



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: August 6, 2007 -- 3:00 P.M.

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

Issue 19

Julie Schmidt, Ag. Statistician

Farmers Confront Hot, Dry Weather

The data reflects the week ending: **August 5, 2007.**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Dough	92	84	92	85
Corn Dented	65	38	67	62
Cotton Squaring	94	88	91	98
Cotton Setting Bolls	66	53	71	81
Cotton Bolls Opening	0	na	2	2
Soybeans Blooming	85	78	83	72
Soybeans Setting Pods	45	34	58	44
Peanuts Pegged	70	55	49	80

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor Poor Fair Good Exc.				
	Percent				
Corn	53	24	19	4	0
Cotton	18	30	28	20	4
Soybeans	26	31	27	15	1
Peanuts	9	19	28	37	7
Livestock	28	22	33	17	0
Pasture & Range	26	26	38	9	1

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short Short Adequate Surplus			
		Percent			
District 10	6.8	41	43	16	0
District 20	6.7	51	43	6	0
District 30	6.4	18	52	30	0
District 40	6.6	47	28	25	0
District 50	5.3	0	25	68	7
District 60	6.3	38	40	21	1
State: Previous Week	6.4	28	41	30	1
State: Current Week	6.5	38	39	22	1

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: The U.S. Drought Monitor classified 32.5 percent of Alabama land as suffering from exceptional drought conditions this past week, compared to only 17.7 percent a week ago and none at this time last year. Isolated areas of the state received rainfall during the past week. Dry conditions coupled with above average temperatures left most spring seeded crops suffering tremendously. Thomas D. Atkinson in the Madison County FSA office indicated that the weather pattern for the county had returned to widely scattered showers and hot temperatures during the past week, and the topsoil moisture levels were near depletion again. Daytime high temperatures were scorching, and

ranged from 93 degrees in Sand Mountain and Mobile to 100 degrees in Belle Mina, Pinson and Tuscaloosa. Belle Mina recorded the coolest overnight low at 64 degrees, while Dothan felt the hottest overnight low and only cooled to 74 degrees. Rainfall totals were scattered across the state. Many areas did not receive any precipitation, while other regions collected over an inch. Dothan accumulated the most rainfall at 3.11 inches over a 3 day period.

Corn/Soybeans: The state's corn crop remained in mostly very poor or poor condition. Nearly the entire crop reached the dough stage, with 65 percent in the dent stage. Most of the soybean crop was in very poor or poor condition. Blooming had reached 85 percent, and 45 percent had set pods.

Cotton/Peanuts: The majority of the state's cotton crop remained in fair to excellent condition during the past week. Heath Potter, Regional Extension Agent for Colbert, Lauderdale and Lawrence Counties, stated that approximately 90 percent of the cotton in these counties had recovered to "normal" conditions as of the end of July. Fruit set had been good with minimal insect problems. The onset of the hot, dry August weather caused shedding of small bolls. Leonard Kuykendall, Autauga County Extension Agent, noted that wind and hot conditions wilted the cotton in the county, and prospects were for a below average yield. James D. Jones, Jr., Henry County Extension Agent, added that cotton in some fields with good stands was starting to catch up, but that a major percentage of the crop was or will be destroyed due to a poor stand. Alabama's peanut crop showed some improvement during the past week, as 44 percent was reported in good or excellent condition. Most fields with good stands in Henry County were already lapping.

Fruits/Nuts: Peach orchard producers worried that damage from the Easter weekend freeze not only affected the 2007 crop, but caused expected adverse effects to the 2008 crop as well. The greatest potential damage was expected where low temperatures caused abnormal fruit development, but was not severe enough to cause fruit abortion. Many growers in these areas chose not to pursue any pest management practices, leaving disease pressure from brown rot untreated. Bobby Boozer, Research Horticulturist at the Chilton Research and Extension Center, reported that millions of spores were being produced from damaged fruit, killing new shoot growth and mature tree branches. Growers were encouraged to remove old fruit, prune damaged wood and consider utilization of blossom sprays in 2008 for disease control.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Range and pasture conditions remained virtually unchanged this past week, but it was noted that Covington County pastures were drying up again due to a lack of moisture. Chuck Browne, Lee County Extension Agent, noted the some producers in the county were busy cutting and baling hay, but that it was in very short supply. Mr. Jones mentioned that livestock in Henry County were finally receiving some much needed grazing.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather for the Period: Monday, July 30, 2007 To Sunday, August 5, 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	98	71	83	4	0.23	-0.61	2	19.08	-14.49	57		234	24	164	24
Russellville	97	71	83	6	0.00	-0.85	0	20.23	-15.38	57		232	43	162	43
Belle Mina	100	64	81	3	0.00	-0.89	0	17.23	-17.56	50	89	221	22	151	19
Huntsville Ag	99	70	83	5	0.00	-0.91	0	17.44	-18.84	48		234	29	164	26
Hamilton	99	68	82	5	0.56	-0.38	1	20.81	-16.75	55		228	32	158	32
District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 21% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 35% of Soybean Acreage.															
Anniston AP	99	70	83	4	0.58	-0.38	1	14.37	-20.45	41		233	23	163	23
Cullman Ag	95	68	81	3	0.00	-0.86	0	16.37	-21.16	44	81	220	24	150	24
Sand Mountain	93	68	80	4	0.19	-0.64	2	19.79	-15.69	56	79	212	23	142	23
Gadsden_AP	97	70	81	3	0.72	-0.22	1	18.25	-18.36	50		221	18	151	17
Bridgeport	95	68	80	3	0.11	-0.90	1	22.07	-15.63	59		218	26	148	24
Guntersville	98	69	82	3	0.20	-0.63	1	21.32	-13.16	62		227	22	157	20
District 30 North Central Alabama - 10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 8% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees.															
Thorsby	99	70	84	6	0.00	-1.03	0	14.10	-22.45	39	84	241	38	171	38
Talladega	98	67	82	4	0.21	-0.73	1	16.45	-20.94	44		232	29	162	29
Birmingham_AP	99	72	85	5	0.15	-0.83	2	16.08	-19.40	45		244	34	174	34
Alabaster	97	70	84	6	0.00	-0.99	0	16.06	-21.97	42		238	35	168	35
Pinson	100	68	84	7	0.07	-0.84	1	16.08	-20.70	44		265	69	195	69
Opelika_Wtr_Plt	97	67	81	3	0.00	-1.12	0	23.17	-14.57	61		222	19	152	19
Alexander_City	97	69	82	4	0.49	-0.59	1	18.55	-18.91	50		229	26	159	26
Tuscaloosa_AP	100	69	84	4	0.00	-1.07	0	13.92	-22.34	38		241	24	171	24
Jasper	97	69	82	5	1.02	0.06	2	21.40	-16.06	57		229	29	159	26
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	98	70	84	5	0.09	-0.98	2	17.80	-18.42	49		247	37	177	37
Marion Junction	98	70	84	5	0.25	-0.70	2	17.82	-17.59	50	86	243	33	173	33
Montgomery_AP	99	72	85	5	0.41	-0.55	1	20.60	-13.99	60		248	31	178	31
Livingston	98	69	83	4	0.04	-1.09	1	22.02	-15.17	59		237	27	167	27
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	95	71	83	2	0.83	-0.82	3	28.92	-13.46	68		236	19	166	19
Brewton_AG	98	72	84	5	0.72	-0.80	3	33.86	-8.09	81	95	244	34	174	34
Thomasville	96	70	83	3	0.46	-0.71	2	21.19	-17.01	55		239	28	169	28
Mobile_Bates	93	70	82	0	1.77	0.16	3	30.22	-9.67	76		228	4	158	4
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	97	71	83	4	0.56	-0.45	3	26.36	-7.69	77		239	28	169	27
Troy_Municipal	97	70	84	4	0.67	-0.43	1	23.12	-11.67	66		237	27	167	27
Highland Home	96	68	82	2	0.11	-0.91	2	20.35	-16.30	56		225	15	155	15
Geneva_Ag	96	71	83	3	2.30	0.86	3	33.54	-3.62	90	89	234	17	164	17
Headland	98	73	84	4	1.52	0.33	3	21.36	-16.01	57	93	246	31	176	31
Dothan	98	74	84	5	3.11	2.01	3	22.54	-14.08	62		241	31	171	31

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.

FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 36177
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