



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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ISSUE 23

Julie Schmidt, Ag. Statistician

Producers Ready for Cotton Defoliation & Harvest

CROP PROGRESS

Sunday, September 3, 2006

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Percent	
			2005	5-Yr Avg.
Corn Mature	87	71	79	81
Corn Harvested	46	29	0	25
Cotton Setting Bolls	96	92	100	100
Cotton Bolls Opening	49	35	26	33
Soybeans Blooming	97	95	100	99
Soybeans Setting Pods	92	87	90	88
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	35	21	29	23
Peanuts Pegged	91	84	99	100

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Friday, September 1, 2006

Crop	Very Poor				
	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.	
Percent					
Corn	55	26	15	4	0
Cotton	33	36	22	9	0
Soybeans	43	32	22	3	0
Peanuts	4	31	43	21	1
Pasture	34	33	24	7	2
Livestock	9	34	39	15	3

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	6.4	46	38	16	0
District 20	6.1	67	27	6	0
District 30	6.3	23	63	14	0
District 40	6.7	52	34	14	0
District 50	6.0	10	22	51	17
District 60	6.8	20	52	28	0
State: Current Week	6.5	39	41	19	1
State: Previous Week	6.4	40	42	17	1

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: Rainfall was received at most reporting weather stations again this week. Total accumulations varied from 0.04 inches in Alabaster to 3.10 inches in Bay Minette. County reporters stated that the rain showers received in most counties were spotty, and rain gauge totals were mixed depending on locations throughout the counties. Donald Mann in the Jackson County FSA office indicated that the continually worsening drought conditions will cause several row crop farmers in the county to either retire or go bankrupt. Based on the cost of inputs, they have experienced the most expensive crop year ever. Most producers in the county were only

able to harvest less than half of a normal crop, and have received very low prices on commodities taken to market. Temperatures recorded across the state were cooler over the past week, but remained above average. The weather station in Livingston was the only place that reached triple digit temperatures. Daytime highs ranged from the mid to upper 90's. Overnight lows varied from the low 60's in areas of northern Alabama to the low 70's in the Wiregrass part of the state.

Cotton/Corn: Progress of fields throughout the southern part of the state is highly variable. Some stands of cotton are near harvest, while others are just setting bolls. Yields are expected to be inconsistent depending on the amount moisture received and the timeliness of the showers. Leonard Kuykendall, Extension Agent in Autauga County stated that defoliation in cotton fields will begin after Labor Day as producers want to put this crop year behind them. Crop conditions in Covington County have improved, as most fields continue to receive rain showers. Vegetative growth has occurred in the tops of cotton stands. Most of the state's corn crop has reached maturity, with just under half already harvested. A few fields have been abandoned as the crop didn't produce.

Peanuts/Soybeans: Many peanut stands follow the same patterns as the cotton stands. Vegetative growth has occurred, and the vines in most fields look outstanding. The number of peanuts on the vines is still very questionable. Rainfall totals received this growing season have been scattered and isolated. Dallas Hartzog, Peanut Agronomist at the Wiregrass Research and Extension Center stated that yields are going to reflect this rainfall pattern. Yields will be highly variable. The dry weather will produce thicker hulls which will result in lower grades. Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus is light, and most fields are free of broadleaf weeds. Ron Weeks, Extension Entomologist at the Wiregrass Research and Extension Center reported that foliage feeding worms are being found in treatable numbers in about 10 percent of peanut fields. Spider mite infestations are occurring in some of the most drought stressed fields. Lesser cornstalk borer damage to peanut pods is being seen as producers pull up plants checking for pod maturity. Leafspot levels are low, but most peanuts have a long way to go before they mature. Three-quarters of Alabama's soybean crop is in very poor or poor condition. Most crop stands have bloomed and set pods, while 35 percent are dropping leaves.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Thirty-one Alabama counties have been declared eligible for the Livestock Assistance Grant Program as part of an emergency drought relief package. John S. Pulliam, Macon County Extension Agent noted that rainfall during the past week has helped hayfields and pastures recover from the drought. Producers in Covington County are busy cutting hay, and livestock in the county are reported to be in good condition. James D. Jones, Henry County Extension Agent indicated that hay production in the county will be 50 to 65 percent of normal. Peanut hay and a good crop of small grains will be needed for ranchers to make it through the winter months. Jeffery Knotts in the Pike County FSA office mentioned that hay fields are growing, but armyworms are beginning to show up in most of the county.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather For the Period: Monday August 28, 2006 To: Sunday September 3, 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	DF	Total	DFN
<i>District 10 Northwest Alabama - Tennessee Valley 25% of Corn Acreage, 32% of Cotton Acreage, 41% of Soybean Acreage.</i>															
Muscle Shoals	95	62	79	3	1.18	0.34	4	32.94	-3.72	90		201	14	131	15
Russellville	96	61	78	5	0.51	-0.34	2	28.44	-10.31	73		200	30	130	32
Belle Mina	97	59	79	4	0.87	0.07	3	26.06	-11.96	69	85	203	23	133	25
Huntsville Ag	95	62	79	4	1.09	0.23	2	26.41	-13.10	67		206	21	136	23
Hamilton	99	58	77	2	0.56	-0.42	2	27.72	-13.52	67		194	15	124	16
<i>District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 22% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 23% of Soybean Acreage.</i>															
Anniston AP	93	69	81	4	1.06	0.20	3	30.32	-8.09	79		216	24	146	25
Cullman Ag	93	60	78	4	0.24	-0.72	2	32.77	-7.82	81	79	199	24	129	26
Sand Mountain	93	61	78	5	0.35	-0.55	4	26.35	-11.67	69		199	30	129	32
Gadsden AP	95	64	80	4	0.79	0.04	2	26.15	-13.51	66		209	23	139	24
Bridgeport	93	59	79	5	0.65	-0.26	4	32.98	-8.10	80		204	32	134	33
Guntersville	96	63	81	5	0.08	-0.72	3	27.64	-9.26	75		219	29	149	32
<i>District 30 North Central Alabama - 10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 6% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees.</i>															
Thorsby	94	67	81	5	1.39	0.44	3	26.94	-13.47	67	84	223	37	153	38
Talladega	94	64	80	4	0.79	-0.12	4	29.50	-11.23	72		210	26	140	27
Birmingham AP	96	66	81	4	0.18	-0.66	2	41.48	2.71	107		219	28	149	29
Alabaster	94	66	81	5	0.04	-0.82	2	33.10	-8.35	80		219	31	149	31
Pinson	97	65	80	5	0.00	-0.88	0	30.36	-9.73	76		218	38	148	39
Opelika Wtr Plt	93	66	80	3	0.38	-0.50	2	31.05	-10.34	75		214	25	144	26
Alexander City	95	67	81	5	0.68	-0.23	2	29.18	-12.07	71		221	34	151	35
Tuscaloosa AP	99	64	82	4	0.00	-0.77	0	27.46	-12.24	69		226	24	156	24
Jasper	94	63	79	4	0.18	-0.62	1	36.50	-4.10	90		204	24	134	25
<i>District 40 South Central Alabama - Black Belt 9% of Corn Acreage, 12% of Cotton Acreage, 13% of Soybeans Acreage, 21% of Pecan Trees.</i>															
Union Springs	95	68	82	4	0.29	-0.62	2	25.42	-14.63	63		230	31	160	32
Marion Junction	98	65	82	5	0.12	-0.71	2	22.17	-16.62	57	86	232	37	162	38
Montgomery AP	97	67	83	4	1.12	0.22	2	26.76	-11.25	70		233	25	163	25
Livingston	100	63	81	4	0.20	-0.50	1	29.04	-11.49	72		219	24	149	24
<i>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.</i>															
Bay Minette	94	63	81	2	3.10	1.70	3	33.59	-14.78	69		220	10	150	10
Brewton AG	95	65	81	3	1.25	0.01	3	35.16	-12.33	74	84	222	23	152	23
Thomasville	95	66	81	3	0.13	-0.76	2	30.89	-10.85	74		223	22	153	22
Mobile Bates	96	67	82	2	0.21	-1.34	1	27.59	-18.78	59		223	8	153	8
<i>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.</i>															
Eufaula Wildlife	95	70	82	4	1.05	0.21	7	33.08	-3.95	89		230	28	160	29
Troy Municipal	95	68	82	4	2.31	1.47	1	26.03	-12.34	68		224	26	154	26
Highland Home	93	65	79	2	0.87	-0.11	4	32.83	-7.86	81		209	13	139	13
Geneva Ag	95	61	81	2	0.75	-0.36	4	31.91	-10.27	76	89	216	11	146	11
Headland	97	70	83	5	0.60	-0.32	2	22.58	-18.95	54	94	236	33	166	33
Dothan	96	71	83	5	1.04	0.15	3	28.84	-11.46	72		233	31	163	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) , 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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