

March 27, 2016

**GEORGIA:** Precipitation totals for the month ranged from 1.3 inches in the southeastern region to 6.2 inches in the southcentral region near Valdosta. The majority of the State received 2 inches less rain than normal for March, allowing time for fields to dry from the previous months' excess rain. Overall, soil moisture was adequate to slightly short, making for easy field work, such as tilling, fertilizing, and adding weed control and lime applications. Cool-season forages and small grains recovered quickly from Jan. and Feb. rains and made good progress in March. Livestock producers were able to cut back on supplemental feeding. Cattle condition was fair to good. An unseasonably warm winter created concern over insect and disease pressure. Warmer than normal soil temperatures allowed for an early planting season. Watermelon, cantaloupe, and tobacco transplanting began. Corn planting was well underway. Fruit trees were in bloom. Highbush Blueberries were almost done blooming and were setting fruit. Rabbiteye Blueberries were beginning to bloom. Onions were progressing well and in good condition.