



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Mild Freeze Causes Slight Damage, Crops Expected to Recover

Data tables reflect the week ending: **April 20, 2008.**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2007	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Planted	72	52	81	68
Corn Emerged	41	22	56	39
Cotton Planted	3	1	6	15
Soybeans Planted	5	0	7	4
Percent of Feed from Pastures	79	na	na	na

na = not available

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Crop	Very				
	Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Winter Wheat	0	1	15	62	22
Livestock	0	8	33	56	3
Pasture & Range	2	7	27	53	11

Crop	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Hay & Roughage Supplies	54	42	4

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	5.4	6	23	67	4
District 20	4.9	0	5	93	2
District 30	6.0	0	0	100	0
District 40	5.8	0	3	85	12
District 50	6.0	0	2	87	11
District 60	6.1	0	8	84	8
State: Current Week	5.7	2	10	82	6
State: Previous Week	4.4	2	8	79	11

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: A late-season cold front brought abnormally cool temperatures and a light frost to most areas across the state during the early part of the past week. The state's crops suffered only minor damage, and were expected to recover. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor released for April 15, 2008, the extreme hydrological drought conditions that continued to linger from last year were reduced to encompass only 16.5 percent of the state. Temperatures recorded during the past week were well below normal for this time of year. The average temperature at the weather station in Highland Home was 14 degrees below normal. Daytime highs ranged from a pleasant 74 degrees in Sand Mountain to 80 degrees in Hamilton, Geneva, and Dothan. Overnight lows dipped well below freezing in parts of District 10. Hamilton, which recorded one of the warmest temperatures, also

experienced the state's lowest temperature at 26 degrees. All reporting weather stations received some rainfall during the past week. Accumulations ranged from 0.14 inches in Montgomery, to 1.46 inches in Hamilton. Year-to-date precipitation totals varied widely across the state.

Small Grains: Most of Alabama's winter wheat was reported in good to excellent condition during the past week. Thomas D. Atkinson, County Executive Director in the Madison County FSA office, stated that many producers had to apply a fungicide to their crop because of the wet spring. Warren Griffith, Regional Extension Agent located in Fayette County, mentioned that insect pressure from the Hessian fly was still present in some wheat fields, but the damaged caused was minimal. Richard Petcher, Regional Extension Agent located in Washington County, noted that cool temperatures early during the past week only caused minor damage to the area's crop. Growth was somewhat slowed, but a large portion of the wheat crop was heading out.

Corn/Cotton/Soybeans: Corn producers in the north-eastern area of the state spent a large part of the past week planting their fields. Progress in that area increased by 14 percent from a week ago. Donald Mann, County Executive Director in the Jackson County FSA office, mentioned that some producers were planning on switching some expected soybean acreage back to corn. This was attributed, in large part, to the unavailability of the desired variety of soybean seeds. Corn planting had been slow because of wet fields and cool soil temperatures, but progress picked up this week and is expected to be in full swing for the coming week. Burn-down applications were applied during the past week to prepare cotton fields for planting. Cindy Owens, County Executive Director in the Fayette County FSA office, indicated that most of the corn acreage in the county was planted, and emergence was occurring quickly. Cotton planting was not yet underway, but was expected to begin within the next 10 days. Leonard Kuykendall, Regional Extension Agent located in Autauga County, reported that producers in the area wrapped up their corn planting, and were preparing to plant cotton during the upcoming week. Olin F. Farrior, County Extension Coordinator for Escambia County, added that the county's corn suffered slight damage from a light frost, but was expected to recover. Cotton producers in the county were beginning to prepare their land, and plant cotton. Doyle Barnes and Ronald W. Davis, County Executive Directors in the Covington and Henry County FSA offices, both noted that cotton planting would begin during the upcoming week as warmer temperatures prevailed.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: The state's pasture and livestock condition showed signs of improvement during the past week. Kenneth Kelly, Regional Extension Agent located in Mobile County, reported that the cool weather slowed summer perennial growth, but the warmer weather expected during the upcoming week should stimulate bermuda and bahia grass growth. The high cost of inputs affected application rates as producers spent time fertilizing pastures.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather for the Period: Monday, April 14, 2008 To Sunday, April 20, 2008

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 40% of Corn Ac., 32% of Cotton Ac., 41% of Soybean Ac.															
Muscle Shoals	76	31	53	-9	1.02	0.04	1	12.77	-5.16	71		37	-44	1	-25
Russellville	77	29	51	-9	1.08	-0.04	1	15.55	-4.13	79		36	-27	2	-13
Belle Mina	78	30	52	-10	0.77	-0.30	1	15.08	-4.47	77	59	38	-38	2	-19
Huntsville Ag	79	32	55	-8	0.64	-0.46	1	14.82	-5.36	73		44	-36	6	-19
Hamilton	80	26	51	-10	1.46	0.20	1	17.95	-2.76	87		32	-34	0	-16
District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 18% of Corn Ac., 5% of Cotton Ac., 28% of Soybean Ac.															
Anniston AP	77	35	55	-9	0.72	-0.48	1	18.00	-2.30	89		43	-45	7	-20
Cullman Ag	75	31	51	-11	0.79	-0.45	2	19.38	-1.90	91	60	28	-49	0	-21
Sand Mountain	74	33	52	-8	0.72	-0.47	2	17.10	-3.19	84	60	34	-33	2	-14
Gadsden_AP	77	30	54	-8	0.75	-0.52	2	12.21	-8.67	58		37	-41	5	-16
Bridgeport	78	32	53	-7	0.15	-1.00	2	16.90	-4.25	80		39	-26	5	-9
Guntersville	77	37	53	-9	0.67	-0.50	2	15.73	-3.83	80		41	-43	5	-21
District 30 North Central Alabama - 9% of Corn Ac., 4% of Cotton Ac., 6% of Soybean Ac., 71% of Peach Trees.															
Thorsby	77	35	55	-9	0.64	-0.55	1	15.47	-5.71	73	63	48	-42	8	-22
Talladega	78	30	52	-12	0.54	-0.58	1	17.05	-4.31	80		41	-48	3	-24
Birmingham_AP	76	33	55	-8	1.09	-0.03	2	17.83	-1.70	91		45	-42	5	-22
Alabaster	79	37	56	-7	0.84	-0.39	2	19.77	-2.15	90		48	-39	7	-19
Pinson	79	31	54	-7	1.11	-0.14	1	17.02	-3.76	82		39	-35	4	-16
Opelika_Wtr_Plt	75	32	51	-12	0.40	-0.80	1	18.81	-2.86	87		38	-46	4	-21
Alexander_City	76	33	53	-10	0.32	-0.80	2	19.91	-1.38	94		35	-53	1	-26
Tuscaloosa_AP	76	31	54	-11	1.21	-0.03	2	16.25	-4.32	79		39	-60	1	-35
Jasper	77	31	52	-9	1.00	-0.19	1	17.74	-3.30	84		36	-38	0	-21
District 40 South Central Alabama - Black Belt 10% of Corn Ac., 12% of Cotton Ac., 7% of Soybean Ac., 21% of Pecan Trees.															
Union Springs	77	34	55	-10	0.57	-0.39	1	14.24	-5.44	72		52	-47	11	-23
Marion Junction	76	36	55	-9	0.94	-0.22	1	16.08	-4.35	79	67	51	-44	8	-24
Montgomery_AP	79	36	57	-9	0.14	-0.87	1	15.21	-4.48	77		53	-54	11	-28
Livingston	76	33	54	-11	0.80	-0.46	1	17.57	-3.34	84		42	-56	3	-30
District 50 SW Alabama - Coastal Plain 6% of Corn Ac., 20% of Cotton Ac., 11% of Soybean Ac., 32% of Peanut Ac., 51% of Pecan Trees.															
Bay Minette	76	37	56	-13	0.35	-0.63	1	23.51	2.60	112		51	-77	9	-50
Brewton_AG	78	35	55	-12	0.73	-0.18	1	22.55	1.16	105	66	47	-65	7	-38
Thomasville	75	34	56	-11	1.13	0.14	1	18.42	-2.71	87		51	-56	7	-34
Mobile_Bates	76	36	57	-12	1.20	0.22	1	23.75	4.01	120		56	-73	8	-51
District 60 SE Alabama - Wiregrass 18% of Corn Ac., 27% of Cotton Ac., 7% of Soybean Ac., 64% of Peanut Ac., 23% of Pecan Trees.															
Eufaula_Wildlife	78	36	55	-10	0.32	-0.57	1	20.32	1.61	109		52	-48	12	-24
Troy_Municipal	77	34	55	-11	0.64	-0.27	2	19.11	0.03	100		42	-60	9	-29
Highland Home	76	31	52	-14	0.80	-0.18	1	21.34	0.53	103		33	-69	2	-36
Geneva_Ag	80	33	56	-12	0.70	-0.11	1	21.18	2.41	113	68	57	-61	15	-35
Headland	78	36	58	-9	0.28	-0.63	2	17.56	-2.29	88	70	67	-49	21	-27
Dothan	80	37	59	-9	0.22	-0.70	1	15.50	-4.49	78		67	-49	20	-28

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), 2008. Weather data prepared By AWIS, Inc. For more weather information visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955.

