



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Issue 22

Dry Conditions Return

Data tables reflect the week ending: **August 28, 2011**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2010	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Dented	97	92	99	95
Corn Mature	78	62	86	72
Corn Harvested	25	11	0	17
Cotton Squaring	94	91	99	100
Cotton Setting Bolls	77	71	91	93
Cotton Bolls Opening	18	10	48	33
Peanuts Pegged	90	86	91	91
Soybeans Blooming	96	94	92	95
Soybeans Setting Pods	75	63	82	84
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	5	1	26	24

CROP / LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Corn	10	14	32	40	4
Cotton	7	20	36	33	4
Peanuts	8	17	40	31	4
Soybeans	5	14	33	44	4
Livestock	2	9	35	51	3
Pasture & Range	9	25	36	29	1

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	6.9	5	37	58	0
District 20	6.8	50	39	11	0
District 30	7.0	31	51	18	0
District 40	5.6	14	55	25	6
District 50	6.4	7	32	60	1
District 60	6.6	34	36	29	1
State: Current Week	6.5	24	40	35	1
State: Previous	6.4	13	32	54	1

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: Thomas Atkinson, Farm Service Agency (FSA) County Executive Director (CED), said Madison County is very dry and

needs rain. Donald E. Mann, FSA CED, said crops are deteriorating rapidly in Jackson County, and it is so dry apple trees at a local orchard are dropping fruit prematurely. Alfred K. Jackson, Tuskegee Cooperative Extension Program County Agent, said many small, limited-resource vegetable producers are preparing fall gardens. Carol Gay, FSA CED, said Clay and Randolph Counties are very dry and need rain. Jack Tatum, Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES) Regional Extension Agent (REA), said a good, slow, one to two inches of rain is desperately needed in the western half of District 30. Don Moore, Director of the Alabama Experiment Station in Prattville, said no rain was recorded at the service center. Karen McDonald, FSA CED, said Monroe County is still dry despite scattered thunderstorms. Donna Senn, FSA CED, Charles Simon, ACES County Executive Coordinator (CEC), and James D. Jones Jr., ACES CEC said rain was desperately needed in Barbour, Covington, and Henry Counties. Bobby Beasley, FSA CED, said Henry County received 0.1 – 0.4 inch of rain; not enough to help plant growth and development. Jeff Knotts, FSA CED, said a lack of rainfall and extreme heat has stressed crops in Bullock and Pike Counties.

Corn/Cotton/Peanut/Soybeans: Wyatt Hendry, FSA CED, said dry, hot conditions have returned, causing crops to deteriorate in Clarke and Washington Counties. Jennifer Stanley, FSA Program Technician, said crop leaves are wilting from lack of rain in Escambia County. Tim Malone, FSA CED in Marion and Winston Counties, noted corn harvest started early due to extremely dry weather, with corn moisture levels running 13 – 17 percent; and although late soybeans are putting on pods, the continued drought will diminish bean formation. Malone added that hot, dry weather is causing soybean leaf blight, but producers hope the cooler weather will stop the spread. Mann echoed this sentiment, saying the only good thing about the extremely dry weather is farmers are able to harvest corn a little earlier than normal, but cotton and soybean crops are losing yield potential each day. Jackson said harvesting corn and hay seems to be a top priority for many agriculture producers in West Alabama. Moore said cotton bolls are opening rapidly and corn harvest is in full swing. McDonald noted concerns of whether cotton will have time to mature before the fall frost.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Elizabeth Farmer, FSA CED, and Henry Dorough, ACES REA, said pastures desperately need rain, causing livestock producers to haul water and provide supplemental feed. Jackson said pastures are dying from lack of rain. Malone said producers are taking advantage of dry weather to harvest the last hay cutting. Mann said pastures in Jackson County are brown, and no more hay will be cut unless it rains soon. Kevan Tucker, ACES CEC, said high temperatures and lack of rain in Clarke County have returned pastures and hayfields to stress conditions. McDonald said pastures are in poor condition, with some producers spraying for army worms.

Southeast Regional Climate Center
Values for Monday, August 22, 2011, to Sunday, August 28, 2011
(7 days)

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

U.S. Drought Monitor, August 23, 2011

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

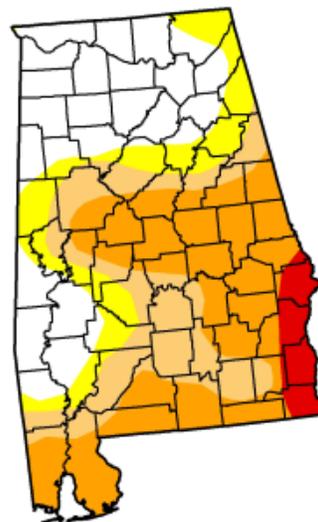
Name	City	State	Average Mean Temperature Value (°F)	Total Precipitation Value (in.)
Anniston Metro Ap	Anniston	AL	82.4	0.00
Bankhead Lock & Dam	Bankhead	AL	83.4	0.00
Birmingham Area	Birmingham	AL	84.9	0.00
Demopolis L&d	Demopolis	AL	84.8	0.00
Gainesville Lock	Gainesville	AL	84.7	0.00
Guntersville	Guntersville	AL	82.1	0.00
Hamilton 3 S	Hamilton	AL	81.3	0.00
Huntsville Area	Huntsville	AL	81.4	0.00
Mobile Area	Mobile	AL	84.7	1.88
Montgomery Area	Montgomery	AL	85.3	0.00
Muscle Shoals Ap	Muscle Shoals	AL	84.1	0.00
Pinson	Pinson	AL	81.7	0.00
Selma	Selma	AL	85.1	0.00

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	30.55	69.45	55.97	36.52	4.50	0.00
Last Week (08/16/2011 map)	36.10	63.90	53.28	35.04	4.50	0.00
3 Months Ago (05/24/2011 map)	33.25	66.75	42.79	33.55	12.87	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 (08/17/2010 map)	34.08	65.92	19.21	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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