



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Storm System Brings Rain, Allows Spring Planting to Continue

Data tables reflect the week ending: **May 18, 2008.**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2007	5-Yr Avg.
Corn Emerged	96	89	95	86
Cotton Planted	76	60	74	78
Peanuts Planted	36	22	45	52
Soybeans Planted	43	34	60	38
Soybeans Emerged	31	18	36	21
Hay Harvested 1 st Cutting	43	35	na	na
Percent of Feed from Pastures	90	90	na	na

na = not available

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
Corn	0	0	15	81	4
Winter Wheat	0	0	11	60	29
Livestock	0	6	30	59	5
Pasture & Range	2	7	21	61	9

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
District 10	3.6	3	14	83	1
District 20	4.0	0	1	97	2
District 30	3.0	0	0	35	65
District 40	5.3	0	5	83	12
District 50	6.0	0	6	87	7
District 60	6.5	5	41	54	0
State: Current Week	4.9	2	16	79	3
State: Previous Week	5.5	8	17	74	1

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: A large storm system brought needed rainfall to most of the state on Thursday of the past week. Shane Seay, County Executive Director in the Limestone County FSA office, noted that the short-term drought conditions that plagued the area in the past have subsided. The available soil moisture enabled spring crop planting to progress well. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor released for May 13, 2008, only 10.4 percent of Alabama was suffering from extreme hydrological drought conditions compared to 51 percent a year ago. Temperatures during the past week were much cooler than normal. Average temperatures in Cullman, Sand Mountain, Guntersville, and Highland Home fell to as many as 8 degrees below normal for this time of year. Daytime highs ranged from 73 degrees in Sand Mountain to a sweltering 94 degrees in Dothan. Overnight lows varied from 41 degrees in Cullman and Highland Home to 53

degrees in Bay Minette, Mobile, and Dothan. All reporting weather stations received rainfall during the past week. However, the total accumulations varied tremendously, not only across the state, but also within districts. Rainfall totals ranged from 0.46 inches in Huntsville to whopping 4.84 inches in Livingston.

Small Grains: Nearly 90 percent of the state's wheat was reported in good to excellent condition. Many wheat stands have reached the dough stage of maturity. Leonard Kuykendall, Regional Extension Agent located in Autauga County, stated that moderate temperatures have delayed maturity of the wheat crop in some areas. Olin F. Farris, County Extension Coordinator in Escambia County, mentioned that the heavy rain that fell on Thursday, May 15th, caused lodging that could result in yield loss in some wheat and oat stands. Some wheat showed signs of disease because of the moisture received during the last two weeks. Alex Brand, County Executive Director in the Wilcox County FSA office, added that wheat in the area looked good, and that harvest was expected to begin within the next two weeks.

Corn/Cotton/Soybeans/Peanuts: Overall, Alabama's corn crop remained in mostly good to excellent condition. Mr. Kuykendall noted that corn and cotton in the area around Autauga County were looking good. The soybean acreage that was planted in and around Autauga County had emerged with the recent soil moisture. Certain areas of the state were extremely dry during the early part of the past week. Corn stands in several non-irrigated fields in Dale County began to wilt in the dry weather conditions. Producers were busy side-dressing corn, and applying insecticides and herbicides to cotton stands. Larry Forrester, County Executive Director in the Dale County FSA office, reported that producers had stopped planting peanuts early during the past week due to dry soil conditions, but planned on resuming operations after some moisture was received.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: With timely rainfall, 70 percent of Alabama's pasture land remained in good to excellent condition. Weed control continued to be the most important issue for many producers trying to address pasture performance. Henry Dorough, Regional Extension Agent located in Talladega County, indicated that widespread rainfall ranging from 0.5 to 3 inches helped to improve pastures in areas where fertility was managed. Poorly managed pastures were beginning to show signs of over grazing. Kenneth Kelly, Regional Extension Agent located in Mobile County, added that recent showers helped to stimulate growth, and green up summer perennials. The state's first hay harvest progressed 8 percent during the past week. Rainfall slowed or halted some haying operations. The state's livestock were reported in good to excellent condition, and were obtaining 90 percent of their feedstuffs from pasture grasses.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather for the Period: Monday, May 12, 2008 To Sunday, May 18, 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	44	63	-6	1.09	-0.10	3	15.79	-6.61	70	68	94	-36	32	-30
Russellville	77	43	61	-6	0.92	-0.38	2	19.65	-5.03	80		92	-17	30	-15
Belle Mina	79	42	62	-6	0.73	-0.34	4	18.08	-5.75	76		93	-31	26	-31
Huntsville Ag	77	45	63	-6	0.46	-0.73	3	18.24	-6.54	74		91	-37	28	-32
Hamilton	78	42	61	-7	1.30	-0.03	3	25.35	-0.61	98		90	-26	26	-22
District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 18% of Corn Ac., 5% of Cotton Ac., 28% of Soybean Ac.															
Anniston AP	76	45	64	-6	1.70	0.75	1	23.59	-0.85	97	68	102	-35	35	-32
Cullman Ag	74	41	60	-8	1.36	0.17	3	25.07	-1.01	96		81	-42	18	-38
Sand Mountain	73	43	59	-8	0.87	-0.22	1	21.49	-3.25	87		75	-39	17	-29
Gadsden_AP	75	43	62	-7	1.24	0.18	2	17.08	-8.40	67		87	-40	24	-35
Bridgeport	76	43	60	-7	0.62	-0.57	2	21.47	-4.39	83		79	-32	19	-25
Guntersville	75	45	62	-8	0.87	-0.24	2	20.26	-3.86	84		96	-40	30	-36
District 30 North Central Alabama - 9% of Corn Ac., 4% of Cotton Ac., 6% of Soybean Ac., 71% of Peach Trees.															
Thorsby	85	47	66	-5	1.95	1.10	2	21.85	-3.18	87	75	122	-15	52	-16
Talladega	76	43	63	-7	1.47	0.42	1	23.82	-1.79	93		102	-28	33	-28
Birmingham_AP	76	46	65	-5	2.03	0.91	2	24.42	0.36	101		109	-27	42	-25
Alabaster	77	47	65	-5	2.52	1.55	2	27.59	1.49	106		109	-24	41	-23
Pinson	76	44	63	-5	1.44	0.34	1	23.75	-1.64	94		95	-25	31	-22
Opelika_Wtr_Plt	79	44	63	-6	1.32	0.48	2	22.88	-2.59	90		102	-28	32	-28
Alexander_City	78	45	64	-6	2.61	1.63	1	25.55	0.20	101		107	-25	37	-27
Tuscaloosa_AP	80	47	66	-5	3.81	2.87	2	22.85	-1.93	92		114	-32	46	-30
Jasper	77	43	62	-6	2.37	1.25	2	27.31	1.58	106		99	-21	30	-22
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	82	49	67	-5	0.47	-0.44	1	15.27	-7.98	66	75	126	-20	56	-20
Marion Junction	82	48	66	-5	0.89	0.05	1	19.78	-4.44	82		118	-24	49	-23
Montgomery_AP	83	48	68	-4	1.61	0.70	1	18.73	-4.65	80		130	-23	60	-23
Livingston	82	47	65	-6	4.84	3.88	2	24.10	-1.07	96		117	-26	47	-26
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	89	53	71	-4	2.41	1.15	2	26.25	0.74	103	78	148	-20	78	-20
Brewton_AG	89	46	67	-5	1.52	0.38	2	25.25	-0.24	99		129	-24	59	-24
Thomasville	83	51	67	-5	0.76	-0.35	3	21.10	-4.22	83		132	-18	62	-18
Mobile_Bates	86	53	71	-5	2.04	0.71	3	27.69	3.08	113		148	-24	78	-24
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	86	51	68	-4	0.84	-0.07	2	23.15	0.96	104	79	133	-13	63	-13
Troy_Municipal	85	44	67	-5	0.58	-0.26	2	19.96	-2.48	89		122	-26	52	-26
Highland Home	83	41	64	-8	1.00	0.02	2	22.72	-1.95	92		109	-40	40	-39
Geneva_Ag	91	50	72	-2	1.10	0.25	2	23.01	1.05	105		156	-3	86	-3
Headland	91	51	71	-3	0.64	-0.37	2	18.79	-4.89	79		81	-10	81	-10
Dothan	94	53	72	-1	0.65	-0.19	2	16.48	-6.87	71		156	-2	86	-2

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.

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