



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



CYNTHIA PRICE, STATE STATISTICIAN
USDA/NASS ALABAMA FIELD OFFICE

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Issue 7

Some Rainfall, Still More Needed

General

According to the National Agriculture Statistics Service's Alabama Field Office, there were 6.4 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, May 17, 2015. Precipitation estimates for the state ranged from 0.32 inches of rain in Birmingham, to 6.51 inches in Mobile. Average mean temperatures ranged from 74.0°F in Huntsville, to 77.0°F in Montgomery.

County Extension Comments

We finally got some much needed rain. Corn is looking better this week. The rain should get the cotton that has been planted up and out of the ground. Wheat really started maturing this week. Reported yields on first cutting of hay is good so far.

Tim Malone, FSA CED, Marion County.

A good rain is needed. Most have first crop of hay in and fertilizer out for a second cutting. Need good rain to get this done. Pastures are beginning to get dry and reduce forage quality and availability.

Jack Tatum Jr., ACES REA, Shelby and Cleburne Counties.

We continue to see a lot of field work and first cuttings of hay. We have had a couple of showers but not enough to settle the dust in some areas or stop any outside work. Rain is still very much needed and we continue to be thankful for what we have received. Temperatures continue to rise and with that goes even more moisture.

Carol Gray, FSA CED, Clay County.

Much needed rain fell over most parts of Montgomery, Elmore, Tallapoosa, and Coosa counties, with some areas picking up over an inch. It was most welcome after almost 2 weeks of dry, hot conditions. Most cotton, corn, and soybean stands look good at this point.

Jeffrey Smith, FSA CED, Elmore and Coosa Counties.

Good weather has enabled the planting of summer crops to continue. While rainfall is appreciated, it will curtail planting for now. Heard reports of some planting activities continuing into the night. Vegetable planting is done with hope of early planted vegetables ready to sell in early to mid-June.

Willie Durr, CEC, Houston County.

Crop Progress for Week Ending 05/17/15

Crop stage	This week	Prev week	Prev year	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn - Planted.....	98	86	97	97
Corn - Emerged.....	84	64	88	87
Cotton - Planted.....	46	29	45	60
Hay - 1st Cutting.....	68	56	28	42
Peanuts - Planted.....	43	24	29	37
Soybeans - Planted.....	33	21	38	30
Soybeans - Emerged.....	11	3	28	18
Winter Wheat - Headed....	99	97	95	94
Winter Wheat - Harvested	11	1	2	4

Crop Condition for Week Ending 05/17/15

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	0	4	23	64	9
Corn.....	0	1	21	76	2
Pasture and range.....	1	6	32	58	3
Winter Wheat.....	0	4	25	64	7

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 05/17/15

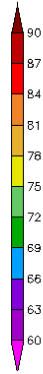
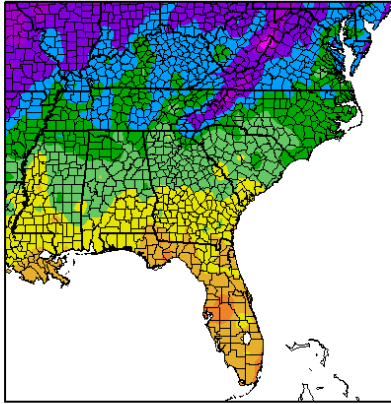
Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	3	1	5
Short.....	34	19	14
Adequate.....	50	64	65
Surplus.....	13	16	16

Subsoil	This week	Previous week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	2	1	NA
Short.....	21	10	NA
Adequate.....	64	73	NA
Surplus.....	13	16	NA

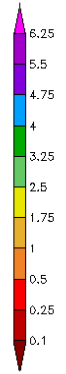
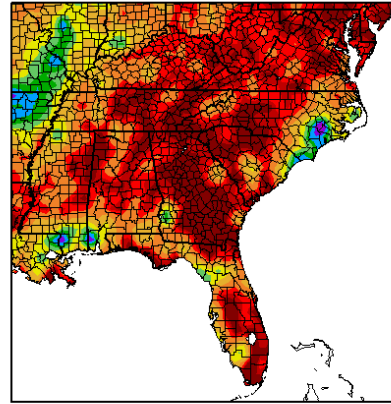
Southeastern U.S. Precipitation & Average Temperature

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

Temperature (F)
5/10/2015 - 5/16/2015



Precipitation (in)
5/10/2015 - 5/16/2015



Generated 5/17/2015 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

Generated 5/17/2015 at HPRCC using provisional data.

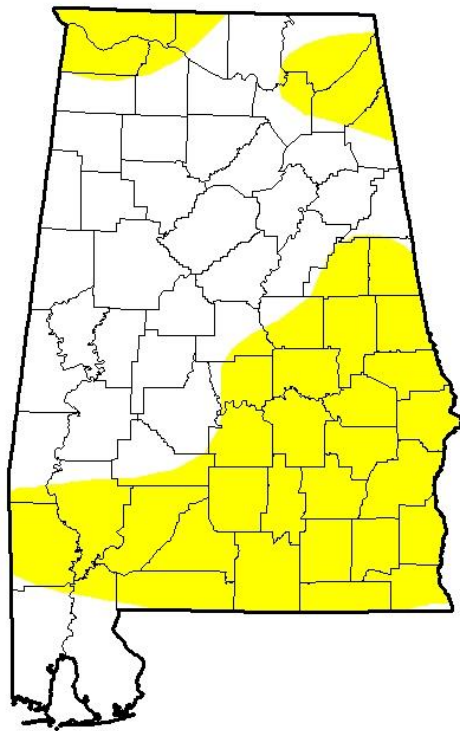
Regional Climate Centers

U.S. Drought Monitor, May 12, 2015

National Weather Service

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

U.S. Drought Monitor Alabama



May 12, 2015

(Released Thursday, May 14, 2015)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	52.56	47.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 5/5/2015	64.57	35.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 2/10/2015	38.03	61.97	1.63	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 12/31/2014	62.49	37.51	3.77	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 9/30/2014	17.21	82.79	26.99	1.25	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 5/13/2014	91.14	8.86	2.12	0.00	0.00	0.00

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.

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National Drought Mitigation Center



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

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