



# CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Issue 8

## Drought Delays Planting

Data tables reflect the week ending: **May 22, 2011**

### CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2010	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Planted	98	95	100	98
Corn Emerged	89	76	95	93
Cotton Planted	67	50	77	78
Peanuts Planted	42	29	50	54
Soybeans Planted	27	15	52	49
Soybeans Emerged	14	7	28	31
Winter Wheat Headed	99	95	94	70
Hay Harvested – 1 <sup>st</sup> Cutting	65	50	38	31

### CROP / LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Corn	0	7	36	56	1
Cotton	1	9	57	32	1
Peanuts	2	7	56	35	0
Soybeans	0	0	45	55	0
Winter Wheat	1	5	23	60	11
Livestock	1	4	23	60	12
Pasture & Range	5	10	28	43	14

### TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	6.0	0	2	89	15
District 20	6.3	0	9	86	5
District 30	6.2	6	59	35	0
District 40	6.0	17	47	33	3
District 50	6.4	43	45	12	0
District 60	6.0	47	44	9	0
State: Current Week	6.1	18	29	48	5
State: Previous	4.8	9	19	54	18

### EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

**General:** Additional heavy rain has slowed planting and fertilizing in Lauderdale County reported Josh Ford, Farm Service Agency (FSA) Program Technician (PT). Carol Gay, FSA County Executive Director (CED), said little to no rain was received in Clay and Randolph Counties. Kevan Tucker, Alabama Cooperative Extension System

(ACES) County Executive Coordinator (CEC), said crops are showing signs of stress from lack of moisture, and the cool temperatures have slowed growth in Clarke County. Wyatt Hendry, FSA CED, said conditions are abnormally dry in Clarke and Washington Counties, and some planting has been halted due to inadequate topsoil moisture. Carolyn Bradley, FSA PT, said farmers are in need of rain in Conecuh County. Karen McDonald, FSA CED, said Monroe County continues to suffer from very dry conditions as it is drier now than it was a year ago this month. Bobby Beasley, FSA CED, said producers are leery to plant given the dry conditions and no rain in the forecast for Henry County.

**Small Grains:** Cooler weather slowed the maturing process of the wheat crop according to Tim Malone, FSA CED in Marion and Winston Counties. Susan McDonald, FSA CED, said wheat is improving after the tornadoes damage.

**Corn/Cotton/Peanut/Soybeans:** According to Ford, failed corn and cotton acreage is being reported, as well as prevented planting of cotton acreage. Malone said Marion and Winston Counties finally received enough dry days to plant corn; however, the cooler weather has been tough on cotton. Susan McDonald said corn and soybeans were being planted in Morgan County. Don Moore, Director of the Alabama Experiment Station in Prattville, said cool nights have slowed cotton and soybean development. Karen McDonald said some peanuts have been planted, but producers are awaiting moisture before cotton planting can continue. Doyle Barnes, FSA CED, said the rain received late this past week allowed cotton and peanuts to be planted in Covington County.

**Pasture/Hay/Livestock:** Hay harvest is going slowly because of wet weather and cool nights, said Malone. McDonald reported pastures are looking better in spite of receiving storm damage. Gay said hay cutting continues to vary across the counties. Jack Tatum, ACES Regional Extension Agent (REA) said most of the first hay cutting is now in barns in the central and western region of District 30. Henry Dorough, ACES REA, said pastures and hayfields are showing significant signs of stress due to dry conditions in the Eastern half of District 30, and the Southern half of District 20. Jim Todd, ACES CEC, said Bermuda hay fields have missed their first cutting as the drought continues in Mobile County. David Koon, ACES REA, Karen McDonald, and Jim Todd all said some cattlemen are feeding hay due to dry pastures.

**Southeast Regional Climate Center**  
**Values for Monday, May 16, 2011, to Sunday, May 22, 2011**  
**(7 days)**  
<http://www.sercc.com/perspectivesmap>

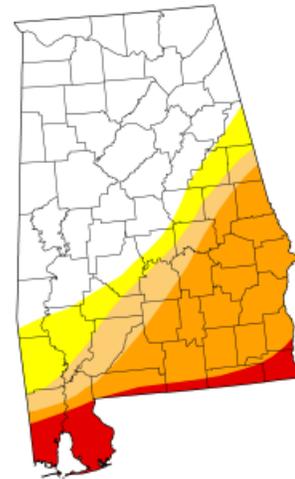
Name	City	State	Total Precipitation Value (in.)	Average Mean Temperature Value (°F)
Anniston Metro Ap	Anniston	AL	0	65.3
Bankhead Lock & Dam	Bankhead	AL	0	64.4
Birmingham Area	Birmingham	AL	0	67.2
Centreville 6 Sw	Centreville	AL	0	63.1
Enterprise 4 W	Enterprise	AL	0	68.3
Evergreen	Evergreen	AL	0	67.4
Gainesville Lock	Gainesville	AL	0	65.6
Geneva #2	Geneva	AL	0	67.0
Huntsville Area	Huntsville	AL	0.06	66.5
Mobile Area	Mobile	AL	0	70.2
Montgomery Area	Montgomery	AL	0	67.4
Muscle Shoals Ap	Muscle Shoals	AL	0.02	66.6
Pinson	Pinson	AL	0	63.7
Rock Mills	Rock Mills	AL	0	64.8
Scottsboro	Scottsboro	AL	0	63.1
Selma	Selma	AL	0	66.8
Sylacauga 4 Ne	Sylacauga	AL	0	63.6

**U.S. Drought Monitor, May 17, 2011**  
**National Weather Service**  
<http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm>

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	51.77	48.23	38.35	29.46	6.30	0.00
Last Week (05/10/2011 map)	52.58	47.42	38.00	28.61	1.39	0.00
3 Months Ago (02/15/2011 map)	0.00	100.00	66.09	23.07	0.00	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 (05/11/2010 map)	100.00	0.00	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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