



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Issue 17

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Hopeful Normal Crop with Continued Rainfall

The data tables reflect the week ending: **July 22, 2007.**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Silked	97	93	99	96
Corn Dough	64	46	73	58
Cotton Squaring	79	69	80	91
Cotton Setting Bolls	45	31	55	53
Soybeans Blooming	62	45	71	47
Soybeans Setting Pods	22	na	38	22
Peanuts Pegged	42	29	39	59

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor				
	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.	
	Percent				
Corn	56	24	17	3	0
Cotton	19	30	31	19	1
Soybeans	30	31	29	10	0
Peanuts	11	21	26	36	6
Livestock	33	23	28	16	0
Pasture & Range	29	27	34	9	1

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short			
		Short	Adequate	Surplus	
		Percent			
District 10	6.0	38	45	17	0
District 20	6.3	44	26	30	0
District 30	6.9	24	41	35	0
District 40	6.8	18	51	31	0
District 50	5.0	0	22	74	4
District 60	5.7	25	40	33	2
State: Previous Week	4.9	27	39	33	1
State: Current Week	6.3	28	41	30	1

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: The amount of Alabama land rated as suffering from exceptional drought conditions decreased slightly from last week to 24.3 percent, as categorized by the U.S. Drought Monitor. William Henderson in the Escambia County FSA office indicated that rain showers from the Gulf were numerous every day. Temperatures for the week ranged from just below to just above normal. Daytime highs varied from 89 degrees in Sand Mountain, Bridgeport and Guntersville to 97 degrees in Montgomery. Over-night lows ranged from 57 degrees in Bridgeport to 70 degrees in Headland and Dothan. All weather stations reported receiving rainfall. Total accumulations varied from 0.09 inches in Alabaster to 2.69 inches in Geneva.

Corn/Soybeans: Most of Alabama's corn crop remained in very poor or poor condition during the past week. Cindy Owens in the Fayette County FSA office noted that most of the corn in the county tasseled at 12 to 24 inches high, and withered away during the extremely dry weather. Thomas D. Atkinson in the Madison County FSA Office reported that the recent rainfall helped the soybean crop, and with continued showers many producers expected to harvest a near normal crop. Russell C. Parrish, Jr., Crenshaw County Extension Agent, added that 60 percent of the soybeans in the county were expected to be lost, according to the County FSA Board.

Cotton/Peanuts: Farmers in the southeastern part of the state saw cotton conditions that continued to improve in fields that were able to achieve an adequate stand at planting. Growth regulators were applied to these fields. William Birdsong, Extension Agronomist at the Wiregrass Research and Extension Center, indicated that there were still some cotton fields that desperately needed a beneficial rainfall. Some potassium deficiency was seen in a sandy field with poor fertility. Pest pressure from aphids continued to build, but hadn't reached threatening levels. Jon Stuckey and Steven Williams, both area cotton consultants, reported a build up of lepidopteron eggs, immature stink bugs, and a few boll worm moth eggs. Most fields were not at a treatable infestation level. Leonard Kuykendall, Autauga County Extension Agent, stated that producers are busy side-dressing cotton with nitrogen, and spraying herbicide applications. The state's peanut crop improved again this week, as the majority was reported in fair to excellent condition. James D. Jones, Jr., Henry County Extension Agent, added that the county's peanuts were progressing nicely from the recent rainfall. Some fields had skippy stands, and were expected to battle Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus.

Fruits/Nuts: The accumulated rainfall over the past two weeks helped in relieving some of the short-term water stress seen on fruit crops during this growing season. New tree growth showed up with more prevalence in most orchards. Bobby Boozer, Research Horticulturist at the Chilton Research and Extension Center, mentioned that some peach varieties suffered from suture splitting because the weather was dry for so long. Brown rot infection was also associated with this splitting, as well as with the increased number and feeding habits of stink bugs. Producers were advised to resume a single row, 10-day fungicide application schedule to help combat this disease. Plum curculio numbers peaked earlier, and were on the decline.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Alabama pastures continued to green up. Most were reported in very poor or poor condition during the past week, but showed nearly a ten percent improvement within the categories. Mr. Atkinson stated that producers in Madison County who did not graze cattle on their hay fields should be able to harvest soon. T.H. Gregg, Etowah County Extension Agent, noted that some hay producers in the county were able to cut their fields two times. Most livestock were still rated in very poor or poor condition. However, body condition scores continued to improve as more pasture grass became available for consumption.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather for the Period: Monday, July 16, 2007 To Sunday, July 22, 2007

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 32% of Corn Acreage, 32% of Cotton Acreage, 39% of Soybean Acreage.															
Muscle Shoals	95	61	78	-3	0.15	-0.90	2	17.83	-13.93	56		198	-12	128	-12
Russellville	93	64	78	2	1.04	-0.01	3	18.96	-14.84	56		198	9	128	9
Belle Mina	93	61	78	-1	1.01	-0.05	2	16.86	-16.03	51	88	198	2	128	2
Huntsville Ag	93	61	78	-2	0.76	-0.36	2	16.49	-17.84	48		196	-7	126	-7
Hamilton	94	57	77	-2	0.43	-0.69	1	19.79	-15.79	56		195	-1	125	-1
District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 21% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 35% of Soybean Acreage.															
Anniston AP	93	61	79	-1	0.62	-0.43	4	13.59	-19.29	41		205	-5	135	-5
Cullman Ag	92	59	77	-2	0.74	-0.38	2	15.00	-20.65	42	78	194	-2	124	-2
Sand Mountain	89	59	76	-2	1.06	-0.03	2	18.58	-15.08	55	80	182	-1	112	-1
Gadsden_AP	91	61	78	-2	1.01	-0.18	4	14.74	-19.82	43		197	-6	127	-6
Bridgeport	89	57	76	-2	2.62	1.41	5	20.51	-15.03	58		185	-4	115	-4
Guntersville	89	60	77	-3	1.06	-0.08	3	19.40	-13.22	59		192	-11	122	-11
District 30 North Central Alabama -10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 8% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees.															
Thorsby	92	66	80	2	1.06	-0.12	3	13.73	-20.67	40	83	213	10	143	10
Talladega	93	60	78	-1	0.93	-0.19	4	16.19	-19.19	46		202	-1	132	-1
Birmingham_AP	92	63	79	-1	0.51	-0.74	3	15.35	-18.00	46		206	-4	136	-4
Alabaster	93	61	79	-1	0.09	-1.14	2	15.07	-20.84	42		205	1	135	2
Pinson	94	59	79	2	0.35	-0.81	3	15.86	-18.94	46		212	16	142	16
Opelika_Wtr_Plt	93	63	78	-1	0.32	-1.07	2	23.17	-12.16	66		206	3	136	3
Alexander_City	95	64	80	1	0.60	-0.66	3	17.93	-17.23	51		210	7	140	7
Tuscaloosa_AP	94	63	79	-3	0.60	-0.66	2	13.56	-20.41	40		207	-10	137	-10
Jasper	93	62	78	-1	1.54	0.33	4	19.85	-15.54	56		201	5	131	5
District 40 South Central Alabama - Black Belt 11% of Corn Acreage, 12% of Cotton Acreage, 9% of Soybeans Acreage, 21% of Pecan Trees.															
Union Springs	96	65	80	0	0.20	-1.06	4	17.71	-16.27	52		218	8	148	8
Marion Junction	94	64	79	-2	0.68	-0.44	3	17.37	-16.02	52	83	211	1	141	1
Montgomery_AP	97	68	82	-1	1.06	-0.15	2	18.85	-13.66	58		223	1	153	1
Livingston	94	62	79	-3	0.47	-0.92	2	21.33	-13.43	61		202	-14	132	-13
District 50 SW Alabama - Coastal Plain 6% of Corn Acreage, 20% of Cotton Acreage, 6% of Soybean Ac., 32% of Peanut Ac., 51% of Pecan Trees.															
Bay Minette	92	67	80	-2	0.47	-1.35	2	27.15	-11.82	70		217	0	147	0
Brewton_AG	94	66	80	0	0.28	-1.36	2	31.21	-7.61	80	91	216	6	146	6
Thomasville	94	65	79	-2	0.58	-0.83	5	19.88	-15.81	56		206	-6	136	-6
Mobile_Bates	92	69	80	-3	1.36	-0.25	3	27.37	-9.30	75		211	-15	141	-15
District 60 SE Alabama - Wiregrass 20% of Corn Ac., 27% of Cotton Acreage, 3% of Soybean Ac., 64% of Peanut Acreage, 23% of Pecan Trees.															
Eufaula_Wildlife	95	68	81	1	0.40	-0.79	2	25.80	-6.10	81		223	11	153	11
Troy_Municipal	96	66	81	2	0.11	-1.23	3	22.45	-9.99	69		216	6	146	6
Highland Home	93	64	77	-3	0.37	-0.75	3	20.24	-14.28	59		195	-15	125	-15
Geneva_Ag	93	68	80	-2	2.69	1.10	2	31.24	-2.95	91	87	216	-1	146	-1
Headland	95	70	82	2	0.32	-1.01	2	19.80	-15.09	57	92	228	11	158	11
Dothan	94	70	82	3	0.37	-1.00	4	19.31	-14.95	56		227	17	157	17

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), 2007 Weather data prepared By AWIS, Inc. For more weather information visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955.

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