



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Issue 21

Insects on the Rise

Data tables reflect the week ending: **August 21, 2011**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2010	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Dough	98	98	99	99
Corn Dented	92	80	95	89
Corn Mature	62	41	71	55
Corn Harvested	11	4	0	10
Cotton Squaring	91	87	96	99
Cotton Setting Bolls	71	64	84	88
Cotton Bolls Opening	10	4	34	20
Peanuts Pegged	86	79	87	84
Soybeans Blooming	94	86	90	92
Soybeans Setting Pods	63	48	79	76
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	1	N/A	18	14

N/A – Not Applicable

CROP / LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Corn	10	14	31	41	4
Cotton	8	15	32	40	5
Peanuts	5	17	37	37	4
Soybeans	3	9	31	53	4
Livestock	1	5	33	57	4
Pasture & Range	6	18	31	41	4

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	6.3	5	19	76	0
District 20	6.8	10	47	43	0
District 30	6.8	24	31	45	0
District 40	5.4	9	40	45	6
District 50	6.5	4	29	66	1
District 60	6.8	27	32	40	1
State: Current Week	6.4	13	32	54	1
State: Previous	5.5	5	22	71	2

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: Donald E. Mann, Farm Service Agency (FSA) County Executive Director (CED), said Jackson County

experienced another week with no significant rainfall. Carol Gay, FSA CED, said rain is needed in Clay and Randolph Counties. Jack Tatum, Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES) Regional Extension Agent (REA), said a good slow rain of one to two inches is desperately needed in the western half of District 30. Don Moore, Director of the ACES Experiment Station in Prattville, reported one inch of rain was received at the service center last week, but most areas did not receive any significant rainfall. Alfred Jackson, Tuskegee Cooperative Extension Program County Agent, said afternoon rain showers produced minimal rainfall throughout the Blackbelt. Brenda Glover, ACES REA, said while temperatures were a little cooler in the western part of District 40, it is still hot and dry. Jimmy Todd, ACES County Executive Coordinator (CEC), said a good soaking rain is needed in Mobile County. James D. Jones Jr., ACES CEC, said Henry County needs significant rainfall. Bobby Beasley, FSA CED, said Henry County has once again turned dry with no rain in the forecast.

Corn/Cotton/Peanut/Soybeans: Jackson said insect and disease populations are on the rise, with soybeans being susceptible to septoria brown spot and southern blight, so producers should start scouting early. Dorothy Chavers, FSA CED, said hot, dry conditions are leaving most croplands shy of moisture. Jones said all crops in Henry County are under heat and drought stress during peak fruiting. Mann said corn harvest in Jackson County started late last week with yields running about 150 bushels to the acre. Mann added that cotton and soybeans are really hurting from the lack of moisture. Tim Malone, FSA CED, said corn harvest is set to start in Marion and Winston Counties, and cotton still looks good with the potential of a very good yield. Malone noted that, soybeans are showing signs of insect stress, but producers were able to get in the fields to spray. Malone said some soybeans were blown over by wind, and producers had to apply insecticides by plane.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Malone said although fescue pastures improved with the slightly cooler weather last week, pastures and cattle are really hurting in Jackson County. Cathy Blackburn, FSA CED, said producers are culling livestock pretty heavily in Chambers and Lee Counties. Moore said high temperatures and the lack of rainfall caused pastures to go downhill fast. Jackson said last week was a good week for hay producers in the Blackbelt as most producers were able to get into the fields to cut and harvest hay. Todd said pasture grasses are drying in Mobile County. Charles Simon, ACES CEC, said rain is needed in Covington County; however, the dry weather helped hay production. Chavers said army worms are beginning to be very aggressive in Crenshaw County hay lands.

Southeast Regional Climate Center
Values for Monday, August 15, 2011, to Sunday, August 21, 2011
(7 days)

<http://www.sercc.com/perspectivesmap>

U.S. Drought Monitor, August 16, 2011

National Weather Service
<http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm>

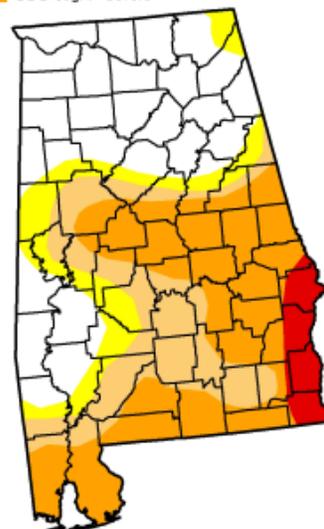
Name	City	State	Average Mean Temperature Value (°F)	Total Precipitation Value (in.)
Anniston Metro Ap	Anniston	AL	80.4	0.00
Bankhead Lock & Dam	Bankhead	AL	79.8	0.09
Birmingham Area	Birmingham	AL	81.5	0.02
Centreville 6 Sw	Centreville	AL	79.2	0.00
Clayton	Clayton	AL	81.9	0.56
Gadsden	Gadsden	AL	81.3	0.28
Gainesville Lock	Gainesville	AL	80.5	0.03
Guntersville	Guntersville	AL	78.6	0.31
Hamilton 3 S	Hamilton	AL	77.7	0.00
Huntsville Area	Huntsville	AL	79.0	0.00
Mobile Area	Mobile	AL	83.3	0.73
Montgomery Area	Montgomery	AL	82.6	0.00
Muscle Shoals Ap	Muscle Shoals	AL	80.9	0.02
Rock Mills	Rock Mills	AL	78.6	0.21

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	36.10	63.90	53.28	35.04	4.50	0.00
Last Week (08/09/2011 map)	33.04	66.96	56.78	37.72	4.50	0.00
3 Months Ago (05/17/2011 map)	51.77	48.23	38.35	29.46	6.30	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 (08/10/2010 map)	32.23	67.77	25.79	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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