



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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ISSUE 16

Julie Schmidt, Ag. Statistician

Hot, Dry Conditions Persist

CROP PROGRESS

Sunday, July 16, 2006

Crop	This Week	Last Week	5-Yr Avg.	
			2005	Percent
Corn Silked	98	93	91	91
Corn Dough	65	0	39	44
Cotton Squaring	74	61	82	90
Cotton Setting Bolls	47	18	34	39
Soybeans Emerged	98	97	99	97
Soybeans Blooming	62	39	38	27
Soybeans Setting Pods	31	13	24	11
Peanuts Pegged	29	13	27	51

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Friday, July 14, 2006

Crop	Very Poor to Excellent				
	Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Corn	45	33	17	5	0
Cotton	22	33	30	15	0
Soybeans	30	40	21	9	0
Peanuts	10	34	38	18	0
Pasture	45	38	16	1	0
Livestock	3	26	45	23	3

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	6.9	65	28	7	0
District 20	6.3	57	37	6	0
District 30	7.0	60	40	0	0
District 40	6.8	75	20	5	0
District 50	6.5	36	42	20	2
District 60	6.1	77	23	0	0
State: Current Week	6.6	67	28	5	0
State: Previous Week	6.6	52	35	13	0

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: Hot, dry conditions persisted throughout most of Alabama again this week. Scattered rain showers were received by some producers, but many feel that it is too little too late. Crop conditions worsened, as the moisture accumulation that was seen is gone due to unrelenting temperatures. Extreme drought conditions spread eastward across southern Alabama into the Florida Panhandle, with the rest of the state experiencing abnormally dry to severe drought conditions. Temperatures for the state were well above normal, with many areas observing highs upward of 100 degrees. Overnight lows varied from the low 60's along the coast to the low 70's inland. Daytime highs ranged from the mid 90's to low 100's with a high of

104 degrees recorded in Marion Junction.

Cotton: The state's cotton crop continues to suffer as drought conditions persevere. William Birdsong, Extension Agronomist at Auburn University reported that the older crop stands are blooming out of the top, and the yield potential is being drastically reduced with every day without substantial rainfall. The younger stands have just emerged because they have been lying in dry soil for three or more weeks. Autauga County Extension Agent, Leonard Kuykendall, noted that producers are finishing an application of post directed herbicides, with a few applications of insecticides. He also mentioned that cotton in the county is maturing rapidly, with little promise of recovery. Franklin County Extension Agent, Tim Reed, expressed that some producers are fighting aphids since disease is not killing them this year. James D. Jones, Jr., Henry County Extension Agent stated that area cotton stands are only a few weeks away from being total losses.

Peanuts: Mr. Birdsong indicated that for the most part the peanut crop has survived well if there was a stand after planting. However, peanuts are in desperate need for moisture as they enter the reproduction phase of crop development. Mr. Jones noted that peanut stands in the county still have a little time, but need rain within the few days to weeks.

Corn/Soybeans: Mr. Kuykendall stated that the corn in Autauga County is maturing fast with little hope of recovering. Mr. Jones indicated that corn in Henry County is almost a 100% loss. A few acres will be harvested for grain, but the rest is being cut for silage. Mr. Reed noted that Southwest Cornborer moths continue to lay eggs in Franklin County corn fields. Dennis Delaney, Extension Specialist at Auburn University reported that Alabama's soybean crop is highly variable. Early soybean stands are short and have already bloomed due to the hot, dry weather conditions. Later planted stands are skimpy. Fields in northern Alabama still look relatively good. Soybean rust occurrence has been very limited, but has been seen in areas of Baldwin County.

Vegetables: Chip East, Regional Extension Agent and Commercial Horticulturist mentioned that vegetable crops in eastern Alabama look great if they have been irrigated. All non-irrigated crops in the area look terrible. Insect and disease pressures have been relatively non-existent because of the drought. Farmer's markets have been doing great.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Pastures and hay fields have been devastated from the continued hot, dry weather. Bobby Wallace, Extension Agent in Marion County indicated that armyworms were found in a Bermuda grass hay field at the southern end of the county. The producer will cut the field early to avoid spraying to control them. Cindy Owens in the Fayette County FSA office stated that ranchers are selling cattle due to the lack of pasture and lack of hay available for harvest. Ricky Colquitt, Extension Agent in Shelby County noted that producers are hauling water to livestock as all natural water sources dry up.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather For the Period: Monday July 10, 2006 To: Sunday July 16, 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	99	70	84	5	0.00	-1.11	0	28.48	-2.38	92		237	29	167	29
Russellville	97	69	83	7	0.00	-1.05	0	24.20	-8.70	74		237	48	167	48
Belle Mina	103	67	83	6	0.50	-0.60	2	22.13	-9.86	69	87	238	42	168	42
Huntsville Ag	99	71	84	6	0.32	-0.83	2	21.26	-12.11	64		240	37	170	37
Hamilton	103	65	83	6	0.00	-1.12	0	24.22	-10.40	70		237	41	167	41
District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 22% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 23% of Soybean Acreage.															
Anniston AP	98	69	83	4	0.25	-0.79	2	24.65	-7.33	77		229	22	159	22
Cullman Ag	97	66	81	4	0.77	-0.41	2	29.00	-5.48	84	80	226	30	156	30
Sand Mountain	94	69	81	5	0.85	-0.27	2	24.03	-8.09	75		218	36	148	36
Gadsden AP	93	66	80	2	0.10	-1.09	2	23.08	-10.46	69		214	11	144	11
Bridgeport	94	65	80	3	0.82	-0.40	2	26.90	-7.39	78		213	24	143	24
Guntersville	96	69	83	5	0.29	-0.88	4	23.56	-7.67	75		237	34	167	34
District 30 North Central Alabama -10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 6% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees.															
Thorsby	97	71	84	6	0.22	-0.97	1	21.03	-12.36	63	85	242	39	172	39
Talladega	99	67	82	5	0.20	-0.95	2	25.23	-8.96	74		233	36	163	36
Birmingham AP	97	73	85	6	0.23	-1.03	2	34.34	2.06	106		246	36	176	36
Alabaster	98	71	84	5	0.72	-0.54	1	28.38	-6.48	81		239	36	169	36
Pinson	97	67	82	5	0.63	-0.56	1	26.43	-7.38	78		226	33	156	33
Opelika_Wtr_Plt	98	65	81	4	0.00	-1.40	0	23.94	-10.20	70		231	34	161	34
Alexander_City	97	66	83	5	0.47	-0.80	1	23.13	-10.95	68		234	31	164	31
Tuscaloosa AP	100	70	85	5	1.09	-0.17	2	24.95	-7.94	76		245	28	175	28
Jasper	98	68	83	6	0.67	-0.58	2	29.94	-4.42	87		234	38	164	38
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	102	68	84	5	0.37	-0.93	2	16.57	-16.33	50		244	34	174	34
Marion Junction	104	70	86	7	0.00	-1.13	0	18.63	-13.80	57	87	261	51	191	51
Montgomery AP	100	69	84	3	0.43	-0.82	3	21.27	-10.21	68		240	23	170	23
Livingston	99	69	84	4	0.38	-1.02	2	24.70	-8.87	74		239	29	169	29
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	93	60	81	1	0.08	-1.71	1	21.68	-15.73	58		224	7	154	7
Brewton AG	99	66	83	3	0.00	-1.66	0	23.65	-13.77	63	90	237	27	167	27
Thomasville	97	70	83	4	0.45	-0.97	1	23.49	-10.77	69		237	27	167	27
Mobile Bates	95	69	83	1	1.92	0.36	1	16.94	-18.35	48		233	9	163	9
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	99	68	84	4	0.32	-0.88	2	22.25	-8.05	73		243	33	173	33
Troy_Municipal	101	65	83	4	0.00	-1.38	0	20.98	-10.32	67		230	25	160	25
Highland Home	98	62	80	1	1.28	0.12	1	24.35	-9.21	73		215	5	145	5
Geneva_Ag	99	63	82	2	0.02	-1.59	1	22.05	-10.78	67	93	230	16	160	16
Headland	98	69	84	4	0.02	-1.37	1	17.44	-16.31	52	95	237	25	167	25
Dothan	98	70	84	5	0.00	-1.40	0	19.94	-13.15	60		240	30	170	30

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. For more weather information visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955.

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