



# CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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## Peanut Harvest Underway, Ahead of Previous Year

The data reflects the week ending: **September 23, 2007.**

### CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Harvested	82	70	85	76
Cotton Bolls Opening	82	72	83	80
Cotton Harvested	11	5	19	8
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	75	70	71	62
Soybeans Harvested	18	11	19	13
Peanuts Dug	11	3	4	25
Peanuts Combined	8	2	1	16

### CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor				
	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.	
	Percent				
Cotton	38	31	23	7	1
Soybeans	43	29	26	2	0
Peanuts	16	25	34	23	2
Livestock	40	18	26	16	0
Pasture & Range	39	34	20	7	0

### TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short			
		Short	Adequate	Surplus	
		Percent			
District 10	6.8	52	43	5	0
District 20	6.4	49	35	16	0
District 30	6.6	69	30	1	0
District 40	6.5	51	27	22	0
District 50	6.0	14	18	66	2
District 60	5.6	26	49	25	0
State: Previous Week	5.6	44	35	20	1
State: Current Week	6.3	45	38	17	0

### EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

**General:** Dry conditions in Alabama improved last week, as only 49.1 percent of the land was classified as suffering from exceptional drought compared to 61.3 percent a week ago, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. John S. Pulliam, Macon County Extension Agent, mentioned that with the afternoon showers received during the week, some crops in the county began to look a little better. Temperatures were cooler again this week, but remained above average for this time of the year. Daytime highs ranged from 83 degrees in Opelika to 91 degrees in Tuscaloosa. Over night lows varied from a chilly 46 degrees in Hamilton to 63 degrees in Mobile. Weather stations from central Alabama to the Gulf Coast reported receiving rainfall during the past week. Accumulations ranged from 0.07 inches in Livingston

to 2.60 inches over two days in Brewton. The northern part of the state was mostly dry.

**Corn/Soybeans:** Progress with Alabama's corn crop was on the downhill slide, as many producers were wrapping up this year's harvest. The state's soybean crop was reported in mostly very poor or poor condition. Russell C. Parrish, Jr., Crenshaw County Extension Agent, noted that soybeans in the county were starting to fill out pods. However, most beans were not much past knee high and there was not much of a stalk for the pods to grow on.

**Cotton/Peanuts:** The progress of the state's cotton harvest remained behind last year, but slightly ahead of the five-year average. The crop was reported as showing some slight improvement with the help of last week's rainfall. Leonard Kuykendall, Autauga County Extension Agent, reported that more cotton was defoliated, but many cotton fields were not worth picking. Producers were waiting on crop insurance adjusters to decide. The condition of the peanut crop remained unchanged from a week ago. Harvest picked up a little during the past week, and progress is ahead of last year, but behind the five-year average. Mr. Parrish added that most peanuts in Crenshaw County had not received enough moisture for the pegs outside of the row to fill out.

**Fruits/Vegetables:** Even though most of Alabama received rain during the past couple of weeks, strawberry producers struggled with extremely dry soil conditions as they tried to form beds and lay plastic. Planting was expected to occur over the next few weeks. Doug Chapman, Regional Extension Agent and Commercial Horticulturist, stated that all vegetable crops were suffering due to the drought. Some winter greens were planted. The pumpkin vines that survived the 100 plus degree temperatures this summer were producing fewer fruit, but there were some pumpkins available for harvest.

**Pasture/Hay/Livestock:** The majority of the state's pasture land was reported in very poor or poor condition during the past week. However, most areas had received enough rainfall to help green up pastures, but many natural water sources such as creeks and ponds were still dry. Darrell Rankins, Beef Specialist at Auburn University, indicated that most producers had just finished, or were getting ready to harvest a cutting of hay. As the winter feeding period approached, hay supplies ranged from one-third to one-half of normal. Many cattlemen planted winter grazing, and were counting on rye grass mixes to reduce the need for hay. Others purchased hay from outside sources at fairly high costs. Most beef producers had sold their calf crop early, and culled some of their brood cows. Liquidation of culled cattle was expected to resume later during the winter as hay supplies run out.

**ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather for the Period: Monday, September 17, 2007 To Sunday, September 23, 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	89	56	73	2	0.00	-0.98	0	26.01	-13.43	66		164	13	94	13
Russellville	89	50	71	3	0.00	-1.01	0	24.97	-16.63	60		160	26	90	24
Belle Mina	89	55	73	4	0.00	-0.84	0	19.20	-21.28	47	82	173	31	103	29
Huntsville Ag	90	59	75	5	0.00	-0.98	0	21.80	-20.50	52		176	29	106	29
Hamilton	90	46	71	1	0.00	-1.08	0	29.00	-15.36	65		158	16	88	16
District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 21% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 35% of Soybean Acreage.															
Anniston AP	88	58	75	4	0.00	-0.82	0	16.15	-24.71	40		178	22	108	22
Cullman Ag	87	53	71	2	0.00	-1.22	0	22.06	-22.16	50	74	153	13	83	11
Sand Mountain	84	53	71	3	0.00	-1.10	0	26.90	-14.85	64	72	154	21	84	18
Gadsden_AP	88	52	73	2	0.00	-0.84	0	22.49	-19.57	53		160	11	90	11
Bridgeport	89	51	71	3	0.00	-0.99	0	25.10	-19.06	57		152	19	82	17
Guntersville	89	53	73	2	0.00	-1.03	0	25.35	-14.86	63		176	21	106	20
District 30 North Central Alabama - 10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 8% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees.															
Thorsby	88	59	74	2	0.08	-0.84	1	19.52	-23.63	45	76	183	27	113	27
Talladega	89	50	72	0	0.00	-0.96	0	20.36	-23.38	47		160	8	90	8
Birmingham_AP	88	62	76	5	0.00	-0.94	0	24.30	-17.19	59		184	28	114	28
Alabaster	88	60	76	4	0.00	-0.91	0	26.86	-17.26	61		180	22	110	22
Pinson	90	54	74	5	0.00	-1.00	0	22.15	-20.83	52		182	40	112	38
Opelika_Wtr_Plt	83	50	71	-3	0.50	-0.41	1	27.71	-16.36	63		159	2	89	1
Alexander_City	86	51	71	-1	0.00	-0.91	0	24.32	-19.60	55		163	8	93	8
Tuscaloosa_AP	91	56	75	2	0.00	-0.77	0	18.40	-23.50	44		179	11	109	10
Jasper	89	50	71	1	0.00	-0.94	0	26.61	-16.61	62		156	13	86	13
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	88	58	75	1	0.17	-0.70	2	23.78	-18.83	56		181	11	111	12
Marion Junction	89	58	75	3	0.31	-0.52	2	22.44	-18.74	54	82	182	21	112	20
Montgomery_AP	89	61	77	2	0.87	-0.09	2	27.37	-13.49	67		190	10	120	10
Livingston	88	51	73	0	0.07	-0.70	1	29.14	-13.54	68		173	10	103	10
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	89	59	76	-2	0.80	-0.41	2	34.68	-17.45	67		191	6	121	6
Brewton_AG	87	61	75	1	2.60	1.60	2	43.24	-7.35	85	79	179	9	109	9
Thomasville	88	57	73	-2	0.15	-0.70	2	27.73	-16.78	62		174	2	104	2
Mobile_Bates	89	63	77	0	1.31	-0.02	2	38.36	-12.14	76		192	3	122	3
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	87	59	74	-1	0.68	-0.11	3	33.39	-6.57	84		179	9	109	9
Troy_Municipal	88	55	75	1	0.59	-0.20	2	28.28	-12.44	69		180	7	110	7
Highland Home	86	50	71	-4	1.20	0.27	2	26.43	-17.08	61		161	-9	91	-9
Geneva_Ag	90	58	75	-2	1.74	0.84	2	39.24	-5.73	87	83	182	0	112	1
Headland	89	59	75	0	0.35	-0.47	3	28.02	-16.00	64	85	185	10	115	10
Dothan	89	58	75	0	0.54	-0.35	2	31.22	-11.67	73		180	4	110	4

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](http://www.awis.com) or call 1-888-798-9955.

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