

January 30, 2023

GEORGIA: January temperatures ranged from 3.1 to 6.8 degrees warmer than historic averages depending on location. Total rainfall for the month ranged from 2.7 inches in Glynn County to 10.4 inches in Forsyth County. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 33 percent of the state had abnormally dry conditions and 19 percent had moderate dry conditions by month's end, compared to 54 percent abnormally dry and 28 percent moderate drought at the beginning of the month.

January brought a tornado and high winds through central Georgia on the 12th that caused significant damage to pastures and timberland. Most of the state saw high rain levels during the month which hampered producers from being able to work fields. Rainy and cool conditions made it difficult for producers to meet the nutritional needs of cattle. Producers were feeding hay but noted that supplies were running low. Calf scours was noted to be an issue in northern Georgia due to cool temperatures and high moisture levels. Many winter crops were reported to have been damaged from freezing temperatures at the end of December and beginning of January. Wheat was reported to have been able to bounce back from the cold spell with minor frost damage. Some fields have had nitrogen applied to increase tillers with the remaining nitrogen expected to go out in mid-February, although many are delayed due to wet conditions. Onions were progressing nicely but did have some stand loss from the freeze event.