



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 23, 2007 -- 3:00 P.M.
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Julie Schmidt, Ag. Statistician

Lack of Soil Moisture a Growing Concern

CROP PROGRESS

Sunday, April 22, 2007

| Crop | This Week | Last Week | 5-Yr Avg. | |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----|
| | | | 2006 | |
| | Percent | | | |
| Corn Planted | 83 | 75 | 82 | 68 |
| Corn Emerged | 61 | 45 | 50 | 35 |
| Cotton Planted | 7 | 4 | 27 | 24 |
| Soybeans Planted | 9 | 2 | 16 | 5 |
| Peanuts Planted | 3 | na | 2 | 3 |

na = not available

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Friday, April 20, 2007

| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Percent | | |
|-----------------|-----------|------|---------|------|------|
| | | | Fair | Good | Exc. |
| Winter Wheat | 25 | 11 | 24 | 37 | 3 |
| Livestock | 3 | 10 | 45 | 40 | 2 |
| Pasture & Range | 5 | 19 | 55 | 19 | 2 |

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

| | Days Suitable | Very Short | Short | Percent | |
|----------------------|---------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | | | | Adequate | Surplus |
| District 10 | 6.5 | 34 | 45 | 19 | 2 |
| District 20 | 6.2 | 12 | 59 | 29 | 0 |
| District 30 | 6.6 | 2 | 62 | 36 | 0 |
| District 40 | 6.3 | 1 | 39 | 57 | 3 |
| District 50 | 4.3 | 20 | 10 | 55 | 15 |
| District 60 | 5.3 | 11 | 10 | 76 | 3 |
| State: Previous Week | 5.4 | 11 | 34 | 51 | 4 |
| State: Current Week | 6.1 | 15 | 37 | 45 | 3 |

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: A severe lack of rainfall continues to be a major concern, as some producers have started their crop season with more than a 13 inch deficit in the year-to-date rainfall total. Many producers have postponed planting crops such as cotton and peanuts until some precipitation is received to boost soil moisture conditions. Very little rainfall was received at reporting weather stations during the past week. Totals varied from 0.01 inches to 0.36 inches. Average temperatures were below normal for the second week, with Hamilton recording the week's high of 83 degrees and the week's low of 28 degrees. Brewton is still the only weather station that has a positive year-to-date precipitation total. Gadsden is approaching a shortfall of nearly 14 inches, while areas around Alabaster, Tuscaloosa and Livingston have surpassed the 13 inch deficit mark.

Wheat/Corn: Charles Burmester, Extension Agronomist in northern Alabama indicated wheat in the boot stage suffered less damage during the freeze than wheat that was already headed. However, there has been some damage discovered on these plant stems which could potentially affect yields. J. Heath Potter, Lawrence County Extension Agent added that approximately 80 percent of the wheat in the county is a total loss, while the rest will have a reduced yield. Some farmers are planning to use their wheat stands as a cover crop to either soybeans or cotton. Other producers may graze livestock in their fields, or cut the crop for hay. Nitrate toxicity could be a problem, so growers are advised to take a sample of wheat in for testing. Corn replanting is fairly widespread, but locating corn seed has become somewhat of a problem. Producers that had not applied Atrazine to their fields are considering moving to a soybean or cotton crop. Frankie Shaw in the Cherokee County FSA office noted that some farmers have chosen to take their current crop to harvest. Donald Mann in the Jackson County FSA office stated that approximately 75 percent of the corn that had emerged has to be replanted.

Cotton/Peanuts: Mr. Burmester mentioned that very little cotton acreage in northern Alabama has been planted due to the cold weather and soil temperatures. Many farmers will begin planting next week as warmer temperatures are forecast for the region. Producers in Covington County are reported to be preparing land for cotton and peanut planting.

Fruits/Vegetables: As orchard growers continue to assess the freeze damage that occurred at the beginning of the month, insect and disease pressures are still a concern in the peach crop. Bobby Boozer, Research Horticulturist at the Chilton Research and Extension Center reported that as long as a food source remains that will support a pest's life cycle, insects will multiply and control measures need to be used. If marketable fruit are expected, a near normal IPM should be used. The potential for peach scab is increasing due to more frequent rains and warmer temperatures. Producers will be applying products such as Captan 50W mixed with sulfur as a preventative measure. Mr. Shaw noted that little to no damage occurred to the tomato crop in St. Clair County because very few fields had been planted. Doug Chapman, Regional Extension Agent reported that vegetable growers are in need of rain.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Most of Alabama pastures range from poor to good condition. James D. Jones, Jr., Henry County Extension Agent stated that cool temperatures have hampered pasture growth, leaving ranchers very little grass to graze cattle and other livestock. Mr. Mann added the pastures and hay fields in Jackson County are suffering from the dry weather. The majority of the state's livestock remain in fair to good condition. T.H. Gregg mentioned that cattle in Etowah County are beginning to look better.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather For the Period: Monday, April 16, 2007 To Sunday, April 22, 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 | 80 | 38 | 59 | -3 | 0.01 | -0.97 | 1 | 8.11 | -9.96 | 45 | | 68 | -15 | 12 | -15 |
| Russellville | 80 | 36 | 57 | -3 | 0.02 | -1.10 | 1 | 6.97 | -12.87 | 35 | | 63 | -2 | 10 | -6 |
| Belle Mina | 80 | 34 | 56 | -6 | 0.03 | -1.03 | 1 | 11.06 | -8.64 | 56 | 59 | 51 | -27 | 4 | -18 |
| Huntsville Ag | 78 | 37 | 59 | -4 | 0.01 | -1.08 | 1 | 9.73 | -10.60 | 48 | | 64 | -17 | 9 | -17 |
| Hamilton | 83 | 28 | 55 | -5 | 0.00 | -1.26 | 0 | 10.07 | -10.82 | 48 | | 54 | -13 | 6 | -11 |
| District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 21% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 35% of Soybean Acreage. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Anniston AP | 78 | 34 | 57 | -7 | 0.02 | -1.17 | 1 | 9.38 | -11.09 | 46 | | 57 | -33 | 4 | -24 |
| Cullman Ag | 75 | 32 | 55 | -7 | 0.03 | -1.20 | 1 | 10.63 | -10.82 | 50 | 60 | 49 | -30 | 3 | -19 |
| Sand Mountain | 75 | 37 | 55 | -6 | 0.03 | -1.15 | 1 | 10.66 | -9.79 | 52 | | 50 | -18 | 5 | -12 |
| Gadsden AP | 79 | 34 | 55 | -7 | 0.00 | -1.26 | 0 | 7.30 | -13.76 | 35 | | 45 | -35 | 1 | -21 |
| Bridgeport | 79 | 36 | 55 | -6 | 0.03 | -1.11 | 1 | 10.65 | -10.66 | 50 | | 46 | -20 | 2 | -13 |
| Guntersville | 78 | 37 | 56 | -7 | 0.02 | -1.14 | 1 | 8.55 | -11.17 | 43 | | 53 | -33 | 3 | -24 |
| District 30 North Central Alabama -10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 8% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Thorsby | 78 | 38 | 59 | -5 | 0.00 | -1.17 | 0 | 8.81 | -12.53 | 41 | 62 | 75 | -17 | 15 | -16 |
| Talladega | 78 | 36 | 57 | -7 | 0.00 | -1.11 | 0 | 10.28 | -11.24 | 48 | | 54 | -37 | 2 | -26 |
| Birmingham AP | 79 | 34 | 59 | -4 | 0.00 | -1.12 | 0 | 7.95 | -11.74 | 40 | | 74 | -14 | 16 | -13 |
| Alabaster | 78 | 35 | 59 | -4 | 0.00 | -1.22 | 0 | 8.97 | -13.12 | 41 | | 73 | -15 | 16 | -11 |
| Pinson | 81 | 30 | 58 | -4 | 0.11 | -1.13 | 1 | 8.55 | -12.40 | 41 | | 66 | -9 | 12 | -9 |
| Opelika Wtr_Plt | 78 | 31 | 55 | -8 | 0.00 | -1.18 | 0 | 14.18 | -7.65 | 65 | | 54 | -32 | 4 | -22 |
| Alexander_City | 79 | 35 | 58 | -6 | 0.00 | -1.11 | 0 | 12.16 | -9.28 | 57 | | 68 | -21 | 10 | -18 |
| Tuscaloosa AP | 80 | 33 | 59 | -6 | 0.00 | -1.23 | 0 | 7.57 | -13.17 | 36 | | 67 | -34 | 11 | -26 |
| Jasper | 79 | 36 | 57 | -4 | 0.00 | -1.19 | 0 | 8.87 | -12.35 | 42 | | 57 | -19 | 2 | -19 |
| District 40 South Central Alabama - Black Belt 11% of Corn Acreage, 12% of Cotton Acreage, 9% of Soybeans Acreage, 21% of Pecan Trees. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Union Springs | 79 | 39 | 59 | -6 | 0.00 | -0.95 | 0 | 12.23 | -7.58 | 62 | | 78 | -23 | 18 | -18 |
| Marion Junction | 79 | 36 | 59 | -6 | 0.00 | -1.15 | 0 | 8.67 | -11.92 | 42 | 67 | 73 | -24 | 14 | -19 |
| Montgomery AP | 82 | 39 | 61 | -5 | 0.00 | -1.00 | 0 | 13.13 | -6.70 | 66 | | 81 | -27 | 21 | -19 |
| Livingston | 79 | 33 | 58 | -7 | 0.00 | -1.25 | 0 | 7.35 | -13.73 | 35 | | 63 | -37 | 7 | -27 |
| District 50 SW Alabama - Coastal Plain 6% of Corn Acreage, 20% of Cotton Acreage, 6% of Soybean Ac., 32% of Peanut Ac., 51% of Pecan Trees. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bay Minette | 80 | 40 | 61 | -8 | 0.15 | -0.83 | 1 | 15.71 | -5.34 | 75 | | 86 | -43 | 25 | -35 |
| Brewton_AG | 81 | 37 | 59 | -8 | 0.19 | -0.72 | 1 | 22.81 | 1.29 | 106 | 67 | 72 | -42 | 14 | -32 |
| Thomasville | 79 | 39 | 60 | -6 | 0.00 | -0.98 | 0 | 14.66 | -6.61 | 69 | | 76 | -32 | 16 | -26 |
| Mobile_Bates | 81 | 37 | 62 | -7 | 0.36 | -0.62 | 1 | 12.57 | -7.31 | 63 | | 87 | -43 | 28 | -32 |
| District 60 SE Alabama - Wiregrass 20% of Corn Ac., 27% of Cotton Acreage, 3% of Soybean Ac., 64% of Peanut Acreage, 23% of Pecan Trees. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Eufaula_Wildlife | 82 | 38 | 60 | -6 | 0.00 | -0.88 | 0 | 14.21 | -4.62 | 75 | | 73 | -28 | 14 | -23 |
| Troy_Municipal | 80 | 36 | 59 | -7 | 0.02 | -0.88 | 1 | 12.96 | -6.24 | 68 | | 65 | -39 | 9 | -30 |
| Highland Home | 78 | 34 | 55 | -10 | 0.00 | -0.98 | 0 | 12.98 | -7.97 | 62 | | 53 | -51 | 2 | -37 |
| Geneva_Ag | 81 | 36 | 59 | -9 | 0.00 | -0.80 | 0 | 17.54 | -1.34 | 93 | 69 | 69 | -51 | 12 | -39 |
| Headland | 80 | 40 | 61 | -7 | 0.01 | -0.90 | 1 | 14.69 | -5.29 | 74 | 75 | 88 | -29 | 28 | -22 |
| Dothan | 81 | 41 | 62 | -6 | 0.01 | -0.89 | 1 | 13.69 | -6.43 | 68 | | 85 | -32 | 25 | -25 |

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.

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Agricultural Statistician
P. O. Box 240578
Montgomery, Alabama 36177-9691



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