County Extension Comments

“Fruit producers report recent hail has damaged apple, peach and grape crops.”

Stephen Patrick, Habersham County, District 30

“Irrigated crop fields look pretty good. Most dry land fields still look bad. More substantial rainfall is needed to improve the dry land fields. Most crop farmers were busy applying herbicides, applying fungicides and irrigating their fields this week.”

Mike Hayes, Wheeler County, District 50

“Hard to estimate pasture condition because several, including large dairies, are irrigated. Overall, we have had portions of the county get from 1 to 3 inches of rain but it is very widely scattered. Most fields are getting rain “a couple of tenths here and there”. Had enough moisture to finally get beans planted but these stands will need more rain to sustain them. Much dry land cotton is blooming at only 4 nodes above white bloom, threatening to ‘cut-out’ if not rained on soon. Replanted and late planted fields are barely at pinhead square and many cotton and bean stands are hidden by the large pigweeds. Dry land peanuts are trying to peg on crusty soils at temperatures running about 101 degrees at the surface where pegs will attempt to penetrate. Hay is non-existent and we’ve about fed what we baled in early June. We are now in the last ‘critical rescue time’, July 1 - July 20. Peanuts and cotton will be in full bloom and have to have moisture during this time or will run out of time to mature before cooler weather, shorter days and threat of frost. The drought has been ‘dented’ but not broken as the results continue to manifest themselves in poor stands, slow growth and other factors that contribute to low yield. The damage is done, we have to work with what we’ve got. Irrigated crops look good but water costs are rising.”

Jim Crawford, Jefferson County, District 60

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Southeastern U.S. Precipitation & Average Temperature

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

U.S. Drought Monitor

Georgia

July 5, 2011
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

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<th>None</th>
<th>D0-D4</th>
<th>D1-D4</th>
<th>D2-D4</th>
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<tr>
<td>Current</td>
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<td>67.42</td>
<td>85.51</td>
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<td>Last Week</td>
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<td>3 Months Ago</td>
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Intensity:
- E0 Abnormally Dry
- E1 Drought - Moderate
- E2 Drought - Severe
- E3 Drought - Extreme
- E4 Drought - Exceptional

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

http://drought.unl.edu/dm

Released Thursday, July 7, 2011
Richard Heim, NOAA/NESDIS/National Climatic Data Center