



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Issue 9

Hot, Dry Conditions Prevail

Data tables reflect the week ending: **May 29, 2011**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2010	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Planted	100	98	100	99
Corn Emerged	97	89	99	97
Cotton Planted	77	67	88	87
Peanuts Planted	59	42	74	73
Soybeans Planted	38	27	63	61
Soybeans Emerged	24	14	43	43
Winter Wheat Headed	100	99	99	85
Winter Wheat Harvested	20	11	10	5
Hay Harvested – 1 st Cutting	72	65	54	45

CROP / LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Corn	1	10	37	49	3
Cotton	3	21	50	25	1
Peanuts	4	14	58	24	0
Soybeans	0	1	35	64	0
Winter Wheat	1	4	23	62	10
Livestock	1	5	26	57	11
Pasture & Range	11	12	26	39	12

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	4.8	0	3	72	25
District 20	5.6	0	30	69	1
District 30	6.1	21	59	20	0
District 40	6.0	17	49	31	3
District 50	6.6	56	36	8	0
District 60	6.5	64	34	2	0
State: Current Week	5.9	24	30	39	7
State: Previous	6.1	18	29	48	5

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: Donald Mann, Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES) Regional Extension Agent (REA) for Calhoun, Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Randolph, Talladega, & Tallapoosa Counties, said dry weather continued this past week, and rainfall in most locations was light with remaining areas receiving no

rain. Cindy Owens, Farm Service Agency (FSA) County Executive Director (CED), and Bill Browning, FSA CED said Fayette, Lamar, Shelby and Talladega Counties are in desperate need of rain. Perry Woodruff, FSA CED in Dallas and Lowndes Counties, said they have had little rain, which is affecting crops and pastures. Don Moore, Director of the ACES Alabama Experiment Station in Prattville, reported .9 inches of rain received this past week. Alfred Jackson, Tuskegee Cooperative Extension Program County Agent, reported scattered rain showers this past week over part of the western Blackbelt, but the area still needs a good soaking rain. Brenda Glover, ACES REA, reported some areas received almost an inch of rain, but most producers still need moisture throughout Greene, Hale, Marengo, Perry, and Sumter Counties. Wyatt Hendry, FSA CED for Clarke and Washington Counties, said drought has set in, and several days of strong, dry winds pulled the remaining moisture from fields halting all planting. Carolyn Bradley, FSA Program Technician (PT), said dry conditions prevail in Conecuh County, and many farmers have to replant crops that did not break through due to the lack of rain. Karen McDonald, FSA CED, and Jim Todd, ACES County Extension Coordinator (CEC), said the drought continues in Mobile and Monroe Counties. Bobby Beasley, FSA CED, Brandon Dillard, ACES REA, and James D. Jones Jr., ACES CEC, all said planting has stopped as producers await rain in Bullock, Coffee, Covington, Crenshaw, Dale, Geneva, Henry, Houston, and Pike Counties.

Corn/Cotton/Peanut/Soybeans: Kelvin Veal, FSA CED said corn shows signs of heat stress and worm problems. Hendry said most of the corn crop is in tassel and suffering. McDonald said some cotton has to be replanted in Monroe County due to lack of moisture. Dillard said dry land corn is suffering because of a lack of moisture, and thrip damage to cotton continues to increase. Dillard stated that peanuts are being planted where producers can find moisture.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Pastures are deteriorating due to the lack of rain, said Jack Tatum, ACES REA for Bibb, Chilton, Fayette, Jefferson, Lamar, Marion, Pickens, Tuscaloosa, Walker, & Winston Counties. Dorrough said pastures and hayfields show significant signs of drought stress. Gay said this past week was excellent hay cutting weather; however Randolph and Clay counties need rain. Jackson said Greene County pastures are still in good condition, but unless rain comes soon, the condition will change drastically. Hendry reported that livestock producers are feeding hay and some recently reduced their herds due to the lack of grass for grazing. Anthony Wiggins, ACES REA, said many pastures are dry to the point they offer little to no forage for livestock. McDonald said cattle sales have increased this past week because producers do not have grass for livestock to graze. McDonald also said producers are concerned about the cattle they still have and whether the hay supply will last through the winter. Beasley said cattle producers are struggling to find feed for livestock as hay is short, especially following the 2010 drought.

Southeast Regional Climate Center
Values for Monday, May 23, 2011, to Sunday, May 29, 2011
(7 days)
<http://www.sercc.com/perspectivesmap>

U.S. Drought Monitor, May 24, 2011
National Weather Service
<http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm>

Name	City	State	Total Precipitation Value (in.)	Average Mean Temperature Value (°F)
Anniston Metro Ap	Anniston	AL	0.14	76.9
Bankhead Lock & Dam	Bankhead	AL	0.49	76.9
Birmingham Area	Birmingham	AL	0.14	78.6
Gainesville Lock	Gainesville	AL	0.55	77.9
Guntersville	Guntersville	AL	0.98	75.2
Huntsville Area	Huntsville	AL	0.78	76.5
Mobile Area	Mobile	AL	0.32	79.9
Montgomery Area	Montgomery	AL	2.02	78.4
Muscle Shoals Ap	Muscle Shoals	AL	0.73	76.1

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	33.25	66.75	42.79	33.55	12.87	0.00
Last Week (05/17/2011 map)	51.77	48.23	38.35	29.46	6.30	0.00
3 Months Ago (02/22/2011 map)	0.00	100.00	87.54	28.25	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 (05/18/2010 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

