



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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ISSUE 18

Julie Schmidt, Ag. Statistician

Minimal Crop Improvement with Weeks Rain

CROP PROGRESS	Sunday, July 30, 2006			
	This Week	Last Week	2005	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Silked	100	99	99	99
Corn Dough	86	74	67	74
Corn Dented	53	37	27	50
Cotton Squaring	84	81	95	98
Cotton Setting Bolls	62	56	56	74
Soybeans Blooming	78	73	72	56
Soybeans Setting Pods	49	39	45	28
Peanuts Pegged	43	41	54	82

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION	Friday, July 28, 2006				
	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Corn	57	26	14	3	0
Cotton	38	37	21	4	0
Soybeans	41	40	18	1	0
Peanuts	16	26	41	17	0
Pasture	49	33	16	2	0
Livestock	13	28	35	19	5

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	7.0	84	16	0	0
District 20	6.4	59	41	0	0
District 30	6.8	37	60	3	0
District 40	6.6	58	19	23	0
District 50	5.4	65	35	0	0
District 60	6.8	40	52	8	0
State: Current Week	6.7	56	36	8	0
State: Previous Week	6.8	61	30	9	0

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: Most weather stations in Alabama received some rainfall during the past week, but there are still areas that have experienced limited moisture. Reported accumulations ranged from 0.08 inches in Marion Junction to 2.27 inches in Union Springs. Crops have improved somewhat with the welcomed rain. However, more precipitation is needed statewide to offset the current soil moisture deficits. Cindy Owens in the Fayette County FSA office noted that parts of the county received from 0.75 to 1.00 inches of rain, but the moisture was not widespread. Temperatures were a few degrees cooler over the

past week, but still remained above normal. Overnight lows varied from the lower 60's in northern Alabama to the low 70's across the rest of the state. Daytime highs ranged from the mid to upper 90's with only the Marion Junction weather station recording a temperature of 100 degrees.

Cotton: Aphids are still abundant in many cotton fields in Franklin County. Normally, fungal diseases kill them off in early July. Aphids and bollworm moths are dying out in Lawrence County fields. Donald E. Mann in the Jackson County FSA office stated that cotton is short, and blooming out of the top. Insect pressure is also a concern for producers in the county. James D. Jones, Extension Agent in Henry County reported that between 2,500 and 3,000 acres of cotton have been plowed up as disaster insurance claims are filed.

Peanuts/Soybeans: Peanuts are steadily losing time to make a good crop, as 42% of the crop was reported in very poor or poor condition. A steady rain is needed to give peanut stands a chance to develop. Soybeans are trying to set and fill pods. Mr. Mann indicated that yields in Jackson County are expected to be less than 50% of normal for most fields. Mr. Jones mentioned that some growers in Henry County have fields of soybeans that never emerged.

Corn: Mr. Mann also noted that corn harvest in Jackson County will probably begin next week, with earlier planted corn expected to yield better. Southwest cornborer moth numbers are down in Franklin County corn fields. Some producers in Henry County have harvested their corn as silage to use as livestock feed.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Pastures are still hurting. The lack of available forage remains the most pressing issue for Alabama ranchers. Extension Cattle Specialist, Darrell Rankins, reported that producers are baling corn and other alternative crops to store for use over the winter. Cattle operations have weaned their calves early while others have had to cull some of the cow herd. Tim Reed, Franklin County Extension Agent mentioned that the number of cattle brought to the Northwest Alabama Livestock Auction over the past week was double what was sold one year ago. Prices are somewhat suppressed due to the large volume being moved to market. Ms. Owens in the Fayette County FSA office noted that many cattlemen in the county have been supplemental feeding their herds since late June.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather For the Period: Monday July 24, 2006 To: Sunday July 30, 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	97	65	82	3	0.76	-0.19	3	29.54	-3.32	90		227	17	157	17
Russellville	97	66	81	4	0.91	-0.04	3	26.37	-8.52	76		225	34	155	33
Belle Mina	97	65	81	3	0.27	-0.73	3	23.20	-10.84	68	86	224	21	154	21
Huntsville Ag	94	67	81	3	0.64	-0.38	3	22.84	-12.67	64		219	15	149	14
Hamilton	99	61	81	3	0.64	-0.39	2	25.28	-11.48	69		218	22	148	21
District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 22% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 23% of Soybean Acreage.															
Anniston AP	94	69	80	0	1.60	0.62	2	26.77	-7.23	79		213	3	143	3
Cullman Ag	95	63	79	1	1.03	0.03	2	30.44	-6.15	83	80	202	6	132	6
Sand Mountain	94	65	80	4	0.50	-0.47	2	24.65	-9.52	72		213	24	143	24
Gadsden AP	97	66	80	1	0.13	-0.96	1	23.50	-12.32	66		212	7	142	7
Bridgeport	92	63	79	2	0.76	-0.37	3	28.96	-7.66	79		209	18	139	17
Guntersville	95	70	81	2	0.66	-0.34	3	25.29	-8.07	76		217	8	147	9
District 30 North Central Alabama - 10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 6% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees.															
Thorsby	95	72	82	4	0.21	-0.90	2	22.73	-12.94	64	84	231	28	161	28
Talladega	96	68	80	2	1.23	0.18	5	26.92	-9.44	74		214	11	144	11
Birmingham AP	94	71	83	4	0.53	-0.60	1	38.51	3.86	111		235	25	165	25
Alabaster	95	72	82	3	0.24	-0.87	1	29.77	-7.42	80		227	22	157	21
Pinson	97	65	81	4	0.75	-0.30	1	27.74	-8.27	77		229	33	159	33
Opelika Wtr_Plt	94	68	80	2	1.30	0.03	2	28.01	-8.78	76		215	12	145	12
Alexander_City	97	70	81	3	1.88	0.68	3	25.25	-11.29	69		224	21	154	21
Tuscaloosa AP	96	69	83	2	0.24	-0.96	3	25.65	-9.70	73		232	11	162	11
Jasper	95	64	80	3	0.28	-0.81	2	31.62	-5.03	86		218	18	148	18
District 40 South Central Alabama - Black Belt 9% of Corn Acreage, 12% of Cotton Acreage, 13% of Soybeans Acreage, 21% of Pecan															
Union Springs	99	70	82	3	2.27	1.11	2	20.45	-14.86	58		230	20	160	20
Marion Junction	100	71	83	4	0.08	-0.97	1	19.25	-15.35	56	87	237	27	167	27
Montgomery AP	98	70	83	2	0.98	-0.12	4	22.46	-11.32	66		232	12	162	12
Livingston	96	68	82	2	0.45	-0.83	4	26.08	-10.15	72		227	13	157	12
District 50 Southwest Alabama - Coastal Plain 11% of Corn Acreage, 20% of Cotton Acreage, 13% of Soybean Acreage, 32% of Peanut															
Bay Minette	95	71	82	0	1.23	-0.51	4	24.50	-16.47	60		225	5	155	5
Brewton AG	96	69	82	3	1.84	0.24	5	25.99	-14.66	64	83	226	13	156	13
Thomasville	95	71	82	2	0.39	-0.93	2	26.45	-10.53	72		225	9	155	9
Mobile Bates	94	70	81	-2	0.43	-1.18	4	18.80	-19.71	49		221	-8	151	-8
District 60 Southeast Alabama - Wiregrass 23% of Corn Acreage, 27% of Cotton Acreage, 4% of Soybean Acreage, 64% of Peanut Acreage.															
Eufaula Wildlife	97	72	82	2	1.93	0.81	5	25.51	-7.10	78		230	14	160	14
Troy Municipal	97	68	82	3	0.11	-1.12	2	22.28	-11.58	66		226	16	156	16
Highland Home	95	67	79	-2	0.43	-0.67	2	26.70	-9.08	75		206	-4	136	-4
Geneva Ag	97	69	82	2	1.24	-0.28	4	25.23	-10.70	70	89	226	9	156	9
Headland	98	71	83	3	1.26	-0.02	4	19.00	-17.36	52	95	233	16	163	16
Dothan	98	73	83	4	1.27	0.03	4	23.30	-12.39	65		232	22	162	22

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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