



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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☐ RELEASED: May 7, 2012-- 3:00 P.M.

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Issue 6

Dry Conditions Prevail Despite Rain

Data tables reflect the week ending: **May 6, 2012**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2011	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Planted	97	93	84	91
Corn Emerged	90	81	61	75
Cotton Planted	50	25	23	30
Peanuts Planted	38	10	8	11
Soybeans Planted	27	11	3	17
Soybeans Emerged	12	4	1	5
Hay Harvested – First Cutting	55	37	26	17
Winter Wheat Headed	96	93	86	51
Winter Wheat Harvested	2	1	0	0

N/A =Not Available

CROP/LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Crop	Very				
	Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
Percent					
Corn	0	11	34	54	1
Cotton	0	0	61	37	2
Peanuts	0	0	27	73	0
Soybeans	0	0	63	37	0
Winter Wheat	0	3	32	59	6
Livestock	0	4	27	58	11
Pasture & Range	2	10	33	44	11

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short			
		Short	Adequate	Surplus	
Percent					
District 10	5.7	4	48	48	0
District 20	6.5	26	69	5	0
District 30	5.6	9	33	58	0
District 40	6.1	5	43	49	3
District 50	4.2	3	12	22	63
District 60	6.1	29	44	27	0
State: Current Week	5.7	13	44	33	10
State: Previous Week	6.6	11	50	39	0

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: Thomas D. Atkinson, Tim Malone, and Karen McDonald, Doyle Barnes, and Justin Senn, FSA CED's, and Jennifer Stanley

ACRONYMS: ACES – Alabama Cooperative Extension System; CEC – County Executive Coordinator; CED – County Executive Director; FSA – Farm Service Agency; PT – Program Technician; REA – Regional Extension Agent

FSA PT, reported rain being received in Coffee, Covington, Escambia, Madison, Marion, Monroe, and Winston Counties. Susan Minor, FSA CED, said farmers have reported an abundant strawberry crop. Donald E. Mann, FSA CED, said Jackson County is now in a moderate drought (D1) stage. Henry Dorough, ACES REA, said scattered rainfall was received in Blount, Calhoun, Jefferson, Marshall, and St. Clair Counties, but has fallen short of what is needed. Greg Key, FSA CED, said very little rainfall has been received in the past 30 days in Etowah and St. Clair Counties. Carol Gay, FSA CED, said scattered showers were received in Clay and Randolph Counties; however, more rain is needed. Jack Tatum, ACES REA, reported around ½ - 1" of rain being received in the Clay, Cleburn, Coosa, Lee, Randolph, Shelby, Talladega, and Tallapoosa Counties. Jeffrey Smith, FSA CED, reported ½ - 1 ½" of rain over most of Elmore, Montgomery, Coosa, and Tallapoosa Counties. Don Moore, ACES Director of the AL Experiment Station reported close to two inches of rain received.

Corn/Cotton/Peanuts/Soybeans: Malone said soybean and cotton planting is currently under way in Marion and Winston Counties. Minor said the emerged corn is looking good in Morgan County. Mann said corn is starting to twist during the heat of the day in Jackson County. Key said corn planting is complete, with corn already emerged in the lower areas of the fields where topsoil moisture exists; however, corn planted on higher ground still has not emerged. Key said there is concern that the corn seed may rot before there is enough moisture for it to emerge. Key said producers are waiting for rain before planting soybeans and cotton. Marie Headley, FSA CED, said producers in Bibb and Perry Counties have planted their corn and continue to prepare the ground for cotton and soybeans. James D. Jones, Jr, ACES CEC, and Bobby Beasley, FSA CED, said top soil moisture is depleted in Henry County causing producers to cease planting.

Small Grains: Minor said winter wheat is beginning to turn in Morgan County. Mann said wheat is maturing rapidly and will be ready for harvest in two to three weeks in Jackson County. Jones Jr said small grain harvest has started in Henry County.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Malone said the first cutting of hay has started with good yields being reported, and pastures are in good condition. Minor said producers are beginning to harvest their first cutting of hay in Morgan County. Mann said hay harvest is progressing quickly, with yields running less than half of the normal. Dorough said dry conditions have reduced available forage for grazing, but has helped producers with hay production. Gay said cattle prices have slipped slightly, but still remain good. Alfred Jackson, Tuskegee Cooperative Extension Program County Agent, said hay production was delayed over the Western Blackbelt due to rain, but overall hay cutting appears to be on track. Brenda Glover, ACES REA, said first cutting hay is almost complete in Greene, Hale, Marengo, Perry, and Sumter Counties. James Rhodes, FSA CED, said pastures in Hale County have ceased to produce forage for livestock due to the lack of rain and high heat.

**Southeast Regional Climate Center
Values for Monday, April 30, 2012, to
Sunday, May 6, 2012
(7 days)**

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

Name	City	State	Average Mean Temperature Value (°F)	Total Precipitation Value (in.)
Anniston Metro Ap	Anniston	AL	74.4	0.97
Bankhead Lock & Dam	Bankhead	AL	75.4	2.05
Birmingham Ap Asos	Birmingham	AL	75.6	0.79
Brewton 3 Sse	Brewton	AL	76.1	2.70
Centreville 6 Sw	Centreville	AL	72.4	0.44
Clayton	Clayton	AL	75.4	1.36
Coden	Coden	AL	75.1	4.17
Demopolis L&d	Demopolis	AL	73.2	0.12
Gainesville Lock	Gainesville	AL	74.7	0.42
Geneva #2	Geneva	AL	75.3	0.88
Guntersville	Guntersville	AL	74.9	2.92
Haleyville	Haleyville	AL	74.1	1.95
Hamilton 3 S	Hamilton	AL	73.0	1.08
Headland	Headland	AL	77.5	0.75
Huntsville Intl Ap	Madison	AL	74.7	0.93
Mobile Regional Ap	Mobile	AL	76.4	7.63
Montgomery Ap Asos	Montgomery	AL	76.1	1.70
Muscle Shoals Ap	Muscle Shoals	AL	76.0	0.95
Robertsdale	Robertsdale	AL	75.2	4.44
Scottsboro	Scottsboro	AL	72.5	0.62
Talladega	Talladega	AL	72.2	1.04

U.S. Drought Monitor, May 1, 2012

National Weather Service

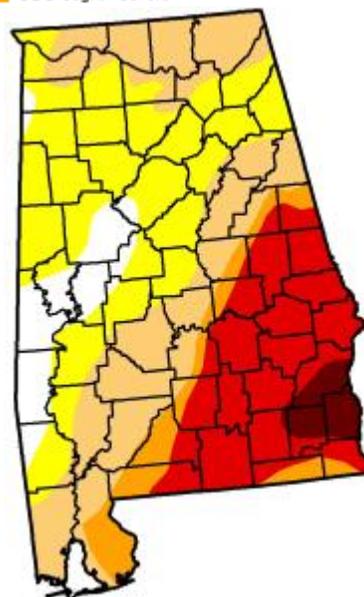
<http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm>

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	8.31	91.69	59.70	31.67	24.68	2.99
Last Week (04/24/2012 map)	40.85	59.15	32.96	24.67	17.67	2.99
3 Months Ago (01/31/2012 map)	55.62	44.38	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 (04/26/2011 map)	52.58	47.42	38.01	16.84	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

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



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