



# CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



BILL WEAVER, DIRECTOR  
USDA/NASS ALABAMA FIELD OFFICE

JOHN McMILLAN, COMMISSIONER  
ALABAMA DEPT. OF AG. AND INDUSTRIES

PO Box 240578, Montgomery, AL 36124-0578 ☐ 1 (800) 832-4181

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Issue 5

## Dry Windy Conditions

Data tables reflect the week ending: **April 29, 2012**

### CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2011	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Planted	93	87	77	84
Corn Emerged	81	69	53	62
Cotton Planted	25	10	9	15
Peanuts Planted	10	1	2	4
Soybeans Planted	11	6	1	9
Soybeans Emerged	4	N/A	0	2
Hay Harvested – First Cutting	37	25	11	5
Winter Wheat Headed	93	88	76	39
Winter Wheat Harvested	1	0	0	0

N/A =Not Available

### CROP/LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Crop	Very				
	Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
Percent					
Corn	0	4	29	65	2
Cotton	0	0	30	68	2
Peanuts	0	0	39	61	0
Soybeans	0	0	0	100	0
Winter Wheat	0	2	24	70	4
Livestock	0	2	25	62	11
Pasture & Range	1	11	28	51	9

### TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	6.4	1	48	51	0
District 20	6.8	19	71	10	0
District 30	6.3	0	37	62	1
District 40	6.9	8	34	58	0
District 50	6.7	7	69	24	0
District 60	6.6	28	34	37	1
State: Current Week	6.6	11	50	39	0
State: Previous Week	5.3	5	25	69	1

### EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

**General:** Shane Seay, FSA CED, David Derrick, ACES REA, and Donald Mann, FSA CED, said planting has stopped due to the lack of moisture in Blount, Calhoun, Cherokee, Cleburn, Cullman, DeKalb,

Etowah, Jackson, Limestone, Marshall, and St. Clair Counties. Doyle Dutton, Shane Seay, Carol Gay, FSA CED, and Thomas Atkinson all said their counties need rain. Greg Key, FSA CED, said Etowah and St. Clair Counties have dry, windy conditions. Key said producers are concerned because the ground is too hard to plant and lacks enough moisture to help seed germination. Jeffrey Smith, FSA CED, said no rain was received at the service center. Jimmy Todd, ACES CEC, said cotton, peanut, and soybean field preparation continues in Mobile County. Todd said windy conditions and below-normal rainfall in April is creating dry planting conditions. Doyle Barnes, FSA CED, reported Covington County received 0.10 to 2.0 inches of rainfall. Dorothy Chavers, FSA CED, said although Crenshaw County received rain last week, wind and warm temperatures have dried the topsoil. Bobby Beasley, FSA CED, said Henry County continues to experience dry conditions, and any rain received dissipates rapidly.

**Corn/Cotton/Peanuts/Soybeans:** Mann said parts of Jackson County experienced a light frost, which stressed the corn crop, and he added that the 2012 crop year for Jackson County does not look favorable at this time. Don Moore, ACES Director of the Alabama Experiment Station, said low temperatures, combined with several days of high winds, have dried soils and halted cotton planting in Autauga County. Smith said a week of hot, dry weather has many area producers looking for moisture to continue planting cotton and soybeans in Coosa, Elmore, and Tallapoosa Counties. Wyatt Hendry, FSA CED, said peanut planting had begun in Clarke and Washington Counties. James Jones Jr., ACES CEC, said peanut and cotton planting has begun in Henry County.

**Small Grains:** Seay said winter wheat is ahead of schedule in Limestone County, with some fields beginning to mature for harvest. Susan Minor, FSA CED, said wheat looks good in Morgan County.

**Pasture/Hay/Livestock:** Minor said summer grasses came in earlier than normal, while wild buttercup peaked early covering pastures. Mann said pastures are declining quickly in Jackson County due to the lack of rain, and early hay yield reports are below half of normal. Mann said this is the third week Jackson County has been abnormally dry on the U.S. Drought Monitor. Henry Dorough, ACES REA, said the dry conditions were perfect for hay production this past week, but is affecting pastures in Blount, Calhoun, Jefferson, Marshall, and St. Clair Counties. Jack Tatum, ACES REA, said winds have dried many pastures, and a good slow rain is needed in Clay, Cleburn, Coosa, Lee, Randolph, Shelby, Talladega, and Tallapoosa Counties. Smith said pastures need rain as the first hay cutting is almost complete. Alfred Jackson, Tuskegee Cooperative Extension Program County Agent, said hay cutting and harvesting continues as many producers try to make up for the previous week's rain delays. Jackson said livestock pricing still is strong in Uniontown and Livingston. Jackson said this spring the Tuskegee Veterinary School, with assistance from the Tuskegee Extension Programs, examined more than 1,000 cattle in the Blackbelt to help small and limited-resource farmers manage their herd health issues. Jones Jr., said the first hay cutting is underway in Henry County; however, pastures need rainfall to continue growing.

**Southeast Regional Climate Center  
Values for Monday, April 23, 2012, to  
Sunday, April 29, 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	64.0	0.05
Alexander City	Alexander City	AL	64.4	0.00
Anniston Metro Ap	Anniston	AL	65.1	0.00
Bankhead Lock & Dam	Bankhead	AL	65.7	0.00
Belle Mina 2 N	Belle Mina	AL	64.0	0.05
Bessemer 3 Wsw	Bessemer	AL	65.4	0.00
Birmingham Area	Birmingham	AL	67.9	0.00
Brewton 3 Sse	Brewton	AL	67.0	0.00
Coden	Coden	AL	64.9	0.00
Sand Mt Substn	Crossville	AL	63.8	0.00
Demopolis L&d	Demopolis	AL	63.2	0.00
Enterprise 4 W	Enterprise	AL	65.0	0.00
Evergreen	Evergreen	AL	65.3	0.00
Gainesville Lock	Gainesville	AL	65.9	0.00
Geneva #2	Geneva	AL	63.4	0.00
Guntersville	Guntersville	AL	64.6	0.00
Hamilton 3 S	Hamilton	AL	62.4	0.00
Headland	Headland	AL	66.8	0.00
Huntsville Area	Huntsville	AL	67.1	0.01
Mobile Area	Mobile	AL	67.6	0.00
Montgomery	Montgomery	AL	67.8	0.00
Russellville #2	Russellville	AL	65.2	0.00
Sylacauga 4 Ne	Sylacauga	AL	64.1	0.00

**U.S. Drought Monitor, April 24, 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	40.85	59.15	32.96	24.67	17.67	2.99
Last Week (04/17/2012 map)	47.98	52.02	32.96	24.67	17.67	2.99
3 Months Ago (01/24/2012 map)	52.94	47.06	34.99	21.79	7.97	1.83
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 (04/19/2011 map)	54.02	45.98	38.01	16.84	0.00	0.00

**Intensity:**

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

