



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



CYNTHIA PRICE, STATE STATISTICIAN
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

☐ RELEASED: April 20, 2015-- 3:00 P.M.

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

Issue 3

Continued Rain Halts Fieldwork

General: According to the National Agriculture Statistics Service's Alabama Field Office, there were 0.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, April 19, 2015. Precipitation estimates for the state ranged from 1.81 inches of rain in Muscle Shoals, to 5.11 inches in Birmingham. Average mean temperatures ranged from 66.0°F in Haleyville, to 71.9°F in Mobile.

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

Excessive rainfall has brought on concerns about how much water our wheat and strawberries can take. It is getting a little late to plant dryland corn, primarily because of the extreme high temps we have in the valley during the summer which negatively affects pollination. Warm sunshine is needed!-**Thomas Atkinson, FSA CED, Madison and Morgan Counties.**

Fields are still too wet to plant corn and cotton. We are also seeing more drowned out spots in wheat fields.-**Tim Malone, FSA CED, Marion and Winston County.**

Jackson County received heavy rains over the weekend on already saturated ground. This will cause flooding in the low lying areas of the county. Very little spring crops planted. Wheat crop didn't need all of this rain either.-**Donald Mann, FSA CED, Jackson County.**

Continuous rain has fields saturated making operations all but impossible this week. Pastures with good drainage and fertility have excellent forage growth providing high quality grazing for livestock.-**Henry Dorough, ACES REA, Blount, Calhoun, Jefferson, Marshall, and St. Clair Counties.**

U.S. Drought monitor continues to show we are Abnormally Dry. But with wet topsoil, producers continue to put field work on hold due to "April Showers".-**Carol Gay, FSA CED, Clay and Randolph Counties.**

We need some dry weather. Field work is running very late because of rain.-**Ricky Colquitt, ACES CEC, Shelby County.**

Another wet week for all counties. Some producers that planned to plant corn are now thinking of switching to soybeans.-**Jeffery Smith, FSA CED, Coosa, Elmore, and Tallapoosa Counties.**

We are looking forward to some sunshine and drier conditions. Cover crops still need to be "burned down". Everyone is sitting on go waiting for fields to dry out.-**Don Moore, Director of AL Experiment Station**

Too much rain. Drier weather is needed so farmers can get into their fields.-**Perry Woodruff, FSA CED, Dallas and Lowndes Counties.**

Data tables reflect the week ending: **April 19, 2015**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2014	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Planted	31	29	59	66
Corn Emerged	23	13	38	35
Cotton Planted	1	1	3	5
Peanuts Planted	3	NA	5	1
Soybeans	0	NA	3	2
Winter Wheat Headed	27	18	22	36
N/A =Not Available				

CROP/LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Winter Wheat	1	2	30	58	9
Cattle	0	4	27	58	11
Pasture & Range	1	6	35	51	7

SOIL MOISTURE

Topsoil	This Week	Previous Week	5-year Average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very Short	0	2	2
Short	1	2	18
Adequate	38	54	58
Surplus	61	42	22

Subsoil	This Week	Previous Week	5-year Average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very Short	0	2	NA
Short	1	3	NA
Adequate	54	66	NA
Surplus	45	29	NA

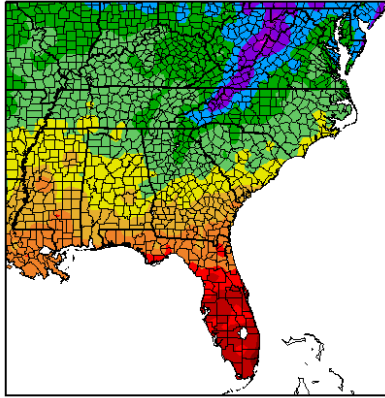
We have had surplus rains and little sunshine. Ponds are being recharged. The prediction is for rain to end Monday.-**Charles Simon, ACES CEC, Covington County.**

Rain kept farmers out of the field last week. Everyone is looking for dryer conditions.-**Willie Durr, ACES CEC, Houston County.**

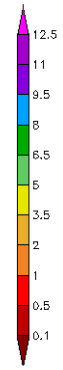
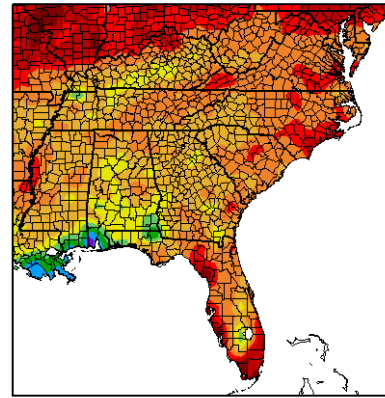
Southeastern U.S. Precipitation & Average Temperature

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

Temperature (F)
4/13/2015 - 4/19/2015



Precipitation (in)
4/13/2015 - 4/19/2015



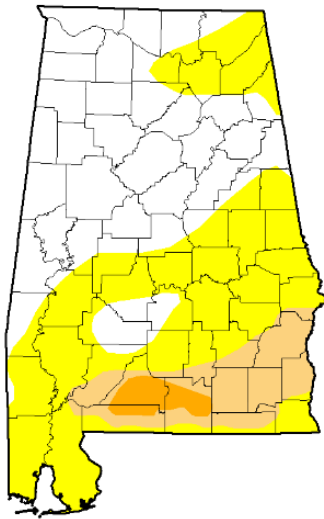
Generated 4/20/2015 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers Generated 4/20/2015 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

U.S. Drought Monitor, April 14, 2015 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	2015-04-14	44.82	55.18	12.94	2.38	0.00	0.00
Last Week	2015-04-07	44.82	55.18	17.62	3.09	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago	2015-01-13	81.63	18.37	3.05	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year	2014-12-30	62.49	37.51	3.77	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year	2014-09-30	17.21	82.79	26.99	1.25	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago	2014-04-15	96.02	3.98	1.32	0.00	0.00	0.00

Population Affected by Drought: **294,015**

[View More Statistics](#)

Intensity:

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

FIRST-CLASS MAIL
 U. S. POSTAGE PAID
 MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 36124
 PERMIT NO. G-38

National
 Agricultural
 Statistics
 Service



United States Department of Agriculture
 National Agricultural Statistics Service
 Agricultural Statistician
 P. O. Box 240578
 Montgomery, Alabama 36124-0578
 Official Business
 Penalty For Private Use, \$300
 ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED