



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Julie Schmidt, Ag. Statistician

Corn Harvest Well Underway

CROP PROGRESS

Sunday, August 27, 2006

Crop	This Week	Last Week	5-Yr Avg.	
			2005	Percent
Corn Dented	97	92	92	93
Corn Mature	71	60*	55	66
Corn Harvested	29	n/a	0	14
Cotton Setting Bolls	92	87	96	99
Cotton Bolls Opening	35	15	12	22
Soybeans Blooming	95	93	96	95
Soybeans Setting Pods	87	80	84	77
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	21	12	16	12
Peanuts Pegged	84	73	95	99

*Revised

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Friday, August 25, 2006

Crop	Very Poor				
	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.	Percent
Corn	58	21	16	5	0
Cotton	35	32	24	9	0
Soybeans	43	31	21	5	0
Peanuts	5	31	46	18	0
Pasture	34	34	23	8	1
Livestock	9	32	37	19	3

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	6.8	48	40	12	0
District 20	6.0	61	37	2	0
District 30	6.3	23	67	10	0
District 40	6.4	64	22	14	0
District 50	5.1	7	25	51	17
District 60	6.5	19	56	25	0
State: Current Week	6.4	40	42	17	1
State: Previous Week	6.4	45	40	14	1

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: For a second week, most of the state received rainfall. Weather stations reported total accumulations for the week ranging from 0.01 inches in Belle Mina and Thorsby to 3.50 inches in Jasper. Several county reporters still indicate that showers are spotty at best, while others report receiving rain on a daily basis. Temperatures above 100 degrees returned during the past week. The weather station in Hamilton recorded a high temperature of 102 degrees. Daytime highs varied from the low 90's to the low 100's, while overnight lows ranged from the low 60's into the low 70's.

Cotton/Corn: Producers are servicing equipment in preparation for cotton harvest. Tim Reed, Extension Agent in Franklin County stated that cotton yields will be highly inconsistent due to hit and miss rains and soil type variation. Thomas Atkinson in the Madison County FSA office mentioned that cotton in the county is appraising at only 100 to 150 pounds per acre. At current commodity prices, farmers are unsure whether the crop will even pay for the fuel needed to harvest. Cotton stands in Covington County are reported to be growing vegetatively. Mr. Reed indicated that corn harvest in Franklin County has slowed due to the local buyer's inability to dry grain, and the unwillingness to take grain that has over 15 percent moisture content. Yields in the county are ranging from 40 to 110 bushels per acre. Mr. Atkinson noted that dryland corn yields in Madison County are averaging only 30 to 60 bushels per acre. Donald E. Mann in the Jackson County FSA office stated that yields for early planted corn are running about 50 bushels per acre. The corn yields in Covington County are erratic. Some stands have been harvested as silage or grazed by cattle, while others are still standing.

Peanuts/Soybeans: Kris Balkcom at the Wiregrass Research and Extension Center in Headland indicated that the peanut crop looks good where producers have received rain. It is unknown whether the entire crop will be able to mature. Continued rainfall and warm temperatures are needed. Worm activity has increased in a few peanut fields, but signs of tomato spotted wilt virus are still limited. Mr. Reed stated that with the recent rains, the soybean yield outlook has improved in some fields. However, it is still hard to guess how well the pods will fill out. Mr. Mann mentioned that producers in Jackson County have harvested some early group 3 soybeans that yielded 20 bushels per acre. There are some group 4 soybeans in the county that will yield maybe 10 bushels per acre at best.

Peaches: Peach producers are busy tending to end of season chores. Bobby Boozer, Research Horticulturist at the Chilton Research and Extension Center reported that growers need to be identifying and removing trees that are infected with Phony Peach Disease. The disease is caused by a bacterium called *Xylella fastidiosa*, and is spread by leafhoppers. The disease is more common in southern Alabama. However, the number of infected trees typically increases after a warm winter, so growers throughout the state need to scout for "phony" trees. Indications of "phony" trees are an earlier bloom in the spring, shorter internodes, and darker green leaves that are broader and stay on the tree longer in the fall. Infected trees will appear uniform across the top with almost a hedged look. This disease will decrease productivity and fruit marketability over time.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Doyle Dutton in the Lawrence County FSA office reported that livestock producers in the county have suffered a tremendous loss of available water. Ponds are either completely dry, or are so low that they offer no benefit to herds. Most pasture grass is gone. Mr. Mann added that several small producers in Jackson County have sold their entire herd due to a lack of hay and pasture. Covington County is experiencing a more positive outlook as pastures are looking better. Covington County growers are currently harvesting a good cutting of hay, and expect to get a second cutting before October. Darrell Rankins, Beef Cattle Nutritionist stated that armyworms have become prevalent in regions that have received rain, particularly in Bermuda grass.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather For the Period: Monday August 21, 2006 To: Sunday August 27, 2006

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 25% of Corn Acreage, 32% of Cotton Acreage, 41% of Soybean Acreage.															
Muscle Shoals	98	64	82	5	0.83	0.11	3	31.76	-4.06	89		224	29	154	30
Russellville	100	66	83	8	0.31	-0.44	1	27.93	-9.97	74		234	58	164	58
Belle Mina	100	62	81	5	0.01	-0.76	1	25.19	-12.03	68	87	227	39	157	40
Huntsville Ag	97	65	82	6	0.19	-0.57	3	25.32	-13.33	66		226	32	156	33
Hamilton	102	62	82	6	0.06	-0.82	2	27.16	-13.10	67		230	45	160	45
District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 22% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 23% of Soybean Acreage.															
Anniston AP	96	71	83	5	0.49	-0.35	3	29.26	-8.29	78		229	31	159	31
Cullman Ag	98	62	80	5	0.52	-0.26	3	32.53	-7.10	82	82	217	35	147	36
Sand Mountain	96	64	79	5	1.03	0.29	3	26.00	-11.12	70		210	34	140	35
Gadsden AP	97	64	82	5	0.62	-0.08	2	25.36	-13.55	65		223	30	153	30
Bridgeport	94	61	79	4	0.67	-0.17	2	32.33	-7.84	80		208	27	138	28
Guntersville	97	69	82	5	0.26	-0.39	2	27.56	-8.54	76		235	39	165	39
District 30 North Central Alabama - 10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 6% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees.															
Thorsby	94	70	82	5	0.01	-0.90	1	25.55	-13.91	65	84	228	37	158	37
Talladega	96	68	81	5	0.33	-0.51	2	28.71	-11.11	72		223	34	153	34
Birmingham AP	96	70	83	6	0.49	-0.28	3	41.30	3.37	109		233	36	163	36
Alabaster	96	70	82	4	2.11	1.32	4	33.06	-7.53	81		222	27	152	28
Pinson	97	63	81	5	0.46	-0.32	3	30.36	-8.85	77		230	43	160	43
Opelika Wtr Plt	92	69	80	3	0.00	-0.84	0	30.67	-9.84	76		221	27	151	27
Alexander City	95	70	81	4	0.65	-0.23	1	28.50	-11.84	71		220	28	150	28
Tuscaloosa AP	101	70	84	5	0.00	-0.77	0	27.46	-11.47	71		238	29	168	29
Jasper	98	65	82	6	3.50	2.78	2	36.32	-3.48	91		226	37	156	39
District 40 South Central Alabama - Black Belt 9% of Corn Acreage, 12% of Cotton Acreage, 13% of Soybeans Acreage, 21% of Pecan Trees.															
Union Springs	95	70	82	4	0.96	0.05	3	25.13	-14.01	64		231	28	161	28
Marion Junction	96	71	82	5	1.02	0.25	2	22.05	-15.91	58	86	234	33	164	33
Montgomery AP	97	70	83	4	0.64	-0.16	2	25.64	-11.47	69		234	24	164	24
Livingston	98	70	83	5	0.88	0.13	3	28.84	-10.99	72		233	30	163	31
District 50 Southwest Alabama - Coastal Plain 11% of Corn Acreage, 20% of Cotton Acreage, 13% of Soybean Acreage, 32% of Peanut Acreage, 51% of Pecan Trees.															
Bay Minette	96	72	82	3	2.14	0.74	5	30.49	-16.48	65		231	19	161	19
Brewton AG	96	73	82	4	2.15	0.86	6	33.75	-12.50	73		230	27	160	27
Thomasville	94	72	82	3	0.20	-0.64	5	30.76	-10.09	75		227	22	157	22
Mobile Bates	96	73	82	1	2.01	0.47	4	27.38	-17.44	61		228	9	158	9
District 60 Southeast Alabama - Wiregrass 23% of Corn Acreage, 27% of Cotton Acreage, 4% of Soybean Acreage, 64% of Peanut Acreage, 23% of Pecan Trees.															
Eufaula Wildlife	96	72	83	4	1.42	0.58	7	32.03	-4.16	89		235	30	165	31
Troy Municipal	97	70	83	4	0.74	-0.07	2	23.72	-13.81	63		229	26	159	26
Highland Home	92	66	79	1	0.23	-0.75	4	31.96	-7.75	80		209	7	139	7
Geneva Ag	96	70	82	2	1.95	0.79	4	31.16	-9.91	76	89	224	14	154	14
Headland	96	72	82	3	0.41	-0.57	2	21.98	-18.63	54	94	229	22	159	22
Dothan	98	72	83	4	1.88	1.04	4	27.80	-11.61	71		229	24	159	24

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) , 2006 Weather data prepared By AWIS, Inc. For more weather information visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955.

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