



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Scattered Rain Provides Little Relief of Drought Conditions

The data reflects the week ending: **August 26, 2007.**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Dented	98	93	96	93
Corn Mature	71	60	69	65
Corn Harvested	19	na	na	na
Cotton Setting Bolls	95	92	91	97
Cotton Bolls Opening	30	17	32	23
Soybeans Setting Pods	87	78	86	77
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	44	17	20	14
Peanuts Pegged	95	90	82	95

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor Poor Fair Good Exc.				
	Percent				
Corn	55	26	16	3	0
Cotton	38	30	25	6	1
Soybeans	51	28	19	2	0
Peanuts	18	25	31	24	2
Livestock	41	21	24	14	0
Pasture & Range	47	30	20	3	0

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short Short Adequate Surplus			
		Percent			
District 10	6.4	77	23	0	0
District 20	6.9	88	11	1	0
District 30	6.8	80	19	1	0
District 40	6.7	68	28	4	0
District 50	7.0	47	41	12	0
District 60	6.4	45	37	18	0
State: Previous Week	6.8	69	29	2	0
State: Current Week	6.6	68	26	6	0

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: The U.S. Drought Monitor had categorized drought conditions at 74.4 percent in the exceptional drought condition. This was a slight increase from the previous week indication which was 73.1 percent. Day time high temperatures reached between 97 – 107 degrees, and evening low temperatures were between 67 – 74 degrees. Muscle Shoals, Birmingham, and Dothan weather stations recorded nearly three inches of rain last week. Other parts of the state received rain, but it was still not enough to relieve the state of the drought. Extension Agent, Kris Balkcom, stated that the crop in West Alabama has great potential if the area can continue to receive timely showers to fully mature the crop.

Henry County Extension, James D. Jones, Jr., commented that much needed rain was received this week; however, the area still requires two inches of rain a week for peak fruit set for most of the crops planted.

Corn/Soybeans: Darryl Rutland, Colbert County FSA Agent, stated that corn harvested yields will be much lower than normal as well as soybeans. Jackson County FSA Agent, Donald Mann, commented that 100 degree temperatures and dry weather are killing the soybean plants, and the late soybeans will not be worth harvesting. Autauga County Extension Agent, Leonard Kuykendall stated that corn yields worth harvesting are about 20 to 40 percent of a normal yield. Crenshaw Extension Agent, Russell C. Parrish Jr. mentioned that most corn with the exception of some tropical is now being combined for grain or harvested for silage. Mr. Parrish added because of the dry and hot weather it was very difficult to get an entire corn field harvested for silage before it became too dry.

Cotton/Peanuts: Mr. Mann said that cotton has gone downhill fast and bolls that are not falling off are starting to open prematurely. Yield potential for cotton has gone from 800 lbs/acre a few weeks ago to 300 to 400 lbs/acre. Mr. Rutland mentioned that cotton has gone from very good potential to a poor outlook. Cotton is opening earlier because of the heat. Mr. Balkcom stated the peanut crop for the remainder of the state of Alabama was in dire need of a change in the weather pattern. The past two weeks of 100 degree temperatures and lack of significant rainfall has had a drastic effect on the crops fruit set. The 2007 peanut season has been much like 2006 season, dry with the exception of rainfall that we received during the months of August and September last year to make the crop. Growers have been taking precautions for burrowing bugs since they attack the pods as a source for moisture during dry weather, greatly reducing the crops value.

Fruit/Vegetables: Commercial Horticulture Extension Agent, Doug Chapman, commented moisture was lacking in the soil and cultivation was impossible without irrigation. Strawberry growers will be unable to make beds without rain or irrigation. Non-irrigated pumpkins are beginning to perish in the 100 plus degree heat and lack of water. Spider mites are causing problems for tomato growers. Growers who grow greens have delayed planting because of the drought.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Darrell Rankins, Auburn Extension Cattle Specialist, stated livestock producers are still facing severe shortages of forage as a result of the extended drought. Many herds have already been liquidated and other will be sold if substantial rainfall does not begin soon. Many producers have run out of water in ponds and creeks which had typically served as a water source for the livestock. Producers that have maintained their herds are facing severe hay shortages as we enter into the winter feeding period. Most producers are making plans for planting some winter grazing this year, but without substantial rain in September, this will also be difficult to achieve. Cattle prices have remained strong throughout the summer. Mr. Mann said that Livestock producers are selling off their herds due to lack of grass, hay, and water. Mr. Rutland stated hay harvested was less than half of normal for the entire summer. Pastures have very little to graze at this time. Cattle are continuing to be liquidated in high numbers, and local sale barns are recording sales to be double of what they were a year ago.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather for the Period: Monday, August 20, 2007 To Sunday, August 26, 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	104	70	86	9	2.54	1.83	1	22.27	-13.44	62	100	253	57	183	58
Russellville	104	71	86	11	1.50	0.76	2	22.69	-15.10	60		253	76	183	76
Belle Mina	104	69	85	9	0.73	-0.03	3	18.08	-19.03	49	100	253	64	183	65
Huntsville Ag	103	70	86	9	2.22	1.47	3	20.14	-18.40	52		254	59	184	60
Hamilton	106	67	84	9	0.94	0.07	4	22.56	-17.57	56		246	60	176	60
District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 21% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 35% of Soybean Acreage.															
Anniston AP	104	70	86	8	0.49	-0.35	1	14.86	-22.57	40	82	251	52	181	52
Cullman Ag	104	68	84	9	0.38	-0.38	1	17.28	-22.44	44		244	61	174	61
Sand Mountain	101	69	84	10	0.83	0.10	1	20.62	-17.00	55	84	242	65	172	66
Gadsden_AP	104	68	85	8	0.01	-0.69	1	18.51	-20.30	48		246	52	176	52
Bridgeport	103	70	85	9	0.16	-0.68	1	22.23	-18.04	55		247	65	177	66
Guntersville	102	71	85	8	0.97	0.33	2	22.54	-13.88	62		254	58	184	58
District 30 North Central Alabama - 10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 8% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees.															
Thorsby	104	71	86	10	0.66	-0.25	2	15.06	-24.27	38	87	263	71	193	71
Talladega	104	68	84	7	0.41	-0.43	1	17.96	-21.97	45		243	53	173	53
Birmingham_AP	105	74	88	10	2.93	2.17	2	19.25	-18.57	51		265	67	195	67
Alabaster	102	71	85	8	0.77	-0.01	2	18.23	-22.24	45		246	50	176	51
Pinson	107	69	87	11	0.13	-0.64	1	16.21	-22.88	41		268	80	198	80
Opelika_Wtr_Plt	100	68	83	6	0.37	-0.47	2	24.35	-16.04	60		238	43	168	43
Alexander_City	104	70	85	8	1.35	0.47	1	20.63	-19.58	51		252	59	182	59
Tuscaloosa_AP	103	70	85	6	0.26	-0.51	1	14.94	-23.88	38		251	41	181	41
Jasper	102	70	85	8	0.30	-0.41	1	22.90	-16.79	58		246	57	176	58
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	101	70	84	6	1.04	0.13	1	20.55	-18.46	53	90	246	43	176	43
Marion Junction	103	71	86	8	0.70	-0.07	2	19.01	-18.84	50		263	61	193	61
Montgomery_AP	104	73	87	8	1.66	0.87	2	22.69	-14.30	61		262	52	192	52
Livingston	101	71	85	7	0.40	-0.36	3	24.38	-15.35	61		247	44	177	44
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	98	72	85	5	0.27	-1.13	2	29.36	-17.41	63	91	250	37	180	37
Brewton_AG	100	71	85	6	0.54	-0.76	2	34.69	-11.38	75		247	44	177	44
Thomasville	100	72	85	6	0.62	-0.22	4	22.47	-18.49	55		249	43	179	43
Mobile_Bates	97	72	85	4	0.40	-1.14	1	30.65	-13.95	69		244	24	174	24
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	101	72	85	6	1.17	0.33	4	28.47	-8.18	78	91	251	45	181	46
Troy_Municipal	99	69	84	6	0.18	-0.64	2	24.62	-12.80	66		239	36	169	36
Highland Home	102	67	84	6	0.14	-0.84	2	21.43	-18.14	54		240	37	170	37
Geneva_Ag	101	70	84	5	0.88	-0.29	2	34.97	-5.94	85	91	244	34	174	34
Headland	101	71	84	5	0.85	-0.13	4	22.85	-17.62	56	93	248	40	178	40
Dothan	101	72	85	7	2.73	1.89	3	25.84	-13.45	66		251	45	181	45

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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