



# CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Issue 5

## Tornadoes Affected Alabama's Agriculture

Data tables reflect the week ending: May 1, 2011

### CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2010	5-Yr Avg.
	<i>Percent</i>			
Corn Planted	78	74	93	89
Corn Emerged	54	49	75	69
Cotton Planted	11	5	25	26
Peanuts Planted	3	1	0	7
Soybeans Planted	2	0	15	16
Winter Wheat Headed	81	63	59	29
Hay Harvested—1st Cutting	15	N/A	2	9

N/A = Not Available

### CROP / LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor Poor Fair Good Exc.				
	<i>Percent</i>				
Corn	0	6	36	57	1
Cotton	0	2	70	27	1
Peanuts	0	0	65	35	0
Soybeans	0	0	10	90	0
Winter Wheat	0	5	20	65	10
Livestock	0	3	16	72	9
Pasture & Range	0	6	22	62	10

### TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable Very Short Adequate Surplus				
	<i>Percent</i>				
District 10	2.3	0	0	44	56
District 20	2.8	0	0	40	60
District 30	4.8	0	4	74	22
District 40	5.3	1	18	65	16
District 50	6.3	17	46	36	1
District 60	6.5	12	51	37	0
State: Current Week	4.6	4	19	47	30
State: Previous Week	4.6	4	18	52	26

### EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

**General:** Tornadoes swept through the state Wednesday causing widespread damage and destruction. The Department of Agriculture reported that at least 200 poultry houses were destroyed by the storm, causing extensive damage to the state's multi-billion-dollar poultry industry. The state veterinarian is investigating reports of missing and injured livestock.

Many parts of the state still are without power and adequate drinking water. In light of this tragic event, many crop weather respondents were unable to provide data this past week. As E. Doyle Dutton, County Executive Director (CED) with the Farm Service Agency (FSA) in Lawrence County stated, "The National Guard is asking people to please refrain from surveying disaster areas." As clean-up throughout the state continues and damage is assessed, we will be better able to provide you with data reflecting the extent of the agricultural damage.

The average mean temperature for the week ranged from 65.4 F in Hamilton, to 72.0 F in Mobile. Darryl Rutland, Program Technician for the Farm Service Agency (FSA), reported more than 6 inches of rain for Colbert and Franklin Counties, while Dutton stated Lawrence County received more than 5 inches of rain. Rutland said it is the second week in a row with excessive rain; the excessive rain fall received since March first has delayed field work.

**Small Grains:** Rutland stated that many wheat fields were flooded and high winds blew down several acres of wheat. Ricky Colquitt, County Executive Coordinator for the FSA in Shelby County, said the wheat in his area was damaged from high winds. Shane Seay, FSA CED for Limestone County, said wheat in his area held up fair, but fields are full of debris and several acres are blown down.

**Corn/Cotton/Peanut/Soybeans:** Rutland said corn fields were flooded in his area, and Seay said corn was damaged by hail and high winds. Donald E Mann, FSA CED in Jackson County, said excessive moisture caused flooding and delayed field work in his area. Mann also said no cotton or soybeans have been planted. Greg Key, FSA CED for Etowah and St. Clair Counties, said producers are exchanging unplanted corn seed with cotton or soybean seed because the ground remains too wet for planting. Don Moore, Director of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES) Experiment Station in Autauga County, said grasshoppers are affecting the emerging cotton in no-till cover crop situations.

**Pasture/Hay/Livestock:** Henry Dorough, ACES Regional Extension Agent (REA), said there was a considerable loss of livestock in the region as a result of the EF-4 tornado that tore through St. Clair and Calhoun Counties. Jack Tatum, ACES REA, stated some producers will cut ryegrass for hay as soon as the weather is suitable. Anthony Wiggins, ACEC REA, said producers are reporting that conditions have been good for hay harvest this spring, while Dorough said the first hay cutting began last week in several counties in his area.

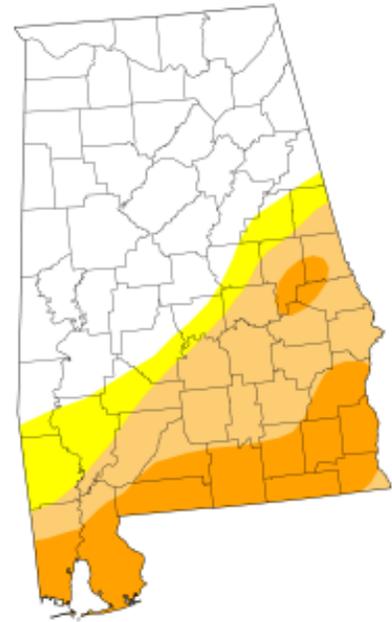
Name	City	State	Total Precipitation Value (in.)	Average Mean Temperature Value (°F)
Anniston Metro Ap	Anniston	AL	0.28	67.6
Bankhead Lock & Dam	Bankhead	AL	1.08	68.9
Birmingham Area	Birmingham	AL	1.12	69.3
Gadsden	Gadsden	AL	0.01	69.6
Hamilton 3 S	Hamilton	AL	1.24	65.4
Huntsville Area	Huntsville	AL	3.91	67.9
Mobile Regional Ap	Mobile	AL	0.36	72.0
Montgomery Area	Montgomery	AL	0.39	70.1
Muscle Shoals Ap	Muscle Shoals	AL	3.63	68.2
Pinson	Pinson	AL	1.47	66.1
Rock Mills	Rock Mills	AL	2.13	66.8
Selma	Selma	AL	0.34	69.7

*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	52.58	47.42	38.01	16.84	0.00	0.00
Last Week (04/19/2011 map)	54.02	45.98	38.01	16.84	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago (01/25/2011 map)	14.54	85.46	57.83	28.77	1.82	0.00
Start of Calendar Year (12/28/2010 map)	17.47	82.53	55.26	29.34	1.82	0.00
Start of Water Year (09/28/2010 map)	3.64	96.36	66.34	25.17	4.40	0.00
One Year Ago (04/20/2010 map)	58.74	41.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

**Intensity:**

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional



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