



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



CYNTHIA PRICE, STATE STATISTICIAN
USDA/NASS ALABAMA FIELD OFFICE

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Visit our website at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/al> **Issue 25**

Dry Conditions Push Crop Maturity and Harvest

Data tables reflect the week ending: **September 21, 2014**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5-Yr Avg.
Corn Harvested	68	50	41	65
Cotton Bolls Opening	65	41	36	57
Cotton Harvested	4	0	0	4
Peanuts Dug	13	1	12	11
Peanuts Combined	5	0	4	3
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	61	45	27	41
Soybeans Harvested	12	2	1	3
N/A =Not Available				

CROP/LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
Cotton	0	13	34	49	4
Peanuts	3	18	43	29	7
Soybeans	0	2	26	60	12
Livestock	1	9	22	60	8
Pasture & Range	6	15	33	39	7

SOIL MOISTURE

Topsoil	This Week	Previous Week	5-Year Average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very Short	19	19	12
Short	36	28	24
Adequate	43	51	55
Surplus	2	2	9

Subsoil	This Week	Previous Week	5-Year Average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very Short	18	18	N/A
Short	36	34	N/A
Adequate	45	47	N/A
Surplus	1	1	N/A

GENERAL: According to the National Agriculture Statistics Service's Alabama Field Office, there were 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, September 21, 2014. Precipitation estimates for the state ranged from 0.02 inches in Muscle Shoals to 1.62 inches in Mobile. Average mean

temperatures ranged from 74.3°F in Muscle Shoals to 79.8°F in Montgomery.

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

Cotton is really starting to open. Corn harvest in Marion county should get in full swing this week. - **Tim Malone, FSA CED, Marion, Winston Counties.**

Scattered showers may have delayed hay harvest for a few farms; but the rain was welcome. Fall armyworms remain a threat although numbers appear to be decreasing. Final hay cutting and planting winter grazing were among the farm activities last week. - **Henry Dorough, ACES REA, Blount, Calhoun, Jefferson, Marshall, St. Clair Counties.**

Armyworms were still active - some producers are now feeding hay. - **Jack Tatum, ACES REA, Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Coosa, Lee, Randolph, Shelby, Talladega, Tallapoosa Counties.**

Corn harvest is progressing well with yields ranging from 130 to 240 bu/a for dryland. Disease and wet weather have lowered yields on some acreage. The few soybeans that have been harvested are ranging from 50 to 70 bu/a. Armyworms were bad on the last cutting of bermudagrass hay. We are getting very dry and the double crop soybeans and pasture could use a good rain. - **Donald Mann, FSA CED, Jackson County.**

Armyworms were still a problem in hay fields and pastures. - **Cathy Blackburn, FSA CED, Chambers, Lee Counties.**

We experienced a dry, hot week. Cotton harvest moved into full swing with pickers rolling and many fields getting their first shot of defoliant. The service center received no rain for the week. - **Jeffery Smith FSA CED, Coosa, Elmore, Tallapoosa Counties.**

We caught 1.21" of rain early in the week. Kudzu bugs in soybeans appear to be dying from a fungus disease which is good news. - **Don Moore, Director of AL Experiment Station, Autauga County.**

Some areas received much needed rain early in the week but because it is so dry the moisture was soaked up rapidly. - **Brenda Glover, ACES REA, Greene, Hale, Marengo, Perry, and Sumter Counties**

Monroe County is still dry in some parts. We have received some reports of peanuts in poor condition due to no rain. Producers are hoping for a little rain to soften the ground for peanut digging. Pastures are still dry. - **Karen McDonald-Minor, FSA CED, Monroe County.**

Conditions are dry. We need rainfall to dig peanuts and plant small grains for grazing. - **James Jones, Jr., ACES CEC, Henry County.**

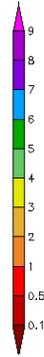
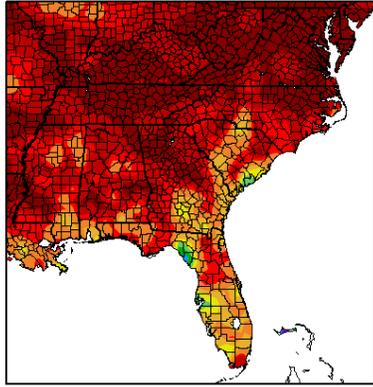
During the last 2-4 weeks, a lack of general rainfall has lowered yield prospects for peanuts, cotton and soybeans. Peanuts dug early are fair at best. - **Willie Durr, ACES CEC, Houston County.**

Several other reports were received highlighting the dry conditions and echoing the need for rain.

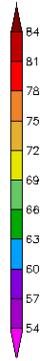
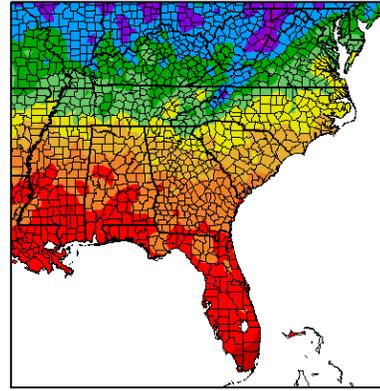
Southeastern U.S. Precipitation & Average Temperature

<http://www.hprcc.unl.edu/>

Precipitation (in)
9/15/2014 - 9/21/2014



Temperature (F)
9/15/2014 - 9/21/2014



Generated 9/22/2014 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers Generated 9/22/2014 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

U.S. Drought Monitor – September 16, 2014

National Weather Service

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

Drought Condition (Percent Area):

Week	Date	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	2014-09-16	37.03	62.97	10.19	0.01	0.00	0.00
Last Week	2014-09-09	36.26	63.74	10.19	0.01	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago	2014-06-17	95.02	4.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year	2013-12-31	97.35	2.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year	2013-10-01	96.85	3.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago	2013-09-17	90.20	9.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Population Affected by Drought: **798,485**

[View More Statistics](#)

Intensity:

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

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying [text summary](#) for forecast statements.

