



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 8

Crops and Pastures Continue to Sustain Despite Drought

Data tables reflect the week ending: **May 27, 2012**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2011	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Silked	12	1	0	4
Corn Dough	6	N/A	0	0
Cotton Planted	95	84	74	82
Cotton Squaring	1	0	0	0
Peanuts Planted	83	71	54	64
Soybeans Planted	53	45	35	52
Soybeans Emerged	40	32	21	36
Hay Harvested – First Cutting	86	80	70	50
Winter Wheat Harvested	29	16	17	7

N/A =Not Available

CROP/LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Corn	0	2	27	63	8
Cotton	0	0	32	66	2
Peanuts	0	0	12	88	0
Soybeans	0	1	23	75	1
Winter Wheat	3	9	24	58	6
Livestock	0	3	28	58	11
Pasture & Range	3	7	33	51	6

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent				
District 10	5.9	2	9	89	0
District 20	5.9	11	35	54	0
District 30	6.1	0	42	58	0
District 40	5.8	3	31	65	1
District 50	5.8	36	48	16	0
District 60	6.5	17	36	47	0
State: Current Week	6.0	11	30	59	0
State: Previous Week	5.9	6	24	70	0

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: Tim Malone, FSA CED, said cooler temperatures forecasted for next week will be good for fescue pasture.

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

Donald Mann, FSA CED, said Jackson County approximately received between 0.2 to 1 inch of rain, and crop conditions will deteriorate quickly if additional moisture is not received. Carol Gay, FSA CED, reported both Randolph and Clay Counties as very dry, but scattered showers are helping crops sustain. Jeffrey Smith, FSA CED, said Coosa, Elmore, and Tallapoosa Counties lack of rain is causing soil moisture to diminish considerably. Brenda Glover, ACES REA, reported various amounts of rain received in Greene, Hale, Marengo, Perry, and Sumter Counties ranging between 0.2 to 2.25 inches. James Jones, Jr., ACES CEC, said Henry County needs rain.

Corn/Cotton/Peanuts/Soybeans: Malone reported corn was damaged in Northwest Marion County by a hail storm. Gay said corn conditions remain good. Jones said Henry County is rapidly completing spring plantings of cotton and peanuts.

Small Grains: Malone reported wheat harvest has begun, though some wheat was damaged by hail last week in Northwest Marion County. Smith said the harvesting of wheat in Coosa, Elmore, Tallapoosa Counties has started. Smith reported wheat harvest is nearly complete with yields generally in the 50 bushel range. Jones said small grain harvest is underway in Henry County.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Malone said yield reports for the first cutting of hay were much better, and very hot temperatures are affecting pasture conditions. Gay said cattle prices may have slightly dropped but are still high. Smith said pasture conditions are fair to poor throughout Coosa, Elmore, and Tallapoosa Counties. Glover reported most pastures in Greene, Hale, and Marengo, Perry, and Sumter Counties are in need of rain. Jones reported hay fields and pastures need rain in Henry County. Henry Dorough, ACES REA, said cool season forages are beginning to show signs of stress from hot and dry conditions in Blount, Calhoun, Jefferson, Marshall, and St. Clair Counties. Mann said the first cutting cool season grasses are about complete with yields running 50% below normal in Jackson County.

**Southeast Regional Climate Center
Values for Monday, May 21, 2012, to
Sunday, May 27, 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	74.9	0.03
Bankhead Lock & Dam	Bankhead	AL	76.2	0.74
Bessemer 3 Wsw	Bessemer	AL	74.4	1.28
Birmingham Area	Birmingham	AL	75.7	0.22
Centreville 6 Sw	Centreville	AL	72.1	0.17
Chatom	Chatom	AL	75.9	0.00
Evergreen	Evergreen	AL	76.0	0.67
Gainesville Lock	Gainesville	AL	73.4	0.00
Geneva #2	Geneva	AL	75.3	0.15
Guntersville	Guntersville	AL	74.9	0.08
Haleyville	Haleyville	AL	73.7	0.45
Hamilton 3 S	Hamilton		71.1	0.62
Huntsville Area	Huntsville	AL	75.5	0.37
Mobile Area	Mobile	AL	78.6	0.06
Montgomery Area	Montgomery	AL	77.1	0.74
Muscle Shoals Ap	Muscle Shoals	AL	75.3	0.33
Rock Mills	Rock Mills	AL	72.6	0.29
Russellville #2	Russellville	AL	74.3	1.00
Selma	Selma	AL	76.2	0.80
Thomasville	Thomasville	AL	76.8	0.25
Valley Head	Valley Head	AL	71.8	0.39

U.S. Drought Monitor, May 22, 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	15.46	84.54	48.25	27.03	20.67	2.85
Last Week (05/15/2012 map)	15.49	84.51	48.25	27.66	21.89	2.85
3 Months Ago (02/21/2012 map)	55.14	44.86	35.27	24.30	12.16	3.30
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 (05/17/2011 map)	51.77	48.23	38.35	29.46	6.30	0.00

Intensity:

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

