



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Issue 7

Julie Schmidt, Ag. Statistician

Scattered Rainfall Received, Soil Moisture Condition Still Dry

CROP PROGRESS

Sunday, May 13, 2007

| Crop | This Week | Last Week | 2006 | 5-Yr Avg. |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|------|-----------|
| | | | | |
| Corn Planted | 98 | 95 | 97 | 95 |
| Corn Emerged | 93 | 82 | 79 | 78 |
| Cotton Planted | 64 | 28 | 73 | 71 |
| Soybeans Planted | 51 | 26 | 38 | 25 |
| Soybeans Emerged | 22 | 11 | 23 | 9 |
| Peanuts Planted | 35 | 12 | 34 | 35 |

na = not available

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Friday, May 11, 2007

| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc. |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|------|
| | | | | | |
| Corn | 12 | 24 | 47 | 17 | 0 |
| Winter Wheat | 30 | 12 | 25 | 31 | 2 |
| Livestock | 6 | 14 | 47 | 32 | 1 |
| Pasture & Range | 12 | 30 | 44 | 14 | 0 |

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

| | Days Suitable | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|----------------------|---------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | | | | | |
| District 10 | 6.4 | 45 | 37 | 18 | 0 |
| District 20 | 6.5 | 42 | 47 | 11 | 0 |
| District 30 | 7.0 | 26 | 54 | 20 | 0 |
| District 40 | 7.0 | 28 | 56 | 16 | 0 |
| District 50 | 6.8 | 37 | 47 | 16 | 0 |
| District 60 | 6.6 | 55 | 38 | 7 | 0 |
| State: Previous Week | 6.6 | 25 | 45 | 30 | 0 |
| State: Current Week | 6.7 | 41 | 45 | 14 | 0 |

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: The severe lack of rainfall and very dry soil conditions continued to take their toll on all Alabama crops. Chuck Browne, Lee County Extension Agent, stated that non-irrigated crops in the county are suffering, and that seeds have either not germinated or crop emergence is poor. Scattered showers during the past week provided some relief to isolated areas around the state, but county extension agents, as well as numerous people in FSA offices across the state, have reported that their counties are extremely dry and in desperate need of more soaking rain.

Most reporting weather stations recorded precipitation totals below normal with the exception of Brewton and Eufaula where 1.12 and 1.00 inches of rainfall were received, respectively. Extreme drought conditions have pushed further into the south-central parts of the state, while counties that were relatively drought free have now been classified as abnormally dry. The weather station in Gadsden received no rain, and has reached a year-to-date precipitation deficit of 16.04 inches. Temperatures for the past week were mostly above normal, with Dothan reaching a daytime high of 95 degrees.

Wheat/Corn: Alabama's wheat crop remained in varied condition, with the majority ranging from very poor to good. Shane Seay in the Limestone County FSA office mentioned that some wheat has been cut and rolled for hay, while other producers are still undecided about what to do with their damaged crop. Most corn replanting is complete, as the crop was reported in mostly fair to good condition. Donald E. Mann in the Jackson County FSA office noted that some corn in the county has twisted up during the heat of the day.

Cotton/Peanuts: Cotton planting pushed forward over the past week even though soil moisture conditions are not at an optimum. Many producers dusted in the seeds with hopes of receiving a much needed rain shower. Leonard Kuykendall, Autauga County Extension Agent, added that most cotton producers in the county stopped planting. James D. Jones, Jr., Henry County Extension Agent, reported that cotton growers in Henry County have also halted their planting. The state's peanut crop has emerged in fields where farmers were able to plant their fields early. Soil moisture levels have kept many other producers from seeding their fields, but during the past week a few more farmers started planting anyway.

Fruits/Vegetables: Chip East, Commercial Horticulturist and Regional Extension Agent in east-central Alabama stated that the area has averaged less than one inch of rainfall per month over the last three months, and that it is very difficult to provide enough water through the use of irrigation systems. However, disease and insect pressures have been very low. Peach orchard producers were busy trying to thin fruit, but have had a hard time determining which fruit still have a viable embryo because the normal "size separation" has not occurred. Bobby Boozer, Research Horticulturist at the Chilton Research and Extension Center indicated that pest management programs continued to be implemented in orchards where "good" fruit appear. Alternate row middle sprays have been utilized to help reduce the costs of inputs, and give growers more time to evaluate fruit load.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Alabama's pasture conditions worsened during the past week, as grass supplies became even shorter. Frankie Shaw reported that a lack of adequate moisture has affected permanent pasture and hay fields in Cherokee, Etowah and St. Clair counties. There has been very little hay harvested in these counties. Mr. Mann noted that hay yields in Jackson County have been running below normal, and that pastures are very short. Mr. Jones indicated that pasture and hay fields in Henry County are dry, with little to no grazing available. Many cattlemen were already feeding this year's hay supplies to their herds.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather for the Period: Monday, May 7, 2007 To Sunday, May 13, 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 | 90 | 53 | 75 | 8 | 0.06 | -1.13 | 2 | 9.98 | -11.40 | 47 | | 173 | 53 | 103 | 51 |
| Russellville | 89 | 51 | 72 | 9 | 0.86 | -0.46 | 2 | 9.33 | -14.24 | 40 | | 165 | 66 | 95 | 58 |
| Belle Mina | 93 | 53 | 72 | 6 | 0.76 | -0.36 | 2 | 12.88 | -10.04 | 56 | 76 | 163 | 50 | 93 | 46 |
| Huntsville Ag | 91 | 53 | 73 | 7 | 0.57 | -0.62 | 1 | 11.30 | -12.46 | 48 | | 164 | 48 | 94 | 43 |
| Hamilton | 93 | 47 | 71 | 7 | 0.00 | -1.33 | 0 | 12.07 | -12.75 | 49 | | 156 | 52 | 86 | 47 |
| District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 21% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 35% of Soybean Acreage. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Anniston AP | 90 | 50 | 72 | 4 | 0.00 | -0.99 | 0 | 9.58 | -14.05 | 41 | | 153 | 28 | 83 | 25 |
| Cullman Ag | 88 | 49 | 70 | 5 | 0.17 | -1.02 | 1 | 12.02 | -13.04 | 48 | 74 | 147 | 32 | 77 | 30 |
| Sand Mountain | 86 | 51 | 69 | 5 | 0.18 | -0.94 | 1 | 13.12 | -10.69 | 55 | 71 | 139 | 37 | 69 | 30 |
| Gadsden_AP | 90 | 46 | 71 | 5 | 0.00 | -1.12 | 0 | 8.54 | -16.04 | 35 | | 149 | 33 | 79 | 30 |
| Bridgeport | 89 | 46 | 70 | 6 | 0.06 | -1.13 | 1 | 12.39 | -12.45 | 50 | | 142 | 43 | 72 | 37 |
| Guntersville | 88 | 50 | 71 | 4 | 0.18 | -0.97 | 1 | 10.43 | -12.74 | 45 | | 156 | 32 | 86 | 29 |
| District 30 North Central Alabama -10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 8% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Thorsby | 92 | 54 | 75 | 8 | 0.00 | -0.91 | 0 | 8.85 | -15.46 | 36 | 79 | 183 | 54 | 113 | 54 |
| Talladega | 90 | 43 | 70 | 4 | 0.02 | -1.08 | 1 | 10.34 | -14.38 | 42 | | 147 | 25 | 77 | 24 |
| Birmingham_AP | 90 | 54 | 73 | 6 | 0.33 | -0.83 | 1 | 10.41 | -12.69 | 45 | | 162 | 37 | 92 | 35 |
| Alabaster | 91 | 52 | 73 | 6 | 0.65 | -0.34 | 2 | 9.86 | -15.41 | 39 | | 163 | 41 | 93 | 40 |
| Pinson | 91 | 46 | 72 | 6 | 0.38 | -0.74 | 1 | 10.32 | -14.13 | 42 | | 158 | 49 | 88 | 44 |
| Opelika_Wtr_Plt | 90 | 41 | 69 | 2 | 0.08 | -0.80 | 1 | 14.33 | -10.42 | 58 | | 141 | 21 | 71 | 19 |
| Alexander_City | 92 | 45 | 70 | 4 | 0.29 | -0.69 | 2 | 12.67 | -11.84 | 52 | | 148 | 25 | 78 | 24 |
| Tuscaloosa_AP | 92 | 51 | 73 | 5 | 0.00 | -1.00 | 0 | 8.83 | -15.15 | 37 | | 165 | 29 | 95 | 29 |
| Jasper | 90 | 49 | 71 | 6 | 0.69 | -0.49 | 2 | 11.18 | -13.60 | 45 | | 152 | 43 | 82 | 39 |
| 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 | 92 | 43 | 71 | 3 | 0.53 | -0.34 | 2 | 13.08 | -9.39 | 58 | | 157 | 21 | 87 | 21 |
| Marion Junction | 92 | 47 | 73 | 4 | 0.00 | -0.90 | 0 | 8.76 | -14.74 | 37 | 80 | 170 | 38 | 100 | 38 |
| Montgomery_AP | 92 | 46 | 73 | 3 | 0.22 | -0.69 | 2 | 13.39 | -9.21 | 59 | | 159 | 16 | 89 | 16 |
| Livingston | 92 | 49 | 72 | 4 | 0.00 | -1.01 | 0 | 9.50 | -14.85 | 39 | | 166 | 32 | 96 | 32 |
| 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 | 91 | 53 | 74 | 2 | 0.00 | -1.22 | 0 | 18.01 | -6.42 | 74 | | 183 | 24 | 113 | 24 |
| Brewton_AG | 94 | 45 | 72 | 3 | 1.12 | 0.05 | 1 | 24.63 | 0.12 | 100 | 80 | 163 | 19 | 93 | 19 |
| Thomasville | 91 | 50 | 73 | 4 | 0.06 | -1.01 | 1 | 15.00 | -9.37 | 62 | | 170 | 30 | 100 | 30 |
| Mobile_Bates | 91 | 50 | 74 | 2 | 0.26 | -1.05 | 2 | 13.68 | -9.79 | 58 | | 172 | 9 | 102 | 9 |
| 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 | 92 | 50 | 73 | 4 | 1.00 | 0.10 | 1 | 15.49 | -5.92 | 72 | | 166 | 30 | 96 | 30 |
| Troy_Municipal | 91 | 42 | 71 | 3 | 0.31 | -0.53 | 2 | 13.50 | -8.22 | 62 | | 151 | 13 | 81 | 13 |
| Highland Home | 92 | 40 | 68 | -2 | 0.21 | -0.77 | 2 | 13.71 | -10.12 | 58 | | 137 | -2 | 69 | 0 |
| Geneva_Ag | 93 | 41 | 71 | -2 | 0.35 | -0.46 | 1 | 18.39 | -2.84 | 87 | 84 | 152 | 1 | 82 | 1 |
| Headland | 92 | 50 | 73 | 2 | 0.12 | -0.86 | 1 | 14.83 | -7.98 | 65 | 83 | 169 | 18 | 99 | 18 |
| Dothan | 95 | 48 | 75 | 4 | 0.04 | -0.80 | 1 | 14.02 | -8.62 | 62 | | 173 | 23 | 103 | 23 |

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.

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