



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



BILL WEAVER, 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: May 27, 2008 -- 3:00 P.M.

Visit our website at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/al>

Issue 8

Julie Schmidt, Ag. Statistician

Winter Wheat Harvest Underway

Data tables reflect the week ending: **May 25, 2008.**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2007	5-Yr Avg.
Cotton Planted	89	76	84	86
Peanuts Planted	61	36	68	75
Soybeans Planted	51	43	69	49
Soybeans Emerged	40	31	49	33
Hay Harvested 1 st Cutting	60	43	na	na
Percent of Feed from Pastures	89	90	na	na

na = not available

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
Corn	0	1	15	76	8
Winter Wheat	0	0	11	59	30
Livestock	0	5	28	54	13
Pasture & Range	3	6	24	57	10

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
District 10	6.3	4	20	76	0
District 20	4.8	0	5	95	0
District 30	5.0	0	0	100	0
District 40	7.0	0	9	91	0
District 50	5.5	0	14	83	3
District 60	6.8	8	50	42	0
State: Current Week	6.0	3	22	75	0
State: Previous Week	4.9	2	16	79	3

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: The lingering hydrological drought conditions that plagued the state last year were further reduced during the past couple of weeks thanks to several strong storm systems. Extreme drought conditions were present in all of Cleburne, and parts of Blount, Calhoun, Clay, Etowah, Jefferson, Randolph, Shelby, St. Clair, and Talladega Counties, representing only 6.7 percent of Alabama compared to 58.7 percent one year ago, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor released for May 20, 2008. Temperatures during the past week varied from a few degrees below to as many as 6 degrees above normal for this time of year. Daytime highs ranged from 84 degrees in Sand Mountain to a hot 93 degrees in Dothan. Overnight lows varied from a cool 47 degrees in Bridgeport to 64 degrees in Thomasville, Headland, and Dothan. Rainfall was scattered across the state, with total accumulations ranging 0.01 inches in

Huntsville to 1.77 inches in Thomasville. Several weather stations in north-central, south-central, and southeastern Alabama remained dry. Thomas D. Atkinson, County Executive Director in the Madison County FSA office, indicated that some areas within the county were already beginning to become dry even after the frequent rainfall that was received during the previous weeks.

Small Grains: Winter wheat harvest was underway in some areas across the state with nearly 90 percent of the crop reported in good to excellent condition. Leonard Kuykendall, Regional Extension Agent located in Autauga County, stated that producers harvested the first of the area's wheat crop over the weekend. Yield estimates were good, but not as strong as those realized last year. Alex Brand, County Executive Director in the Wilcox County FSA office, mentioned that producers anticipated wheat harvest to begin soon.

Corn/Cotton/Soybeans/Peanuts: The majority of the state's corn remained in good to excellent condition during the past week. Nevertheless, the corn crop in some regions showed a slight decline in condition. Mr. Atkinson noted that the late-planted corn in Madison County was under some stress and needed a soaking rain. Mr. Brand added that cotton farmers continued planting. Soybeans in some parts of Wilcox County were also planted, but the majority of the beans would be planted later in the crop season. Doyle Barnes, County Executive Director in the Covington County FSA office, reported that cotton and peanut planting was progressing well. Peanut planting increased dramatically during the past week, but remained behind the progress of last year and the five-year average. The large jump in progress was attributed to producers taking advantage of the soil moisture currently available. However, the area needed more moisture for producers to continue planting, and for the crops to emerge to a good stand.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Pasture conditions deteriorated during the past week, as rainfall was scarce and temperatures were on the rise. The first hay harvest moved forward steadily, in spite of light rain showers in some areas. Daniel S. Miller, County Extension Coordinator for DeKalb County, stated that hay harvest was slow because frequent, low quantity rains and cool night temperatures made it difficult to cure the crop. T. H. Gregg, Regional Extension Agent located in Etowah County, added that producers in the area were cutting their hay later this year than in years past due to recent weather conditions. Henry Dorough, Regional Extension Agent located in Talladega County, indicated that haying operations in the area pressed on despite scattered rainfall during the past week. Alabama's livestock were reported in mostly good to excellent condition.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather for the Period: Monday, May 19, 2008 To Sunday, May 25, 2008

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 40% of Corn Ac., 32% of Cotton Ac., 41% of Soybean Ac.															
Muscle Shoals	91	51	71	2	0.12	-1.04	1	15.91	-7.65	68		150	7	80	6
Russellville	88	52	69	3	0.67	-0.56	2	20.32	-5.59	78		151	28	81	27
Belle Mina	89	48	69	-1	0.11	-0.94	1	18.19	-6.69	73	74	151	14	81	14
Huntsville Ag	90	53	73	3	0.01	-1.12	1	18.25	-7.66	70		159	18	89	18
Hamilton	90	50	69	2	0.08	-1.17	2	25.43	-1.78	93		151	22	81	22
District 20: Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 18% of Corn Ac., 5% of Cotton Ac., 28% of Soybean Ac.															
Anniston AP	88	55	72	2	0.06	-0.85	1	23.65	-1.70	93		157	7	87	7
Cullman Ag	86	49	68	-2	0.57	-0.56	3	25.64	-1.57	94	71	140	4	70	4
Sand Mountain	84	51	67	-2	0.37	-0.66	2	21.86	-3.91	85	74	134	7	64	6
Gadsden_AP	87	54	71	2	0.68	-0.31	3	17.76	-8.71	67		151	11	81	12
Bridgeport	86	47	67	-2	0.29	-0.86	2	21.76	-5.25	81		129	6	59	4
Guntersville	87	55	69	-3	0.11	-0.91	4	20.37	-4.77	81		152	4	82	4
District 30: North Central Alabama - 9% of Corn Ac., 4% of Cotton Ac., 6% of Soybean Ac., 71% of Peach Trees.															
Thorsby	89	62	75	5	0.00	-0.84	0	21.96	-3.91	85	75	184	34	114	34
Talladega	88	52	71	0	0.11	-0.94	2	23.93	-2.73	90		160	17	90	17
Birmingham_AP	88	58	74	3	0.07	-1.00	1	24.49	-0.64	97		165	17	95	17
Alabaster	89	59	74	4	0.00	-0.91	0	27.59	0.58	102		173	27	103	27
Pinson	88	54	72	4	0.19	-0.86	2	23.94	-2.50	91		157	23	87	23
Opelika_Wtr_Plt	87	55	71	2	0.00	-0.79	0	22.88	-3.38	87		157	14	87	14
Alexander_City	89	54	72	2	0.03	-0.95	1	25.58	-0.75	97		164	20	94	20
Tuscaloosa_AP	91	57	75	3	0.06	-0.83	2	22.91	-2.76	89		177	18	107	19
Jasper	89	53	70	2	0.05	-1.03	1	27.36	0.55	102		153	21	83	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	90	58	75	2	0.81	-0.12	2	16.08	-8.10	67		180	22	110	22
Marion Junction	89	62	75	4	0.34	-0.50	1	20.12	-4.94	80	80	183	28	113	29
Montgomery_AP	92	61	77	4	0.00	-0.85	0	18.73	-5.50	77		190	26	120	26
Livingston	89	52	74	3	0.83	-0.06	4	24.93	-1.13	96		178	22	108	23
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	61	77	2	0.78	-0.48	1	27.03	0.26	101		197	19	127	19
Brewton_AG	90	50	76	3	1.77	0.56	2	27.02	0.32	101	83	190	26	120	26
Thomasville	89	64	76	4	0.85	-0.20	2	21.95	-4.42	83		188	27	118	28
Mobile_Bates	88	61	77	2	0.82	-0.51	1	28.51	2.57	110		192	10	122	10
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	90	59	75	3	0.50	-0.41	4	23.65	0.55	102		182	24	112	24
Troy_Municipal	90	58	75	3	0.00	-0.84	0	19.96	-3.32	86		180	21	110	22
Highland Home	88	56	72	-1	0.82	-0.23	2	23.54	-2.18	92		167	7	97	7
Geneva_Ag	91	57	77	4	0.05	-0.89	1	23.06	0.16	101	87	203	32	133	32
Headland	92	64	79	5	0.00	-1.05	0	18.79	-5.94	76	85	205	34	135	34
Dothan	93	64	80	6	0.00	-0.89	0	16.48	-7.76	68		210	41	140	41

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.

Official Business
Penalty For Private Use, \$300
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Agricultural Statistician
P. O. Box 240578
Montgomery, Alabama 36124-0578



National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 36124
PERMIT NO. G-38