



# CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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**Issue 2**

## Planting Ahead of Schedule

Data tables reflect the week ending: **April 8, 2012**

### CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2011	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Planted	61	40	41	44
Corn Emerged	33	N/A	21	18
Cotton Planted	4	3	0	1
Soybeans Planted	3	0	0	0
Winter Wheat Headed	59	35	0	0

N/A =Not Available

### CROP/LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor Poor Fair Good Exc.				
	Percent				
Corn	0	0	7	79	14
Cotton	0	0	0	47	53
Soybeans	0	0	0	47	53
Winter Wheat	0	2	18	65	15
Livestock	0	2	17	64	17
Pasture & Range	1	3	20	61	15

### TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	4.8	0	2	98	0
District 20	5.8	0	1	98	1
District 30	6.0	0	12	75	13
District 40	5.9	0	11	85	4
District 50	4.5	0	3	89	8
District 60	5.4	19	37	43	1
State: Current Week	5.4	3	11	83	3
State: Previous Week	5.8	2	15	80	3

### EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

**General:** Doyle Dutton, FSA CED, said thunderstorms and hail were scattered about Lawrence County. Shane Seay, FSA CED, said northwest Limestone County saw hail damage to wheat and canola crops. Seay also said there were isolated areas of flooding in southern Limestone County. Tim Malone, FSA CED, said Marion and Winston Counties received rain last week, which kept farmers out of the fields. Malone said cool weather halted some planting, but it will resume when there is a decreased

chance for frost. Henry Dorough, ACES REA, said rainfall varied across Blount, Calhoun, Jefferson, Marshall, and St. Clair Counties, with heavier rain and flooding in the northern counties, and little to no rain in the southern counties. Greg Key, FSA CED, said areas of Etowah and St. Clair Counties received from .10" to 2.00" of rain. Key said most vegetation is about one month ahead of schedule. Cathy Blackburn, FSA CED, said the water table still is low in Chambers and Lee Counties. Carol Gay, FSA CED, said unusually warm weather prompted field work to start early. Gay said Clay and Randolph Counties remain in a D2 drought stage according to the US Drought Monitor. Cindy Owens, FSA CED, said Fayette and Lamar Counties received 0.11" of rainfall last week. Perry Woodruff, FSA CED, said producers are waiting on fields to dry to resume planting corn in Dallas and Lowndes Counties. Jeffrey Smith, FSA CED for Coosa, Elmore, and Tallapoosa Counties, said 0.80" of rain was received at the service center last week. Alfred K. Jackson, Tuskegee Cooperative Extension Program County Agent, said many small vegetable gardens were planted last week. Jackson said rain showers slowed planting in most of the Blackbelt. Jimmy Smitherman, ACES CEC, said wet soil conditions slowed down field work in Montgomery County. Justin Senn, FSA CED, said rain is needed in Coffee County. Bobby Beasley, FSA CED, said despite receiving rain, Henry County remains in a drought.

**Corn/Cotton/Soybeans:** Thomas D. Atkinson, FSA CED, said the Madison County corn crop is off to a great start. Malone said corn planting in Marion and Winston Counties is going well; however, cool weather halted corn growth. Marie Headley, FSA CED, said due to the rain, producers are not able to plant corn, but will prepare the ground as weather allows. Amanda Ryan, FSA CED, said corn producers in Mobile County report rain has delayed planting. James D. Jones, Jr., ACES CEC, said Henry County received rain last week, with corn planting almost complete.

**Small Grains:** Atkinson, Headley, and Malone said the wheat crop in Bibb, Madison, Marion, Perry, and Winston Counties looks good. Jones said Henry County producers are concerned that yellow striped armyworms will invade the seed rye, oats, and wheat crops.

**Pasture/Hay/Livestock:** Dorough said producers spent most of the week planting new forage crops, improving fertility, and spraying weeds in existing pastures and hayfields across Blount, Calhoun, Jefferson, Marshall, and St. Clair Counties. Brenda Glover, ACES REA, said producers in Greene, Hale, Marengo, Perry, and Sumter Counties are thinking about cutting hay. Headley said pastures in Bibb and Perry Counties look great for this time of year. Jones said pastures and hayfields are being fertilized in Henry County.

**Southeast Regional Climate Center  
Values for Monday, April 2, 2012, to  
Sunday, April 8, 2012  
(7 days)**

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

Name	City	State	Average Mean Temperature Value (°F)	Total Precipitation Value (in.)
Alabama State Farm	Alabama State Farm	AL	64.6	1.06
Anniston Metro Ap	Anniston	AL	65.6	0.10
Atmore	Atmore	AL	67.9	0.25
Bankhead Lock & Dam	Bankhead	AL	66.5	0.20
Belle Mina 2 N	Belle Mina	AL	64.6	1.06
Birmingham Area	Birmingham	AL	67.4	0.22
Centreville 6 Sw	Centreville	AL	63.9	0.50
Coden	Coden	AL	68.4	3.2
Sand Mt Substn	Crossville	AL	64.2	0.82
Demopolis L&d	Demopolis	AL	66.0	0.30
Evergreen	Evergreen	AL	66.6	0.82
Gainesville Lock	Gainesville	AL	63.7	0.38
Geneva #2	Geneva	AL	66.3	0.58
Greenville	Greenville	AL	64.4	0.66
Haleyville	Haleyville	AL	64.9	0.40
Huntsville Area	Huntsville	AL	65.9	1.75
Mobile Area	Mobile	AL	69.4	1.21
Montgomery	Montgomery	AL	67.8	0.56
Muscle Shoals Ap	Muscle Shoals	AL	65.6	0.05
Russellville #2	Russellville	AL	65.4	0.80
Scottsboro	Scottsboro	AL	65.7	0.58
Sylacauga 4 Ne	Sylacauga	AL	65.4	0.66
Talladega	Talladega	AL	64.4	0.03
Thomasville	Thomasville	AL	67.5	0.25

**U.S. Drought Monitor, April 3, 2012**

**National Weather Service**

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

*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	57.87	42.13	32.96	24.67	16.85	3.98
Last Week (03/27/2012 map)	57.87	42.13	32.96	24.67	16.85	3.98
3 Months Ago (01/03/2012 map)	39.32	60.68	49.64	27.97	14.47	0.00
Start of Calendar Year (12/27/2011 map)	39.32	60.68	49.64	27.97	14.47	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 (03/29/2011 map)	42.07	57.93	41.10	23.51	1.51	0.00

Intensity:

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

