



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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First Frost Comes, More Rain Needed

Data tables reflect the week ending: **October 23, 2011**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2010	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Harvested	98	96	100	94
Cotton Bolls Opening	92	87	99	94
Cotton Harvested	40	26	67	49
Peanuts Dug	67	56	72	57
Peanuts Combined	54	42	54	43
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	91	84	95	92
Soybeans Harvested	38	28	65	52
Winter Wheat Planted	30	20	26	6
Winter Wheat Emerged	12	8	0	0

CROP / LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor				
	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.	
Percent					
Corn	10	15	31	40	4
Cotton	7	19	31	40	3
Peanuts	7	18	31	40	4
Soybeans	4	13	31	47	5
Winter Wheat	0	3	11	86	0
Livestock	2	8	32	54	4
Pasture & Range	12	25	34	27	2

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short			
		Short	Adequate	Surplus	
Percent					
District 10	5.3	13	25	62	0
District 20	4.7	4	37	59	0
District 30	6.4	10	55	35	0
District 40	6.2	16	36	47	1
District 50	6.6	6	32	62	0
District 60	6.3	37	33	28	2
State: Current Week	5.9	16	34	50	0
State: Previous	5.4	14	32	53	1

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: Tim Malone, FSA CED, said frost was reported across Marion and Winston Counties this past week. Carol Gay, FSA CED, said both Randolph and Clay Counties continue to be listed in the D3 Drought stage. Gay said they are experiencing cooler temperature but no rain as reports of drying creeks are coming in. Jeffrey Smith, FSA CED for Coosa, Elmore, and Tallapoosa Counties, said 0.30 inches of rain was received at the service center last week. Alfred K. Jackson, Tuskegee Cooperative Extension Program County Agent, said scattered showers were experienced across the Western Black Belt this past week, but not enough precipitation to change drought conditions. Jackson said the cool mornings send most vegetables into shock, but the Black Belt has not experienced their first frost yet. Justin Senn, FSA CED, and Doyle Barnes, FSA CED, said rain is needed in Barbour and Covington Counties.

Corn/Cotton/Peanut/Soybeans: Malone said producers are making good progress on cotton and soybean harvest across Marion and Winston Counties. Smith said cotton harvest is progressing, with reports of 600-900 pounds per acre yields in Coosa, Elmore, and Tallapoosa Counties. Jim Todd, ACES CEC, said some regrowth is occurring in soybeans, and harvesting may begin this week in Mobile County.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Malone said pastures are in desperate need of rain as they are beginning to show signs of stress. Donald E. Mann, FSA CED, said the dry weather has been great for harvest, but wheat planting and pastures are in dire need of rain as the topsoil moisture is short. Henry Dorough, ACES REA, said frost late this past week ended production of most warm season forages; however, cooler temperatures and recent light rainfall has provided condition conducive to cool season forage growth in Calhoun, Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Randolph, Talladega, & Tallapoosa Counties. Dorough said a few producers were cutting their last hay of the season this past week. Jackson reported that pastures are in need of rain across the Black Belt. Brenda Glover, ACES REA, echoed this sentiment by saying rain is especially needed for those that have planted winter grazing in Greene, Hale, Marengo, Perry, and Sumter Counties.

Name	City	State	Average Mean Temperature Value (°F)	Total Precipitation Value (in.)
Birmingham Area	Birmingham	AL	56.4	0.18
Huntsville Area	Huntsville	AL	55.6	0.12
Mobile Area	Mobile	AL	58.8	0.02
Montgomery Area	Montgomery	AL	58.9	0.79
Rock Mills	Rock Mills	AL	54.9	0.30

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	39.84	60.16	41.46	31.73	18.18	0.00
Last Week (10/11/2011 map)	54.59	45.41	38.78	28.75	14.35	0.00
3 Months Ago (07/19/2011 map)	38.90	61.10	46.79	27.29	10.03	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 (09/27/2011 map)	52.55	47.45	39.68	29.11	14.38	0.00
One Year Ago (10/12/2010 map)	0.00	100.00	95.73	38.66	9.04	0.00

Intensity:

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

