67		74	-32	17	-26
<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	74	36	55	-7	2.01	1.49	3	41.37	-0.86	98		42	-34	3	-18
Troy Municipal	74	35	55	-7	2.45	1.86	3	33.59	-10.17	77		42	-42	4	-22
Highland Home	75	33	53	-10	3.12	2.53	3	41.44	-5.19	89		31	-52	1	-24
Geneva Ag	76	34	55	-10	1.30	0.62	4	39.10	-9.50	80	66	43	-51	3	-30
Headland	73	41	56	-7	0.81	0.18	3	28.75	-18.54	61	76	55	-34	6	-23
Dothan	74	39	57	-7	1.20	0.59	3	33.50	-12.67	73		52	-44	5	-30

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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