



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Issue 31

Row Crop Harvest in Full Swing

Data tables reflect the week ending: **October 30, 2011**

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2010	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Cotton Bolls Opening	94	92	100	97
Cotton Harvested	51	40	75	61
Peanuts Dug	76	67	79	69
Peanuts Combined	65	54	67	55
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	96	91	99	96
Soybeans Harvested	52	38	77	62
Winter Wheat Planted	36	30	35	11
Winter Wheat Emerged	17	12	17	3

General: Carol Gay, FSA CED, said Clay and Randolph Counties continue to be in an extreme drought condition. Gay said the cooler temperatures brought morning frost to the area, and dew has helped with moisture. Henry Dorrough, ACES REA, said minimal rainfall in Calhoun, Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Randolph, Talladega, and Tallapoosa Counties only slowed farm activity this past week. Jeffrey Smith, FSA CED for Coosa, Elmore and Tallapoosa Counties, said no rain was received at the service center last week. Alfred K. Jackson, Tuskegee Cooperative Extension Program County Agent, said little to no rain was received over the Blackbelt last week. Jimmy Smitherman, ACES CEC, and Wyatt Hendry, FSA CED, said Montgomery, Clarke, and Washington Counties are extremely dry and in need of rain. Bobby Beasley, FSA CED, said not much has changed in weather conditions for Henry County as it remains dry with varying crop yields.

CROP / LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Cotton	7	18	31	39	5
Peanuts	6	18	30	41	5
Soybeans	4	13	31	47	5
Winter Wheat	0	4	14	82	0
Livestock	2	8	35	51	4
Pasture & Range	13	26	35	25	1

Corn/Cotton/Peanut/Soybeans: Tim Malone, FSA CED, said producers are making good progress on the cotton and soybean harvest, with corn harvest complete in Marion and Winston Counties. Elizabeth Farmer, FSA CED, said cotton yields have improved as harvest progresses in Cherokee County. Warren Griffith, ACES CEC, said cotton is in excellent condition in Fayette County, with reports of two bales to the acre. Smith said cotton and soybean harvest is progressing quickly thanks to favorable weather in Coosa, Elmore, and Tallapoosa Counties.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Malone said rain was received this past week, and producers are hopeful that the moisture will allow for pasture growth before winter. T.H. Gregg, ACES REA, said a few farmers are planting ryegrass in Cherokee, DeKalb, Etowah, and Jackson Counties. Gay said due to the drought in Clay and Randolph Counties, pasture land has suffered and weed growth is a big problem. Dorrough said haying operations were almost complete for the year as several areas have experienced frost. Dorrough said winter forages planted early on prepared seedbeds are in excellent condition and available for grazing when needed in Calhoun, Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Randolph, Talladega, and Tallapoosa Counties. Smith said pastures are still inadequate, and producers are feeding hay to livestock. Brenda Glover, ACES REA, said rain is needed for existing pastures and winter grazing that has been planted in Greene, Hale, Marengo, Perry, and Sumter Counties. Charles Simon, ACES CEC, said due to the dry conditions, winter grazing is suffering in Covington County and producers are feeding hay. Dorothy Chavers, FSA CED, said very little winter grazing has been planted in Crenshaw County due to the dry weather. James D. Jones Jr., ACES CEC, said rainfall is needed in Henry County for germination of small grains planted in pastures. Jones said forage is needed for winter grazing due to the shortage of hay.

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	5.2	14	24	62	0
District 20	5.4	4	44	52	0
District 30	6.6	9	56	35	0
District 40	6.9	16	55	29	0
District 50	6.8	13	37	50	0
District 60	6.5	41	36	22	1
State: Current Week	6.2	18	39	43	0
State: Previous Week	5.9	16	34	50	0

Southeast Regional Climate Center

Values for Monday, October 24, 2011, to Sunday, October 30, 2011

(7 days)

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

Name	City	State	Average Mean Temperature Value (°F)	Total Precipitation Value (in.)
Birmingham Area	Birmingham	AL	57.6	0.07
Huntsville Area	Huntsville	AL	54.9	0.73
Mobile Area	Mobile	AL	62.5	0.00
Montgomery Area	Montgomery	AL	61.2	0.00

U.S. Drought Monitor, October 25, 2011

National Weather Service

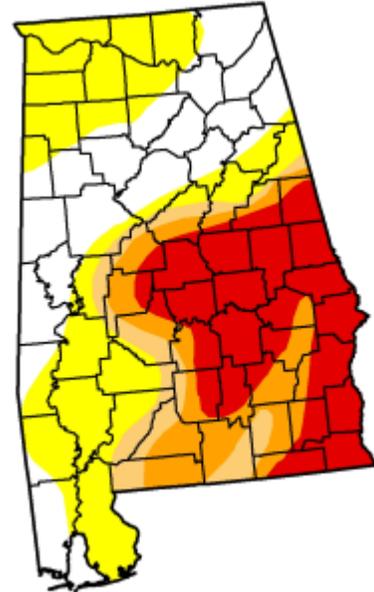
<http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm>

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	26.19	73.81	42.96	35.60	23.91	0.00
Last Week (10/18/2011 map)	39.84	60.16	41.46	31.73	18.18	0.00
3 Months Ago (07/26/2011 map)	32.17	67.83	45.51	26.14	9.65	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 (10/19/2010 map)	0.00	100.00	96.74	43.73	12.01	0.00

Intensity:

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



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