



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



KEVIN PAUTLER, DEPUTY 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: April 9, 2007 -- 3:00 P.M.

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Issue 2

Julie Schmidt, Ag. Statistician

Wintry Weather Causes Crop Damage

CROP PROGRESS

Sunday, April 8, 2007

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	5-Yr Avg.
Corn Planted	65	56	43	36
Cotton Planted	2	na	1	2

Na = not available

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Friday, April 6, 2007

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
Winter Wheat	4	12	33	49	2
Livestock	0	9	52	38	1
Pasture & Range	3	23	54	19	1

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
District 10	5.6	70	19	11	0
District 20	4.9	14	49	37	0
District 30	6.0	7	69	24	0
District 40	5.2	20	61	18	1
District 50	5.0	32	18	50	0
District 60	5.3	20	6	74	0
State: Previous Week	6.6	58	32	10	0
State: Current Week	5.3	34	36	30	0

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: Alabama experienced a wide variety of weather during the past week. Temperatures reached highs of 87 degrees in Muscle Shoals and Hamilton early in the week, but then dropped over the weekend to 22 degrees in Hamilton after a cold front blew through. The front brought some much needed rainfall with it, dropping 7.76 inches of water in Brewton. All reporting weather stations accumulated precipitation totals for the week, and soil moisture conditions improved from last week. However, all weather stations, with the exception of Brewton, are still below their normal year-to-date total. Donald E. Mann in the Jackson County FSA office stated that a small tornado resulted in minor damage to the Macedonia area on Tuesday night, while snow fell in parts of the county on Friday night.

Wheat: J. Heath Potter mentioned that already drought-stressed wheat in Colbert, Lawrence and Lauderdale Counties suffered freeze damage from extremely cold temperatures over the weekend. The extent of the damage is still being assessed. Mr. Mann added that the wheat crop in Jackson County was also damaged by the cold weather.

Cotton/Peanuts: Leonard Kuykendall, Autauga County Extension Agent reported that producers are busy tilling fields in preparation for planting cotton and peanut crops. William Birdsong, Extension Specialist at the Wiregrass Research and Extension Center added that a few farmers in the area have already begun their cotton planting. It is expected that many more cotton fields will be sown as soon as the cool temperatures lift.

Corn: Shane Seay in the Limestone County FSA office noted that a lack of soil moisture has caused skips in emerging corn stands. Mr. Mann mentioned that the freeze over the weekend caused major damage to the Jackson County corn crop that had emerged. The extent of the damage is not fully known, and will be assessed over the next week. Mr. Kuykendall, stated that Autauga County farmers resumed planting corn, and are also applying fertilizer and lime to their fields. Mr. Birdsong indicated that producers in south-eastern areas of Alabama have planted their corn crops. Emergence has occurred, and the crop is growing well. James R. Weeks, Extension Entomologist at the Wiregrass Research and Extension Center added that the temperatures in the area did not get cold enough to kill any corn, but that some fields experienced yellowing and slowed growth. A few producers have reported seeing soil insects that caused damage to small corn plants resulting in stand reduction.

Fruits/Vegetables: The hard freeze over the weekend caused major damage to fruit and vegetable crops across the state. Mike Henshaw, Winston County Extension Agent reported that the peach, plum and blueberry crops will likely suffer a complete failure. Uncovered vegetables in the county were killed, and many ornamental plants experienced damaged as well. Stan Roark, Randolph County Extension Agent stated that the freezing temperatures damaged the blueberry and peach crops in the county.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: The majority of the state's pasture is reported to be in poor to fair condition. Mr. Seay indicated that the dry winter conditions have not allowed pastures and hay fields in Limestone County to recover from the drought. Alabama's livestock are mostly in fair to good condition.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather For the Period: Monday, April 2, 2007 To Sunday, April 8, 2007

Weather Station	Air Temperatures				Precipitation			Precipitation since Jan 1			Avg. 4"	GDD Base 50		GDD Base 60	
	High	Low	Avg	DFN	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	% Normal	Soil Temp	Total	DFN	Total	DFN
District 10 Northwest Alabama - Tennessee Valley 32% of Corn Acreage, 32% of Cotton Acreage, 39% of Soybean Acreage.															
Muscle Shoals	87	26	54	-5	0.71	-0.38	1	6.93	-9.16	43		58	-3	27	13
Russellville	86	25	54	-2	0.72	-0.50	1	5.98	-11.59	34		58	13	28	21
Belle Mina	86	23	54	-4	0.64	-0.59	2	8.18	-9.32	47	65	57	2	26	12
Huntsville Ag	86	25	54	-4	0.72	-0.53	1	8.19	-9.91	45		61	1	30	16
Hamilton	87	22	54	-3	0.68	-0.65	1	8.48	-9.89	46		55	8	23	16
District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 21% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 35% of Soybean Acreage.															
Anniston AP	80	26	56	-5	0.74	-0.59	2	9.04	-8.98	50		61	-7	27	11
Cullman Ag	81	25	53	-6	1.75	0.42	2	9.44	-9.52	50	62	54	-4	24	10
Sand Mountain	79	25	52	-5	1.37	0.09	2	10.22	-7.84	57	60	50	3	20	13
Gadsden_AP	81	25	54	-5	0.33	-1.07	2	7.11	-11.36	38		54	-3	23	11
Bridgeport	83	24	53	-3	0.76	-0.53	2	8.60	-10.37	45		53	7	23	16
Guntersville	81	25	54	-6	0.98	-0.29	4	7.13	-10.24	41		59	-6	28	14
District 30 North Central Alabama -10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 8% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees.															
Thorsby	81	30	58	-3	0.96	-0.41	3	7.69	-11.20	41	65	74	5	34	14
Talladega	80	26	56	-5	0.89	-0.42	3	9.38	-9.85	49		63	-7	28	10
Birmingham_AP	83	30	57	-4	0.42	-0.81	3	7.73	-9.69	44		65	-2	32	15
Alabaster	81	31	57	-3	0.82	-0.58	2	8.45	-11.12	43		68	0	32	16
Pinson	84	25	55	-3	0.45	-0.90	2	8.19	-10.24	44		66	10	34	21
Opelika_Wtr_Plt	81	28	56	-4	0.40	-1.00	2	13.28	-6.08	69		64	-1	26	12
Alexander_City	80	29	56	-4	0.95	-0.35	3	9.97	-9.17	52		64	-3	26	11
Tuscaloosa_AP	84	30	58	-4	0.17	-1.18	3	6.89	-11.32	38		69	-9	31	8
Jasper	84	26	55	-3	1.10	-0.18	2	7.92	-10.90	42		60	4	28	14
District 40 South Central Alabama - Black Belt 11% of Corn Acreage, 12% of Cotton Acreage, 9% of Soybeans Acreage, 21% of Pecan															
Union Springs	84	32	59	-3	1.52	0.37	3	9.83	-8.00	55		80	2	38	16
Marion Junction	83	33	59	-2	0.43	-0.91	2	7.81	-10.39	43	70	81	7	39	18
Montgomery_AP	84	35	61	-2	0.85	-0.31	4	11.49	-6.27	65		87	1	42	14
Livingston	85	32	59	-3	0.65	-0.73	2	6.95	-11.56	38		73	-3	33	12
District 50 Southwest Alabama - Coastal Plain 6% of Corn Acreage, 20% of Cotton Acreage, 6% of Soybean Acreage, 32% of Peanut															
Bay Minette	84	30	61	-6	2.87	1.72	2	13.62	-5.42	72		85	-23	40	-3
Brewton_AG	86	37	62	-2	7.76	6.65	3	21.21	1.58	108	68	87	-5	41	9
Thomasville	84	33	59	-4	2.09	0.90	2	12.04	-7.18	63		77	-8	37	10
Mobile_Bates	84	38	62	-4	4.36	3.26	4	10.92	-6.98	61		91	-17	45	2
District 60 Southeast Alabama - Wiregrass 20% of Corn Acreage, 27% of Cotton Acreage, 3% of Soybean Acreage, 64% of Peanut Acreage,															
Eufaula_Wildlife	83	33	60	-3	1.30	0.23	3	12.46	-4.54	73		76	-4	34	11
Troy_Municipal	82	33	60	-3	2.43	1.32	2	9.56	-7.76	55		78	-3	36	11
Highland Home	82	30	57	-5	1.51	0.32	3	10.93	-7.99	58		66	-15	27	2
Geneva_Ag	86	32	60	-5	4.51	3.55	3	15.36	-1.85	89	72	81	-16	39	3
Headland	84	35	60	-4	3.35	2.32	3	11.86	-6.25	65	76	79	-15	36	3
Dothan	84	37	61	-4	2.97	1.81	3	11.89	-6.32	65		85	-12	41	6

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.