



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Arkansas Crop Progress and Condition

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Cooperating with the University of Arkansas – Division of Agriculture
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Reporting for the week ending August 3, 2008.

General

Last week continued to be dry and hot as 33 of the 36 weather stations reported less than an inch of precipitation, with 17 reporting no precipitation at all. Eudora received the most rainfall with 1.61 inches. Below normal precipitation for the last four weeks was reported by three-fourths of the weather stations with El Dorado reporting 3.40 inches below normal for that time period. Temperatures were above normal across the state and as much as 7 degrees above normal in several locations. High temperatures ranged from 96 degrees Fahrenheit in Harrison to 106 degrees Fahrenheit in Hot Springs, DeQueen, Camden and El Dorado, and low temperatures ranged from 67 to 76 degrees Fahrenheit. Lack of rainfall and high temperatures led to depletion of soil moisture supplies as 75 percent of the topsoil moisture was rated as short or very short. Topsoil moisture supplies were 25 percent very short, 50 percent short, 24 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus by the end of last week. Subsoil moisture supplies were 21 percent very short, 42 percent short, 36 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. With little precipitation, there were 6.8 days suitable for field work.

Crop

The corn crop was 90 percent in the dough stage and beyond with an increase of 15 percent from the previous week. The dent stage, at 63 percent, was 20 percent behind last year and 4 percent behind the 5-year average. Corn reaching maturity, at 4 percent, was 15 percent behind last year and 8 percent behind the 5-year average. Even with the dry and hot conditions, 22 percent of the corn was rated in excellent condition. Only 2 percent of the cotton crop was left to set bolls. Last week was the first time this season that any of the cotton crop was rated in very poor condition. Rice headed advanced 14 percent to end the week at 25 percent. Sorghum headed, at 89 percent, was 11 percent behind 2007 and 7 percent behind the 5-year average. Sorghum coloring increased 17 percent to reach 41 percent by week's end, and the crop started to mature. Soybeans blooming, at 73 percent, was a week behind last year and the 5-year average. Setting pods, at 50 percent, was 16 percent behind 2007 and the 5-year average. The condition of rice, sorghum, and soybeans was mostly fair to good. Persistent dry and hot conditions forced producers to continue to irrigate row crops. Armyworms have been a common problem in soybean and cotton fields, and producers have been treating for them. Producers applied fungicides to rice and insecticides to rice, soybeans, and cotton. Farmers continued to harvest peaches last week, and melon harvest was in full swing.

Livestock

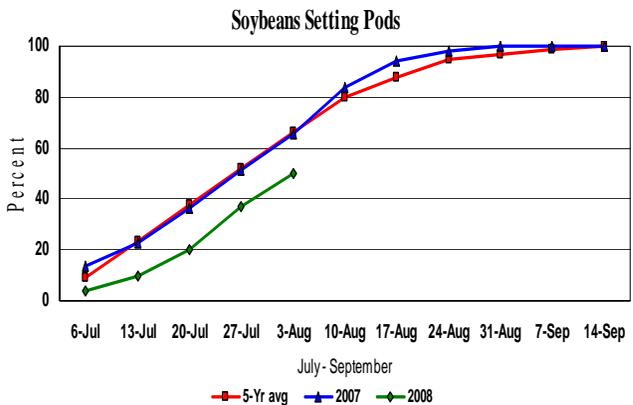
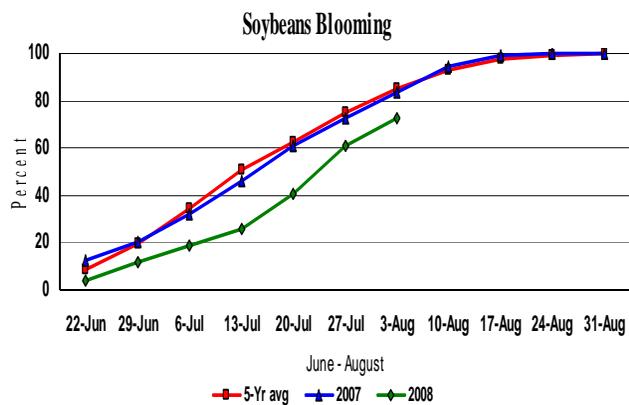
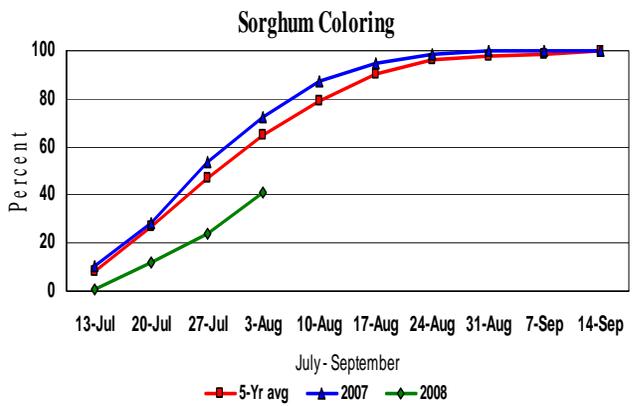
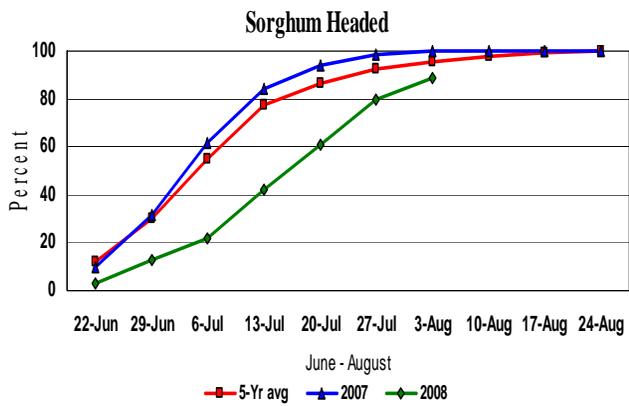
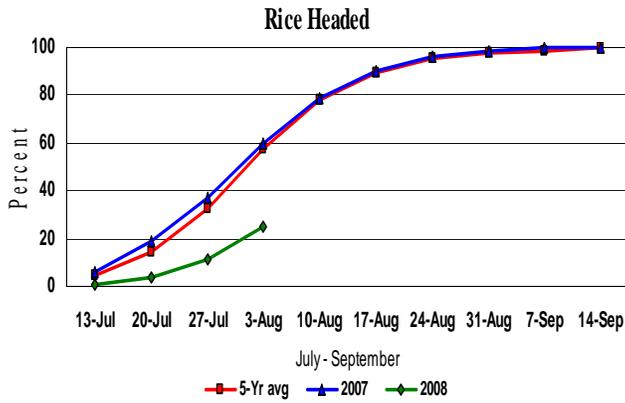
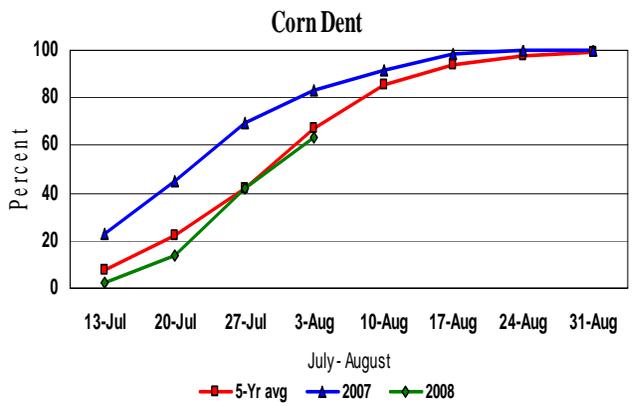
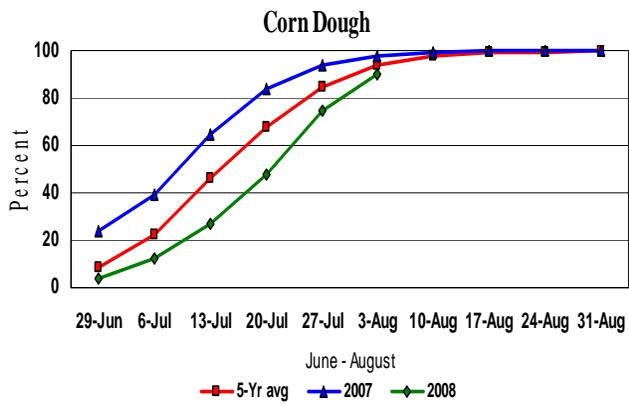
Heat stress on livestock continued to be a major concern for producers last week, but livestock remained in fair to good condition. At least 12 percent of pasture and range and hay crops were in very poor to poor condition for the first time this year as the hot and dry conditions were taking a toll. Producers were still harvesting hay where growth allowed.

Percent of Progress

Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	2007	5-Year Avg
Corn	Dough	90	75	97	94
	Dent	63	42	83	67
	Mature	4	n/a	19	12
Cotton	Setting Bolls	98	91	99	96
Rice	Headed	25	11	60	58
Sorghum	Headed	89	80	100	96
	Coloring	41	24	72	65
	Mature	1	n/a	9	5
Soybeans	Blooming	73	61	84	85
	Setting Pods	50	37	66	66

Condition in Percentages

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	0	5	25	48	22
Cotton	1	5	34	46	14
Rice	1	5	26	52	16
Sorghum	1	6	43	39	11
Soybeans	5	13	34	36	12
Hay-Alfalfa	2	10	48	39	1
Hay-Other	0	12	44	39	5
Pasture and Range	1	16	39	40	4



Temperatures and Precipitation Week Ending August 3, 2008

District	Station	Temperatures			Rainfall				
		High	Low	Dep from Normal *	Wk Ending Aug 3	4 wk	4 wk	Year to Date	
						Accum	Normal	2008	Normal
Northwest	Fayetteville	98	69	3	0.22	3.93	2.59	37.84	26.94
	Harrison	96	71	2	0.24	4.34	2.37	42.18	26.15
N. Central	Calico Rock	97	68	5	0.51	3.45	2.68	46.65	26.94
	Gilbert	97	69	3	0.22	4.77	2.25	53.02	26.25
	Greers Ferry	98	69	4	0.00	2.17	2.97	39.92	29.79
	Mtn. Home	97	73	6	0.00	2.09	2.31	44.13	26.36
Northeast	Batesville	99	72	4	0.05	3.05	2.80	33.57	27.92
	Blytheville	99	73	4	0.00	1.56	3.41	25.18	31.73
	Jonesboro	103	70	5	0.14	1.45	2.43	29.51	27.72
	Keiser	101	72	5	0.00	1.66	3.10	28.27	30.98
	Newport	98	71	4	0.00	3.07	2.91	35.19	29.01
W. Central	Booneville	103	70	4	0.00	1.32	2.97	40.39	28.64
	Clarksville	101	74	6	0.00	2.67	2.48	43.26	27.43
	Dardanelle	101	72	4	0.00	3.26	2.86	45.57	28.93
	Ft. Smith	105	75	7	0.20	0.80	2.72	36.97	26.00
	Mena	103	69	5	0.00	1.61	4.29	41.71	34.79
	Ozark	103	73	7	0.00	1.67	3.03	39.58	26.61
Central	Conway	101	71	4	0.00	1.30	2.47	39.69	28.73
	Hot Springs	106	73	6	0.03	0.91	3.61	39.65	34.49
	Little Rock	105	73	6	0.15	1.46	2.87	33.65	30.13
	Morrilton	99	71	5	0.00	2.41	2.36	37.70	28.55
	N. Little Rock	104	72	5	0.00	1.56	2.82	30.03	29.16
E. Central	Brinkley	100	70	6	0.00	0.48	2.73	26.88	31.09
	Marianna	99	69	4	1.15	2.83	3.30	34.06	33.09
	Stuttgart	103	70	5	0.93	1.73	2.76	30.38	30.47
	West Memphis	99	70	4	1.22	1.24	2.85	29.78	32.69
Southwest	DeQueen	106	67	5	0.00	0.17	3.43	28.76	32.68
	Hope	104	68	6	0.60	0.75	3.28	35.14	32.05
	Texarkana	104	76	6	0.24	1.14	3.18	30.37	28.11
S. Central	Camden	106	71	6	0.00	0.90	3.34	22.11	32.41
	El Dorado	106	72	7	0.01	0.16	3.56	23.94	34.32
	Warren	103	71	6	0.31	0.54	3.53	26.72	34.31
Southeast	Eudora	103	70	4	1.61	2.48	3.15	34.49	36.64
	Monticello	104	73	7	0.00	0.52	3.59	29.78	34.76
	Pine Bluff	102	70	4	0.83	0.90	3.60	22.85	31.86
	Rohwer	98	71	3	0.97	2.23	3.29	28.33	32.77

* Departure from normal = $\frac{\text{high} - \text{low}}{2}$ - 30 year average.

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