



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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PO Box 240578, Montgomery, AL 36124-0578 ● 1 (800) 832-4181 ● RELEASED: August 25, 2008 -- 3:00 P.M.
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Fay Brings Heavy Rainfall with Damaging Winds

Data tables reflect the week ending: **August 24, 2008.**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2007	5-Yr Avg
	Percent			
Corn Dented	95	91	97	94
Corn Mature	75	58	68	63
Corn Harvested	16	9	18	21
Cotton Setting Bolls	96	91	94	95
Cotton Bolls Opening	30	15	26	17
Peanuts Pegged	96	88	94	93
Soybeans Blooming	95	91	99	94
Soybeans Setting Pods	79	66	84	76
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	17	4	36	17

na = not available

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Corn	13	20	35	28	4
Cotton	2	14	39	39	6
Peanut	1	1	33	51	14
Soybean	13	21	35	30	1
Livestock	1	14	50	32	3
Pasture & Range	9	20	35	30	6

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	6.7	26	52	22	0
District 20	6.2	46	35	19	0
District 30	7.0	8	45	45	2
District 40	6.8	0	0	5	95
District 50	5.3	0	0	15	85
District 60	5.7	0	0	43	57
State: Current Week	6.2	16	23	25	36
State: Previous Week	5.8	18	28	46	8

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: Tropical storm Fay brought damaging winds and copious amounts of rainfall to numerous areas over the weekend, and was threatening to return during the upcoming week. Charles Burmester, Agronomist at the Tennessee Valley Research and Extension Center, mentioned that most of northern Alabama received approximately one inch of rain, but the total accumulations decreased as you moved closer to the Tennessee border. Ronnie Davis, County Executive Director in the Henry County FSA office, stated that over eight inches of rainfall was received with very little runoff, allowing the topsoil and subsoil to soak up some valuable

moisture. William Birdsong, Extension Agronomist at the Wiregrass Research and Extension Center, indicated that between two and eight inches of rain had fallen in the area over the weekend, with most of the water absorbed by dry soils. Average temperatures during the past week fluctuated drastically because of Fay, and varied from four degrees below normal in the southern part of the state to four degrees above normal in north Alabama. Daytime highs ranged from 88 degrees in Opelika and Union Springs to 96 degrees in Muscle Shoals, Belle Mina, and Hamilton. Overnight lows varied from 57 degrees in Belle Mina and Hamilton to 71 degrees in Mobile. With the exception of Bridgeport, all weather stations reported receiving rainfall during the past week. Totals differed drastically depending on location, and ranged from 0.11 inches in Huntsville to 6.75 inches in Union Springs through Sunday morning. Tropical storm Fay brought isolated rainfall totals close to eight inches to some areas. Troy received 5.78 inches, and Dothan totaled 5.24 inches.

Corn/Cotton/Peanuts/Soybeans: Crop conditions remained varied, although peanuts and soybeans showed slight improvement thanks to some rainfall during the previous week. Mr. Birdsong noted that some producers in the Wiregrass region had crops that benefited from consistent rainfall and looked outstanding, while others were three days shy of going five weeks without a drop of moisture. Olin F. Farrior, County Extension Coordinator for Escambia County, reported that corn for grain was being harvested at a rapid pace. Yields were generally good, but some producers had their yields reduced due to stinkbug damage in fields that bordered wheat fields. Mr. Birdsong added that some corn stands in the Wiregrass area were blown down because of winds from Fay, but the majority of the crop was unharmed. Nearly all of this year's cotton crop had finished setting bolls. Some cotton stands in the south incurred some wind damage and were blown down, but long-term damage was expected to be minimal. The majority of the state's peanut crop was in good to excellent condition. Most stands were expected to benefit from the recent rainfall, but early-planted fields were too far along to experience a helpful boost. Jimmy Todd, County Extension Coordinator for Mobile County, mentioned that some producers in the county were planning to start digging peanuts around September 15th.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Many pastures across the state were beginning to show slight improvements, especially in the southern areas of the state. Henry Dorough, Regional Extension Agent located in Talladega County, indicated that adequate surface moisture has kept forages growing well in most areas, but that a lack of subsoil moisture left many ponds and lakes that livestock use for watering dry. Jimmy Smitherman, County Extension Coordinator for Montgomery County, noted that heavy rainfall from Fay left many pastures in the county muddy, and some low areas flooded. Fallen trees and winds damaged pasture fences for some producers.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather for the Period: Monday, August 18, 2008 to Sunday, August 24, 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., 35% of Cotton Ac., 41% of Soybean Ac.															
Muscle Shoals	96	58	81	4	0.14	-0.56	1	25.05	-10.55	70		217	21	147	21
Russellville	94	61	79	4	0.36	-0.37	1	33.90	-3.78	90		209	31	139	31
Belle Mina	96	57	78	2	0.15	-0.61	1	28.72	-8.28	78	83	205	16	135	16
Huntsville Ag	95	61	81	4	0.11	-0.63	1	24.94	-13.49	65		218	22	148	23
Hamilton	96	57	78	1	1.62	0.76	4	36.80	-3.20	92		199	12	129	12
District 20: Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 18% of Corn Ac., 7% of Cotton Ac., 28% of Soybean Ac.															
Anniston AP	92	69	79	1	2.14	1.30	1	37.54	0.23	101		206	6	136	6
Cullman Ag	92	59	77	1	0.98	0.24	2	37.88	-1.72	96	80	195	11	125	11
Sand Mountain	92	64	79	4	0.78	0.06	1	27.45	-10.06	73	80	213	35	143	36
Gadsden_AP	93	64	78	0	0.42	-0.28	1	22.84	-15.87	59		200	5	130	5
Bridgeport	93	59	78	3	0.00	-0.84	0	33.74	-6.41	84		200	18	130	18
Guntersville	93	66	79	2	0.83	0.20	1	28.70	-7.62	79		213	16	143	16
District 30: North Central Alabama - 8% of Corn Ac., 4% of Cotton Ac., 6% of Soybean Ac., 71% of Peach Trees.															
Thorsby	90	67	79	2	3.50	2.59	2	41.22	2.02	105		203	10	133	10
Talladega	92	62	78	1	2.00	1.16	1	35.60	-4.20	89		200	9	130	9
Birmingham_AP	93	68	81	3	3.28	2.53	2	39.57	1.86	105		216	17	146	17
Alabaster	92	68	80	2	2.77	2.00	2	38.89	-1.46	96		209	13	139	13
Pinson	94	66	78	2	2.86	2.09	1	37.88	-1.10	97		199	10	129	10
Opelika_Wtr_Plt	88	65	76	-3	4.55	3.71	3	34.04	-6.23	85		189	-7	119	-7
Alexander_City	90	65	77	0	2.77	1.89	2	37.20	-2.88	93		194	0	124	0
Tuscaloosa_AP	93	66	80	0	2.10	1.32	3	30.07	-8.64	78		213	3	143	3
Jasper	94	60	79	2	1.96	1.26	1	40.31	0.74	102		208	18	138	19
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 Trees.															
Union Springs	88	65	76	-4	6.75	5.84	4	35.45	-3.43	91		188	-15	118	-15
Marion Junction	90	70	79	0	3.58	2.81	3	32.56	-5.18	86	86	209	6	139	6
Montgomery_AP	92	69	81	0	3.81	3.03	3	36.14	-0.73	98		215	4	145	4
Livingston	94	67	79	0	2.33	1.56	2	38.79	-0.84	98		204	1	134	1
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	91	65	79	-2	1.91	0.51	4	45.38	-1.19	97		214	0	144	0
Brewton_AG	91	68	78	-2	4.73	3.42	4	52.23	6.34	114	82	200	-3	130	-3
Thomasville	89	68	78	-2	4.22	3.37	3	37.29	-3.55	91		198	-9	128	-9
Mobile_Bates	92	71	80	-2	0.29	-1.25	3	47.69	3.31	107		213	-8	143	-8
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	92	67	79	-2	4.32	3.48	2	38.28	1.75	105		206	-1	136	0
Troy_Municipal	91	67	78	-1	5.78	4.95	4	33.95	-3.36	91		200	-3	130	-3
Highland Home	89	65	76	-4	4.54	3.57	4	37.88	-1.55	96		184	-19	114	-19
Geneva_Ag	92	69	79	-1	2.43	1.25	4	38.12	-2.63	94	86	208	-2	138	-2
Headland	90	68	79	-2	4.78	3.80	3	34.55	-5.78	86	88	207	-2	137	-2
Dothan	91	70	79	-1	5.24	4.40	4	31.26	-7.90	80		207	0	137	0

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 or call 1-888-798-9955.

