



# 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: July 28, 2008 -- 3:00 P.M.

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

Issue 17

Julie Schmidt, Ag. Statistician

## Rain Welcomed in Areas, Crop Conditions Still Vary

Data tables reflect the week ending: **July 27, 2008.**

### CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2007	5-Yr Avg
	Percent			
Corn Dough Stage	90	82	78	76
Corn Dented	54	37	35	44
Corn Mature	8	4	29	19
Corn Harvested	2	1	9	7
Cotton Squaring	95	91	85	91
Cotton Setting Bolls	61	49	51	58
Cotton Bolls Opening	0	na	0	1
Peanuts Pegged	60	50	51	62
Soybeans Blooming	64	53	73	60
Soybeans Setting Pods	32	22	31	30

na = not available

### CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Corn	14	22	34	25	5
Cotton	1	11	44	40	4
Peanut	2	7	36	49	6
Soybean	10	24	43	22	1
Livestock	1	13	31	53	2
Pasture & Range	7	24	38	29	2

### TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	5.5	23	43	34	0
District 20	6.3	32	50	18	0
District 30	5.5	17	41	40	2
District 40	5.2	0	21	77	2
District 50	6.1	0	15	83	2
District 60	6.3	10	40	50	0
State: Current Week	5.9	16	37	46	1
State: Previous Week	6.7	23	38	39	0

### EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

**General:** Weather conditions across the state remained diverse during the past week. Shane Seay, County Executive Director in the Limestone County FSA office, indicated that temperatures reached the 100 degree mark with only spotty rain showers received. Thomas D. Atkinson, County Executive Director in the Madison County FSA office, reported that some areas of the county had not received any significant rainfall since Memorial Day weekend. Conversely, Henry Dorough, Regional Extension Agent located in Talladega County, stated that widespread

rainfall during the past week helped to alleviate some of the drought conditions in pastures and hayfields throughout the area. James D. Jones, Jr., County Extension Coordinator for Henry County, added that some much needed rain fell across the county during the past week. Average temperatures during the past week varied from just below to well above normal, and were above the century mark in several places. Daytime highs ranged from 95 degrees in Union Springs, Bay Minette, and Highland Home to a sweltering 104 degrees in Hamilton. Overnight lows varied from 59 degrees in Bridgeport to 72 degrees in Montgomery, Bay Minette, Mobile, and Dothan. All weather stations reported receiving rain during the past week. Total accumulations were well above one inch in numerous locations across the state, with Russellville, Bridgeport, Thomasville, and Mobile receiving over three inches. However, many areas that have received rainfall remained well behind normal in their year-to-date precipitation totals.

**Corn/Cotton/Peanuts/Soybeans:** The condition of Alabama's row crops was dependent upon the amount of rainfall that had been received throughout the duration of this year's growing season. Dale Monks, Agronomist with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, stated that some corn stands in central and southern Alabama were the best he had seen in recent years, while others located in the Wiregrass region bordered on disaster. It was reported that the condition of the state's cotton crop varied from knee-high and blooming in extremely dry areas to chest high in regions that have received adequate moisture. The peanut crop was holding on well across the peanut belt. Leonard Kuykendall, Regional Extension Agent located in Autauga County, reported that a widespread rain boosted all crops, but particularly benefited peanuts and double-cropped soybeans. Alex Brand, County Executive Director in the Wilcox County FSA office, indicated that all crops needed rain, but that cotton and soybeans looked good in most places. Jeff Knotts, County Executive Director in the Pike County FSA office, stated that most of the county welcomed copious amounts of rainfall at a critical stage of the growing season. Producers spent the week making insecticide and herbicide applications to cotton, peanuts and soybeans.

**Pasture/Hay/Livestock:** Pasture conditions across the state varied, but overall showed a decline during the past week. Mr. Seay noted that the prospects for producers in Limestone County harvesting a second cutting of hay diminished as any grass that was available was being grazed. However, hay production in some areas of Districts 20 and 30 was thriving. T. H. Gregg, Regional Extension Agent located in Etowah County, mentioned that some hay producers in the area were able to harvest a second cutting of hay. Mr. Dorough added that a few producers in the Talladega County area were preparing to harvest a second cutting of hay. Most livestock remained in good to excellent condition during the past week, but showed a slight decline as pastures in many areas of the state continued to burn up.

**ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather for the Period: Monday, July 21, 2008 to Sunday, July 27, 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., 36% of Cotton Ac., 41% of Soybean Ac.															
Muscle Shoals	103	67	84	4	0.75	-0.24	4	23.36	-9.24	72		240	30	170	30
Russellville	101	67	82	5	3.06	2.08	3	32.19	-2.44	93		229	38	159	37
Belle Mina	99	65	81	3	1.07	0.05	4	26.19	-7.57	78	88	221	19	151	19
Huntsville Ag	102	66	83	4	1.04	-0.02	4	23.45	-11.78	67		230	27	160	27
Hamilton	104	63	83	5	0.80	-0.26	4	32.44	-4.04	89		232	36	162	35
District 20: Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 18% of Corn Ac., 7% of Cotton Ac., 28% of Soybean Ac.															
Anniston AP	98	69	81	2	0.83	-0.16	3	31.51	-2.21	93		221	11	151	11
Cullman Ag	97	67	79	1	2.07	1.03	3	35.12	-1.41	96	82	204	8	134	8
Sand Mountain	98	65	79	3	0.52	-0.49	2	25.58	-8.94	74	83	209	20	139	20
Gadsden_AP	100	68	81	3	0.63	-0.50	3	21.12	-14.40	59		221	17	151	18
Bridgeport	98	59	77	-1	3.97	2.81	5	32.70	-3.83	90		191	2	121	1
Guntersville	98	69	81	2	0.75	-0.30	4	26.70	-6.81	80		223	16	153	17
District 30: North Central Alabama - 8% of Corn Ac., 4% of Cotton Ac., 6% of Soybean Ac., 71% of Peach Trees.															
Thorsby	98	69	82	4	1.78	0.66	6	33.69	-1.67	95		226	23	156	23
Talladega	98	66	81	3	1.45	0.37	4	31.27	-5.02	86		223	20	153	20
Birmingham_AP	99	70	83	4	1.04	-0.12	2	33.79	-0.55	98		234	24	164	24
Alabaster	99	70	83	4	1.79	0.64	3	34.20	-2.69	93		230	23	160	23
Pinson	100	68	81	4	1.61	0.52	5	32.61	-3.12	91		217	21	147	21
Opelika_Wtr_Plt	97	64	80	2	0.28	-1.02	2	26.29	-10.15	72		216	13	146	13
Alexander_City	99	68	82	3	1.43	0.20	3	32.73	-3.48	90		226	23	156	23
Tuscaloosa_AP	102	70	84	4	1.21	-0.02	4	25.64	-9.38	73		243	22	173	22
Jasper	100	69	82	4	1.26	0.13	2	35.95	-0.39	99		232	34	162	34
District 40: South Central Alabama - Black Belt 10% of Corn Ac., 8% of Cotton Ac., 5% of Peanut Ac., 7% of Soybean Ac., 21% of Pecan															
Union Springs	95	67	80	-1	1.01	-0.18	2	24.67	-10.32	71		213	3	143	3
Marion Junction	98	71	83	4	2.05	0.97	3	26.38	-7.93	77	89	237	27	167	27
Montgomery_AP	98	72	84	3	1.24	0.10	3	28.81	-4.67	86		238	16	168	16
Livingston	99	64	82	2	1.14	-0.17	6	33.08	-2.80	92		230	14	160	13
District 50: SW Alabama - Coastal Plain 6% of Corn Ac., 15% of Cotton Ac., 30% of Peanut Ac., 11% of Soybean Ac., 51% of Pecan Trees.															
Bay Minette	95	72	83	2	1.38	-0.39	3	35.42	-5.06	88		233	14	163	13
Brewton_AG	96	69	82	3	1.49	-0.12	4	42.80	2.60	106	89	226	13	156	13
Thomasville	97	70	83	3	3.36	2.00	5	29.97	-6.88	81		236	19	166	19
Mobile_Bates	97	72	83	1	3.51	1.90	3	38.95	0.90	102		230	-1	160	-1
District 60: SE Alabama - Wiregrass 18% of Corn Ac., 31% of Cotton Ac., 64% of Peanut Ac., 7% of Soybean Ac., 23% of Pecan Trees.															
Eufaula_Wildlife	100	68	82	3	0.60	-0.55	5	29.15	-3.73	89		233	16	163	16
Troy_Municipal	100	68	82	3	1.46	0.19	3	25.22	-8.30	75		228	18	158	18
Highland Home	95	67	81	1	1.51	0.39	4	29.54	-5.94	83		217	7	147	7
Geneva_Ag	97	71	83	3	0.61	-0.93	3	32.43	-3.08	91	93	236	19	166	19
Headland	98	70	83	3	1.06	-0.24	4	27.20	-8.80	76	89	237	20	167	20
Dothan	99	72	84	5	0.99	-0.29	1	23.17	-12.17	66		243	33	173	33

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](http://www.awis.com) or call 1-888-798-9955.

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

National  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service



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

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