

February 18, 2022

**GEORGIA:** February temperatures were generally on par with historic averages. Total rainfall for the month ranged from 0.3 inches in Muscogee County to 8.2 inches in Rabun County. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 20 percent of the state had abnormally dry conditions by month's end, compared to 15 percent at the month's beginning. Winter grazing and cool season pastures have benefitted from recent mild winter weather and are showing growth. Lime and fertilizer applications are being made. Livestock conditions were mostly fair, however hay supplies ran low in some areas. Supplementation of feed for cattle was needed despite rising costs. The growth of wheat, rye and oats were slowed in the early part of the month due to cool temperatures. Winter wheat was noted to be already fully tillered in some areas. Some producers noted winter wheat showing signs of cold damage. Growers applied herbicides to control winter weeds, although freezing temperatures have helped suppress weeds and insects. Fields have been top-dressed with nitrogen. The onion crop is progressing and is ahead of previous years in regard to growing degree days. Farmers continued to prepare for spring planting. Fields have been cultivated, burned down and had soil sampling completed as producers put together crop budgets as input prices soar.