



# CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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## Crop Conditions Continue to Gradually Improve

The data tables reflect the week ending: **July 29, 2007.**

### CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Dough	84	64	84	73
Corn Dented	38	na	51	48
Cotton Squaring	88	79	84	95
Cotton Setting Bolls	53	45	61	68
Soybeans Blooming	78	62	77	59
Soybeans Setting Pods	34	22	48	30
Peanuts Pegged	55	42	43	72

### CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor				
	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.	
	Percent				
Corn	54	24	19	3	0
Cotton	18	29	32	19	2
Soybeans	27	31	27	14	1
Peanuts	11	18	29	36	6
Livestock	29	23	31	17	0
Pasture & Range	26	24	39	10	1

### TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short			
		Short	Adequate	Surplus	
		Percent			
District 10	6.5	33	47	30	0
District 20	5.4	40	29	31	0
District 30	6.3	22	49	29	0
District 40	6.6	19	51	30	0
District 50	5.1	0	21	72	7
District 60	6.9	36	32	31	1
State: Previous Week	6.3	28	41	30	1
State: Current Week	6.4	28	41	30	1

**EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS: General:** Localized areas of heavy rainfall reduced the northwestern edge of Alabama's exceptional drought conditions. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, the amount of Alabama land categorized as still suffering from exceptional drought conditions was reduced by 6.6 percent during the past week to 17.7 percent. Most crops began to show a little promise, as spotty rain showers continued to fall for another week. Temperatures for the past week varied from a few degrees below to a few degrees above normal. Daytime highs ranged from 88 degrees in Bridgeport to 96 degrees in Belle Mina. Overnight lows dipped down to 61 degrees in Belle Mina and Bridgeport. Rainfall was scattered during the past week. Several areas in the Wiregrass region did not received

any rain, while Gadsden saw an accumulation of 2.79 inches over a 2 day period. Thorsby and Tuscaloosa have surpassed the 21-inch deficit mark in total year-to-date precipitation received.

**Corn/Soybeans:** The majority of the state's corn crop remained in very poor or poor condition, and was not expected to show any major improvements as most had already been characterized as a disaster. Nearly 85 percent of what remained had reached the dough stage, with a good portion also in the dent stage. The state's soybeans showed signs of improvement, as 42 percent were rated in fair to excellent condition compared with only 39 percent a week ago.

**Cotton/Peanuts:** The recent rain showers helped improve cotton conditions in fields that already had acceptable stands present. Late-planted cotton did not benefit as much. William C. Birdsong, Extension Agronomist at the Wiregrass Research and Extension Center, stated that producers were busy applying growth regulators, insecticides, and herbicides to the older cotton, and nitrogen to the double-cropped cotton. Buford Kimbrel, an area cotton consultant, reported seeing a low level of immature stink bugs in gardens, but not in any cotton fields so far. Jon Stuckey, another area cotton consultant, indicated finding a few bollworms and stink bugs in a couple of fields. Growers were encouraged to scout heavily for insects, as now is the time when boll-fill occurs. Alabama's peanut crop continued to show signs of improvement during the past week. Kris Balkcom, Peanut Specialist at the Wiregrass Research and Extension Center, noted that the older peanut stands had reached their peak water demand. Most producers regained control of the weed problem in their fields, and were also on a good fungicide schedule.

**Fruits/Nuts:** Produce growers in the Tennessee Valley faced a host of challenges as the heat and humidity returned to the area. Doug Chapman, Regional Extension Agent and Commercial Horticulturist, reported that disease, insect and weed pressure increased, but the local markets continued to experience brisk sales. Chip East, Regional Extension Agent and Commercial Horticulturist, indicated that weather conditions in eastern Alabama were still dry, but market conditions remained favorable for producers. A lack of irrigation coupled with tomato spotted wilt virus caused problems for many growers.

**Pasture/Hay/Livestock:** With consistent rainfall over the past few weeks, pasture conditions continued to recover. Chuck Browne, Lee County Extension Agent, mentioned that some hay was cut and baled, but yields were approximately half of normal. John S. Pulliam, Macon County Extension Agent, added that producers in the county expected to harvest a cutting and a half of hay from their hayfields. A larger section of Alabama's livestock was rated in fair to good condition during the past week.

**ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather for the Period: Monday, July 23, 2007 To Sunday, July 29, 2007**

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 32% of Corn Acreage, 32% of Cotton Acreage, 39% of Soybean Acreage.															
Muscle Shoals	94	65	80	-1	1.02	0.05	2	18.85	-13.88	58	85	210	0	140	0
Russellville	94	64	79	2	1.27	0.31	1	20.23	-14.53	58		206	15	136	14
Belle Mina	96	61	78	-2	0.44	-0.57	2	17.30	-16.60	51		196	-7	126	-7
Huntsville Ag	92	67	79	-1	0.95	-0.09	2	17.44	-17.93	49		204	1	134	0
Hamilton	95	62	78	-1	0.46	-0.58	2	20.25	-16.37	55		199	3	129	2
District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 21% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 35% of Soybean Acreage.															
Anniston AP	94	66	79	-2	0.20	-0.78	3	13.79	-20.07	41	78	208	-2	138	-2
Cullman Ag	91	63	77	-2	1.37	0.35	3	16.37	-20.30	45		193	-3	123	-3
Sand Mountain	91	62	76	-1	1.31	0.32	4	19.89	-14.76	57		187	-2	117	-2
Gadsden_AP	91	63	77	-3	2.79	1.68	2	17.53	-18.14	49		190	-15	120	-14
Bridgeport	88	61	76	-2	1.45	0.30	5	21.96	-14.73	60		187	-3	117	-4
Guntersville	92	66	77	-3	1.72	0.69	5	21.12	-12.53	63	194	-14	124	-13	
District 30 North Central Alabama - 10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 8% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees.															
Thorsby	94	68	80	2	0.37	-0.75	4	14.10	-21.42	40	82	216	13	146	13
Talladega	95	63	79	-1	0.05	-1.02	1	16.24	-20.21	45		204	1	134	1
Birmingham_AP	94	68	81	2	0.58	-0.57	2	15.93	-18.57	46		221	11	151	11
Alabaster	93	68	81	2	0.99	-0.14	2	16.06	-20.98	43		220	14	150	13
Pinson	94	65	80	2	0.15	-0.92	2	16.01	-19.86	45		232	36	162	36
Opelika_Wtr_Plt	93	64	78	-2	0.00	-1.29	0	23.17	-13.45	63	199	-4	129	-4	
Alexander_City	94	65	79	0	0.13	-1.09	2	18.06	-18.32	50	207	4	137	4	
Tuscaloosa_AP	93	67	80	-2	0.36	-0.86	3	13.92	-21.27	40	214	-7	144	-7	
Jasper	93	62	79	1	0.53	-0.58	3	20.38	-16.12	56	209	10	139	10	
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	94	68	80	0	0.00	-1.17	0	17.71	-17.44	50	82	217	7	147	7
Marion Junction	93	68	81	1	0.26	-0.81	3	17.63	-16.83	51		218	8	148	8
Montgomery_AP	94	68	81	0	1.34	0.22	1	20.19	-13.44	60		222	1	152	1
Livingston	93	62	79	-2	0.65	-0.65	2	21.98	-14.08	61		209	-6	139	-7
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	91	67	80	-2	0.94	-0.82	3	28.09	-12.64	69	83	213	-7	143	-7
Brewton_AG	92	70	80	0	0.12	-1.49	3	32.86	-7.57	81		215	2	145	2
Thomasville	92	68	80	-1	0.85	-0.49	3	20.73	-16.30	56		213	-4	143	-4
Mobile_Bates	91	70	80	-3	1.08	-0.53	3	28.45	-9.83	74		215	-15	145	-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	94	68	80	-1	0.00	-1.14	0	25.80	-7.24	78	87	214	-3	144	-3
Troy_Municipal	95	68	81	2	0.00	-1.25	0	22.45	-11.24	67		218	8	148	8
Highland Home	92	64	78	-3	0.00	-1.11	0	20.24	-15.39	57		198	-12	128	-12
Geneva_Ag	93	67	80	-1	0.00	-1.53	0	31.24	-4.48	87		216	-1	146	-1
Headland	94	68	81	0	0.12	-1.17	2	19.92	-16.26	55		91	223	6	153
Dothan	95	69	82	2	0.12	-1.14	1	19.43	-16.09	55	225	15	155	15	

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

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