



CROP WEATHER

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



HERB VANDERBERRY, 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 24, 2006 -- 3:00 P.M.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: [HTTP://WWW.NASS.USDA.GOV/AL](http://www.nass.usda.gov/al)

ISSUE 4

Carrie Wright, Ag. Statistician

Soil Moisture Short Despite Rainfall

CROP PROGRESS		Sunday, April 23, 2006			
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2005	5-Yr Avg.	
	Percent				
Corn Planted	85	65	65	65	
Corn Emerged	52	40	29	28	
Cotton Planted	30	9	27	24	
Soybeans Planted	18	6	3	2	
Peanuts Planted	2	na	3	4	

na = not available

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION		Friday, April 21, 2006			
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Winter Wheat	4	12	17	65	2
Pasture	7	23	39	28	3
Livestock	0	8	34	53	5

	Days Suitable	Top Soil Moisture			
		Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	5.64	2	26	71	1
District 20	5.29	0	30	64	6
District 30	6.13	2	47	50	1
District 40	6.62	13	53	33	1
District 50	6.53	56	36	8	0
District 60	6.13	55	33	12	0
State: Current Week	6.1	21	36	42	1
State: Previous Week	6.3	19	39	41	1

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

Chip East, Regional Extension Agent, reported that Eastern Alabama was dry at the beginning of the week but some locations received rain showers mid week which has helped with soil moisture. Jackson County FSA Executive Director, **Donald Mann**, reported that the topsoil moisture is beginning to get short for this time of the year. Part of Jackson County received rain and hail during the week. Randolph County was hit by a hail storm on Wednesday with golf ball and larger hailstones

that cause extensive damage to fruit tree crops, stated Extension Agent **Stan Roark**. **Warren Griffith**, County Extension agent for Lamar and Pickens County, reported that both counties are very dry and that planting of crops have slowed due to the limited moisture supplies. All weather stations reported rainfall for the week with Birmingham receiving 5.51 inches and Sand Mountain receiving 3.70 inches. Temperatures were recorded in the upper 80's to mid 90's with lows mostly in the 50's.

Tim Reed, FSA Agent for Franklin County stated that scattered showers during the week hindered planting in a few fields and that cotton farmers are preparing to plant cotton. Cotton planting is slow in Autauga and Elmore counties due to the lack of moisture, reported Extension Agent **Leonard Kuykendall**.

Henry county growers have not started planting peanuts reported **James Jones Jr.**, Henry County Extension Agent.

Mr. Mann stated that if Jackson County does not receive rainfall soon, pastures and hay production will be significantly reduced. **Mr. Jones Jr.** stated that in Henry County the pastures are in poor shape due to dry weather and hay reserves will be running out shortly. According to **Arthur Threatt**, Washington County Extension Agent, some of the first cutting of hay has been made.

Extension and Research Horticulturist, **Bobby Boozer**, reported that by the weeks end almost all areas across Alabama had received close to or exceeded one inch of rainfall. With cooler temperatures expected for next week, the impact might last a little longer. Peach crop conditions in central Alabama are still being assessed from hail that occurred mid-week. Reports of damage range from none to heavy. Full extent and amount of acreage affected is not known at this time. Grower activities also include pest management applications and hand thinning fruit. Plum curculio infested green fruit began falling during the week and larvae are just beginning to enter the soil under trees to pupate.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather For the Period: Monday April 17, 2006 To: Sunday April 23, 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	DFN	Total	DFN
District 10 Northwest Alabama - Tennessee Valley 25% of Corn Acreage, 32% of Cotton Acreage, 41% of Soybean Acreage.															
Muscle Shoals	93	55	75	13	1.11	0.13	1	16.79	-1.42	92	73	177	92	107	79
Russellville	92	53	74	15	1.05	-0.07	1	17.16	-2.84	86	73	171	105	101	84
Belle Mina	94	52	71	10	1.00	-0.05	2	14.40	-5.45	73	73	151	71	81	58
Huntsville Ag	91	55	73	12	1.33	0.25	2	14.25	-6.23	70	73	164	81	94	67
Hamilton	94	48	72	13	0.32	-0.94	1	17.85	-3.22	85	73	154	85	84	66
District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 22% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 23% of Soybean Acreage.															
Anniston AP	88	52	73	10	1.45	0.27	6	18.50	-2.13	90	69	164	72	94	65
Cullman Ag	88	50	70	9	1.41	0.19	3	19.53	-1.88	91	69	145	65	75	52
Sand Mountain	86	54	70	11	3.70	2.53	4	16.51	-3.49	83	69	140	70	70	52
Gadsden AP	90	50	71	10	2.23	0.97	4	15.08	-6.16	71	69	150	69	80	57
Bridgeport	87	53	69	10	2.86	1.73	4	17.19	-4.06	81	69	141	74	71	55
Guntersville	88	52	72	10	2.21	1.06	4	15.99	-3.47	82	69	157	70	87	59
District 30 North Central Alabama - 10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 6% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees.															
Thorsby	91	55	73	10	1.53	0.37	2	14.82	-6.68	69	72	168	74	98	66
Talladega	90	52	72	10	1.76	0.66	3	18.46	-2.98	86	72	157	64	87	58
Birmingham AP	91	55	74	12	5.51	4.39	3	25.53	5.68	129	72	171	81	101	71
Alabaster	90	54	74	12	2.78	1.57	4	19.82	-2.44	89	72	168	79	98	70
Pinson	94	50	74	14	2.54	1.31	3	19.83	-1.29	94	72	178	101	108	87
Opelika Wtr_Plt	85	49	71	9	0.56	-0.60	3	17.75	-4.24	81	72	145	58	75	48
Alexander_City	89	51	72	9	0.55	-0.55	3	16.10	-5.49	75	72	157	66	87	58
Tuscaloosa AP	92	53	75	11	1.88	0.66	2	18.19	-2.72	87	72	173	71	103	65
Jasper	91	51	73	12	3.18	1.99	3	23.06	1.67	108	72	160	82	90	68
District 40 South Central Alabama - Black Belt 9% of Corn Acreage, 12% of Cotton Acreage, 13% of Soybeans Acreage, 21% of Pecan Trees.															
Union Springs	93	52	75	11	0.93	-0.01	2	10.95	-8.99	55	75	179	77	109	72
Marion Junction	92	52	75	12	0.21	-0.93	1	12.66	-8.09	61	75	180	81	110	76
Montgomery AP	91	50	74	9	0.30	-0.69	3	13.98	-5.99	70	75	171	62	101	59
Livingston	93	51	75	11	0.64	-0.60	2	17.01	-4.24	80	75	177	76	107	71
District 50 Southwest Alabama - Coastal Plain 11% of Corn Acreage, 20% of Cotton Acreage, 13% of Soybean Acreage, 51% of Pecan Trees.															
Bay Minette	91	57	76	8	0.43	-0.55	1	10.29	-10.90	49	81	187	57	117	56
Brewton AG	93	52	76	10	1.73	0.82	1	12.14	-9.51	56	81	183	68	113	66
Thomasville	91	55	76	11	0.12	-0.86	1	13.85	-7.33	65	81	187	78	117	74
Mobile Bates	90	56	76	8	0.63	-0.36	1	8.35	-11.68	42	81	183	51	113	51
District 60 Southeast Alabama - Wiregrass 23% of Corn Acreage, 27% of Cotton Acreage, 4% of Soybean Acreage, 96% of Peanut Ac., 23% of Pecan Trees.															
Eufaula Wildlife	89	55	74	10	1.04	0.17	4	14.22	-4.15	77	82	175	73	105	67
Troy Municipal	91	52	74	9	1.86	0.97	2	13.49	-5.83	70	82	167	61	97	57
Highland Home	90	49	71	7	0.43	-0.54	1	13.32	-7.76	63	82	157	51	87	47
Geneva Ag	93	54	75	8	1.70	0.91	1	13.87	-5.12	73	82	177	55	107	55
Headland	93	59	76	10	1.28	0.37	1	10.30	-9.81	51	87	192	73	122	71
Dothan	94	60	77	11	1.76	0.87	2	12.31	-7.93	61	87	191	72	121	70

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.

PERIODICALS
 POSTAGE PAID
 at MONTGOMERY, AL



CROP WEATHER (UPS 421-930) IS
 PUBLISHED WEEKLY APR - MID NOV
 BY ALABAMA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
 4121 CARMICHAEL RD, STE 200, MONTGOMERY, AL 36124.
 POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO
 CROP WEATHER, POB 240578 MONTGOMERY, AL 36124-0578