



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

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

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ISSUE 11

Julie Schmidt, Ag. Statistician

Crop Growth Slows Under Dry Conditions

CROP PROGRESS

Sunday, June 11, 2006

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2005	5-Yr Avg.
Corn Silked	31	8	6	15
Cotton Planted	100	99	99	99
Cotton Squaring	11	2	10	16
Soybeans Planted	84	76	67	62
Soybeans Emerged	67	60	52	48
Peanuts Planted	99	97	99	99

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Friday, June 9, 2006

Crop	Very Poor				
	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.	
Percent					
Corn	15	16	31	35	3
Cotton	4	16	46	34	0
Soybeans	2	5	37	54	2
Peanuts	0	16	53	31	0
Winter Wheat	5	16	15	62	2
Pasture	14	25	28	30	3
Livestock	2	6	32	54	6

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	6.6	19	41	39	1
District 20	6.3	24	60	16	0
District 30	7.0	33	29	38	0
District 40	6.9	23	57	20	0
District 50	6.7	53	35	12	0
District 60	6.1	76	24	0	0
State: Current Week	6.6	38	40	22	0
State: Previous Week	6.4	23	34	42	1

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS: General: Dry weather conditions persisted again this week, as soil moisture throughout the state continued to deteriorate. Severe drought conditions were seen in areas of southwestern Alabama, with abnormally dry conditions pushing into the central and southeastern areas of the state. Jerry Armstrong in the Houston County FSA office stated that it was dry two weeks ago, and that it hasn't rained since. Producers in the county are getting into a serious drought situation. Scattered rain showers were seen in parts of the state, but only minimal amounts of precipitation fell. Most counties reported still being in need of a significant amount of moisture. Research Horticulturist, Monte Nesbitt, reported that the Gulf Coast counties are extremely dry, and growers with irrigation capabilities are supplying as much

water as possible to their crops. Cherokee County Extension Agent, David Derrick, indicated that crops are growing very slowly due to the lack of rainfall. Temperatures over the past week ranged from just below to slightly above normal. Daytime highs varied from the low to upper 90's with recorded overnight lows ranging from the upper 40's into the low 60's.

Cotton: The overall condition of the state's cotton crop continued to decline during the past week. Thomas Atkinson in the Madison County FSA office reported that cotton stands in the county are behind due to poor growing conditions experienced through April and May. Jackson County reporter, Donald E. Mann, indicated that a small amount of cotton acreage was prevented from being planted. J. Heath Potter stated that the Lawrence County cotton crop is trying to hold on, but farmers are in desperate need of rain in most places. Extension Agent, Tim Reed, noted that the cotton crop in Franklin County is not yet seriously hurting and is starting to square, but insect pressure is starting to be seen in some fields.

Corn/Peanuts: The condition of Alabama's corn crop continues to slide in counties across the state. Extension Entomologist, James Weeks, indicated that corn in the Wiregrass area of the state that is not irrigated is gone. Mr. Mann reported that Jackson County corn is twisting up before noon due to the heat. Early corn in the county will begin tasseling soon, and rainfall is critical if the crop is going to yield at all. Washington County Extension Agent, Arthur Threatt, noted that young corn stands are starting to twist and mature fields are not fully developing. Mr. Weeks also stated that peanuts are currently tolerating the warm, dry weather, but within a week or two will start to bloom and suffer significantly. Dry weather insect pressure from spider mites and lesser cornstalk borers are causing concern in many peanut fields.

Peaches/Pecans/Other: Research Horticulturist, Bobby Boozer, reported that dry conditions continued throughout central Alabama. The timing of these dry conditions coincides with what is known as "June Drop", when trees naturally drop fruit and nuts. Growers are irrigating peach trees to help with sizing, as varieties are ripening quickly, some 5 to 7 days early. Mr. Nesbitt stated that citrus trees, including Satumas, are also showing a large June Drop. The Desirable variety of pecans had shown good nut set early in the growing season, but has suffered heavy drop due to soil moisture conditions. Disease pressure is low under the dry conditions, but growers are still being encouraged to treat for Greasy Spot when summer flush leaves emerge over the next two weeks. Regional Extension Agent, Doug Chapman indicated that early vegetables are being harvested, and Japanese beetles have emerged.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Pastures and hay fields that have yet to be harvested are showing the signs of no moisture, and more livestock have fallen into very poor and poor conditions. Producers are wrapping up the first cutting of hay in most counties. Some areas have been supplemental feeding livestock as forage supplies have dried up. As hay supplies are exhausted, producers are moving calves to auctions.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather For the Period: Monday June 5, 2006 To: Sunday June 11, 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	56	75	0	0.65	-0.31	1	26.27	0.38	101		174	0	104	0
Russellville	95	49	71	-2	0.06	-0.87	1	22.27	-5.95	79		154	3	84	3
Belle Mina	93	54	73	0	0.00	-0.91	0	20.24	-6.80	75	81	169	4	99	4
Huntsville Ag	93	54	75	2	0.11	-0.85	1	19.90	-8.31	71		177	6	107	6
Hamilton	95	49	71	-2	0.22	-0.75	1	23.02	-6.60	78		157	0	87	0
District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 22% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 23% of Soybean Acreage.															
Anniston AP	94	51	73	-3	0.00	-0.84	0	23.11	-4.18	85		162	-16	92	-16
Cullman Ag	91	51	71	-2	0.18	-0.77	1	26.37	-2.91	90	74	158	-4	88	-4
Sand Mountain	91	50	70	-3	0.00	-0.85	0	20.33	-6.89	75	78	149	-6	79	-6
Gadsden AP	93	48	72	-3	0.11	-0.73	1	18.80	-9.66	66		158	-11	88	-11
Bridgeport	91	50	71	-2	0.00	-0.92	0	23.98	-5.06	83		153	-2	83	-2
Guntersville	93	57	73	-3	0.01	-0.73	1	20.67	-5.91	78		172	-4	102	-4
District 30 North Central Alabama -10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 6% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees.															
Thorsby	94	56	75	-1	0.02	-0.90	1	18.64	-9.26	67	79	182	5	112	5
Talladega	95	52	72	-2	0.00	-0.98	0	23.67	-5.10	82		165	-5	95	-5
Birmingham AP	94	56	75	0	0.00	-0.84	0	29.62	2.45	109		179	4	109	4
Alabaster	95	59	76	1	0.06	-0.90	1	25.56	-3.58	88		182	9	112	9
Pinson	96	51	73	-1	0.00	-0.91	0	24.33	-4.25	85		165	3	95	3
Opelika_Wtr_Plt	91	52	71	-4	0.00	-0.86	0	23.63	-4.55	84		154	-17	84	-17
Alexander_City	95	53	74	-1	0.00	-0.91	0	19.91	-8.51	70		171	-1	101	-1
Tuscaloosa AP	95	52	75	-3	0.03	-0.81	1	22.88	-4.71	83		174	-12	104	-12
Jasper	94	53	72	-2	0.00	-0.91	0	28.87	-0.15	99		162	0	92	0
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	97	53	75	-2	0.02	-1.09	1	14.93	-11.67	56		182	-4	112	-4
Marion Junction	95	56	76	-1	0.00	-0.91	0	16.70	-10.38	62	81	184	1	114	1
Montgomery AP	95	55	76	-3	0.01	-0.83	1	18.51	-7.64	71		181	-11	111	-11
Livingston	94	55	75	-2	0.80	0.00	1	22.61	-5.33	81		180	-5	110	-4
District 50 Southwest Alabama - Coastal Plain 11% of Corn Acreage, 20% of Cotton Acreage, 13% of Soybean Acreage, 32% of Peanut Acreage, 51% of Pecan Trees.															
Bay Minette	94	62	78	-2	0.00	-1.26	0	19.51	-10.14	66		202	2	132	2
Brewton AG	98	55	78	2	0.00	-1.35	0	20.44	-9.26	69	87	202	15	132	15
Thomasville	93	56	76	-1	0.25	-0.66	1	21.71	-6.62	77		192	5	122	5
Mobile Bates	94	61	79	-1	0.12	-1.02	1	13.91	-14.77	49		203	-3	133	-3
District 60 Southeast Alabama - Wiregrass 23% of Corn Acreage, 27% of Cotton Acreage, 4% of Soybean Acreage, 64% of Peanut Acreage, 23% of Pecan Trees.															
Eufaula_Wildlife	96	59	77	1	0.04	-0.94	1	19.45	-5.24	79		192	7	122	7
Troy_Municipal	96	51	75	-2	0.00	-0.92	0	19.52	-5.80	77		175	-9	105	-9
Highland Home	92	50	71	-6	0.03	-1.00	1	21.40	-6.69	76		157	-28	87	-28
Geneva_Ag	98	54	76	-2	0.00	-1.20	0	19.71	-5.75	77	90	194	1	124	1
Headland	97	60	79	2	0.00	-1.14	0	14.09	-13.19	52	92	207	13	137	13
Dothan	98	60	79	3	0.00	-1.07	0	15.90	-10.67	60		208	16	138	16

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.

PERIODICALS
POSTAGE PAID
at MONTGOMERY, AL



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