



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Issue 23

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Producers Welcomed Needed Rainfall

The data reflects the week ending: **September 2, 2007.**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Mature	90	71	85	80
Corn Harvested	37	19	44	35
Cotton Setting Bolls	98	95	95	99
Cotton Bolls Opening	42	30	47	35
Soybeans Setting Pods	95	87	91	87
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	53	44	33	24

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor Poor Fair Good Exc.				
	Percent				
Corn	56	24	14	5	1
Cotton	41	28	23	7	1
Soybeans	48	26	23	3	0
Peanuts	16	24	33	25	2
Livestock	40	21	24	15	0
Pasture & Range	44	30	22	4	0

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	6.3	72	20	8	0
District 20	6.0	61	32	7	0
District 30	6.4	71	29	0	0
District 40	5.9	52	30	18	0
District 50	6.1	39	26	23	12
District 60	6.1	34	39	25	2
State: Previous Week	6.6	68	26	6	0
State: Current Week	6.1	56	29	14	1

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS: General: After a second week of rainfall for many areas of the state, the U.S. Drought Monitor showed a slight improvement from last week in the percentage of Alabama land categorized as suffering from exceptional drought conditions. Thomas D. Atkinson in the Madison County FSA office reported that the county was beginning to get some relief from the heat and drought, but the verdict was still out on the amount of damage the crops had sustained. Temperatures for the week cooled off, but remained as many as 7 degrees above normal. Daytime highs ranged from 91 degrees in Mobile to 97 degrees in Gadsden, Opelika, and Brewton. Overnight lows varied from 63 degrees in Bridgeport to 72 degrees in Montgomery, Bay Minette, Eufaula, Headland, and Dothan. All weather stations reported receiving rainfall during the past week. Accumulations ranged from 0.08

inches in Belle Mina to 5.42 inches in Alabaster. With the moisture received, some producers were busy in their fields working on seedbed preparation for small grain planting.

Corn/Soybeans: The state's corn harvest progressed last week, as producers cut what little crop was left in their fields. Donald Mann in the Jackson County FSA office indicated that growers had yields that ranged from 30 to 110 bushels per acre, with an average of 50 to 70 bushels per acre. Leonard Kuykendall, Autauga County Extension Agent, noted that corn was yielding 50 bushels per acre or less. Nearly 80 percent of the state's soybean crop was reported in very poor or poor condition. Heath Potter, Regional Extension Agent for Lauderdale, Lawrence and Colbert Counties, mentioned that soybeans were dropping leaves not because of maturity, but due to the plants drying up. Russell C. Parrish, Jr., Crenshaw County Extension Agent, noted that some soybeans were blooming at the top, and pods were not anywhere close to beginning to fill out.

Cotton/Peanuts: Most of Alabama's cotton crop remained in very poor or poor condition during the past week. Crop progress continued to move forward, as fields welcomed some much needed moisture. Mr. Potter added that defoliation in Lauderdale, Lawrence and Colbert Counties was set to begin any day. The state's peanut crop showed the most promise during the past week, as 60 percent was reported in fair to excellent condition. However, some fields had pegs that were very small and located only near the main root. Others were undeveloped, and in some cases dead.

Fruits/Nuts: The Satsuma crop was reported to be medium to large in most orchards. Fruit size was variable, but was expected to be adequate by the end of the season. Pest pressure was strong from Citrus Rust Mite, scale, and Leaf-footed bugs. Pecan trees that were actively managed along the Gulf Coast have a large crop, and were entering the final phase of nut development. Monte Nesbitt, Research Horticulturist at the Gulf Coast Research and Extension Center, reported that limb breakage was significant due to the large quantities of nuts produced this year. Trees that remained untreated for fungi have dropped most of their nuts because of Scab disease. Insect pressure from Hickory Shuckworm, black aphids, and stinkbugs was high.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Fall armyworms invaded hayfields and pastures, just as they began to show some signs of relief from the drought conditions and blistering heat experienced during the past month. Producers in Coffee, Walker and Macon counties discovered the pest during the past week. Don Ball, Extension Forage Agronomist, stated that many pastures were already under stress from last summer's drought and overgrazing, and now pastures were battling insect pressures. Warm-season grasses were reported as faring much better than cool-season fescues, but Mr. Ball added that it was impossible to make a sweeping assessment of the overall state of pastures and hayfields across the state.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather for the Period: Monday, August 27, 2007 To Sunday, September 2, 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	96	70	82	6	0.54	-0.28	3	22.81	-13.72	62	93	227	39	157	40
Russellville	95	71	81	7	0.30	-0.53	2	22.99	-15.63	60		223	52	153	53
Belle Mina	95	69	81	6	0.08	-0.71	1	18.16	-19.74	48		221	40	151	42
Huntsville Ag	94	70	82	6	0.41	-0.43	3	20.55	-18.83	52		226	40	156	41
Hamilton	96	64	81	5	0.37	-0.59	1	22.93	-18.16	56		215	35	145	36
District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 21% of Corn Acreage, 5% of Cotton Acreage, 35% of Soybean Acreage.															
Anniston AP	94	71	82	5	1.27	0.42	3	16.13	-22.15	42	80	225	32	155	33
Cullman Ag	96	68	81	6	0.56	-0.37	3	17.84	-22.81	44		219	43	149	45
Sand Mountain	91	66	78	5	3.80	2.93	3	24.51	-13.98	64		204	34	134	35
Gadsden_AP	97	70	82	6	0.62	-0.12	3	19.13	-20.42	48		224	37	154	38
Bridgeport	95	63	80	6	1.90	1.01	5	24.13	-17.03	59		212	39	142	40
Guntersville	95	69	82	5	0.85	0.08	6	23.39	-13.80	63	226	35	156	37	
District 30 North Central Alabama - 10% of Corn Acreage, 4% of Cotton Acreage, 8% of Soybean Acreage, 71% of Peach Trees.															
Thorsby	94	71	81	5	0.98	0.04	5	16.04	-24.23	40	84	224	37	154	38
Talladega	95	69	81	5	0.99	0.10	6	18.95	-21.87	46		218	33	148	34
Birmingham_AP	94	71	82	6	1.75	0.93	6	21.00	-17.64	54		228	36	158	37
Alabaster	93	70	81	5	5.42	4.57	5	23.65	-17.67	57		222	33	152	33
Pinson	96	70	82	7	2.70	1.83	5	18.91	-21.05	47		231	50	161	51
Opelika_Wtr_Plt	97	71	81	4	0.95	0.08	2	25.17	-16.09	61	223	34	153	34	
Alexander_City	94	69	80	4	2.13	1.22	5	22.76	-18.36	55	211	23	141	24	
Tuscaloosa_AP	96	71	83	5	1.29	0.52	4	16.23	-23.36	41	234	31	164	31	
Jasper	95	69	82	6	2.06	1.27	4	24.96	-15.52	62	223	41	153	43	
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	94	70	81	3	2.74	1.83	3	23.29	-16.63	58	87	221	21	151	22
Marion Junction	93	71	81	4	1.07	0.25	4	20.08	-18.59	52		219	23	149	24
Montgomery_AP	94	72	82	4	2.14	1.26	6	24.83	-13.04	66		229	20	159	20
Livingston	96	71	82	5	1.79	1.09	6	26.17	-14.26	65		228	31	158	32
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	92	72	80	1	2.96	1.56	7	32.32	-15.85	67	87	217	7	147	7
Brewton_AG	97	70	82	4	3.78	2.53	6	37.96	-9.36	80		224	24	154	24
Thomasville	93	71	81	3	2.15	1.27	6	24.62	-17.22	59		221	19	151	19
Mobile_Bates	91	71	81	1	4.10	2.55	6	34.75	-11.40	75		221	5	151	5
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	94	72	82	4	1.28	0.44	3	31.69	-5.80	85	88	227	24	157	25
Troy_Municipal	94	70	82	4	2.72	1.89	5	27.34	-10.91	71		226	27	156	27
Highland Home	93	66	79	2	2.14	1.16	5	23.57	-16.98	58		208	12	138	12
Geneva_Ag	94	68	81	2	0.85	-0.27	4	35.82	-6.21	85		219	13	149	13
Headland	95	72	82	3	1.81	0.88	4	24.66	-16.74	60		229	26	159	26
Dothan	94	72	83	4	2.74	1.86	5	28.58	-11.59	71	229	26	159	26	

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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