



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



CYNTHIA PRICE, STATE STATISTICIAN
USDA/NASS ALABAMA FIELD OFFICE

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☐ RELEASED: May 4, 2015-- 3:00 P.M.

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Issue 5

Farmers Are Back in the Fields

General: According to the National Agriculture Statistics Service's Alabama Field Office, there were 4.4 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, May 3, 2015. Precipitation estimates for the state ranged from 0.12 inches of rain in Florence, to 0.89 inches in Mobile. Average mean temperatures ranged from 60.0°F in Florence, to 66.0°F in Mobile.

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

Several dry days have allowed producers to catch up on much of their field activities; planting, spraying, etc. The current forecast shows dry weather for the next seven days. This should allow producers to make much progress so long as it doesn't become too dry.-**Tyler Sandlin, REA, Colbert County.**

Maybe the wet, rainy conditions we have experienced this spring are finally giving way to some sunshine and good crop planting conditions. Next week's forecast looks promising.-**Thomas Atkinson, FSA CED, Madison County.**

Wet fields are still hindering corn and cotton planting. Wheat has suffered some damage due to the excess moisture. But the forecast for this week is good and we should make some progress.-**Tim Malone, FSA CED, Marion County.**

Rain early in the week yielded to sunny and drier conditions, making field operations much easier for fields that have been too wet in recent weeks.-**Henry Dorough, REA, St. Clair and Blount Counties.**

Looks like our farmers will be playing catch-up this week. Some will be planting corn, cotton, and soybeans in the same week. The weather looks good for a few days.-**Donald E. Mann, FSA CED, Jackson County.**

A mostly dry week allowed for cotton planting to get into full swing even though nighttime temperatures are still on the cold side. First hay cutting of the season this week, service center received some rain early in the week.-**Jeffrey Smith, FSA CED, Coosa, Elmore and Tallapoosa Counties.**

A good bit of head scab in all wheat varieties was reported. Looking forward to getting a lot of seed in the ground this week.-**Don Moore, Director of AL Experiment Station.**

Received good rains but need sunshine and warmer days, which we are supposed to get this week.-**Charles Simon, ACES CEC, Covington County.**

Planting of peanuts and a lot of cotton this week.-**James Jones Jr., ACES CEC, Henry County.**

Data tables reflect the week ending: **May 3, 2015**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	5-Yr Avg.	
	Percent			
Corn Planted	66	46	82	86
Corn Emerged	42	33	67	68
Cotton Planted	10	5	14	24
Hay Harvested – First Cutting	14	NA	NA	NA
Peanuts Planted	17	9	14	10
Soybeans Planted	6	0	11	11
Winter Wheat Headed	81	55	77	76

NA =Not Available

CROP/LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Winter Wheat	0	3	28	60	9
Cattle	0	4	24	60	12
Pasture & Range	1	5	26	61	7

SOIL MOISTURE

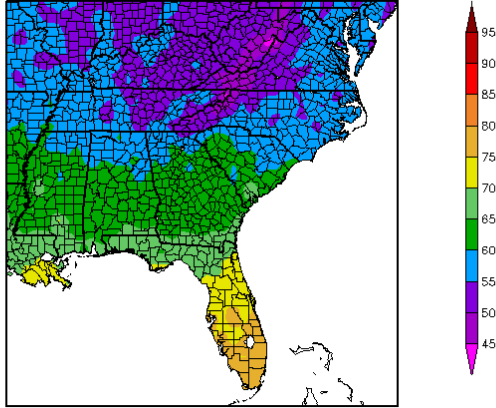
Topsoil	This Week	Previous Week	5-year Average
(percent)			
Very Short	0	0	4
Short	3	1	14
Adequate	72	48	58
Surplus	25	51	24

Subsoil	This Week	Previous Week	5-year Average
(percent)			
Very Short	0	0	NA
Short	3	1	NA
Adequate	75	64	NA
Surplus	22	35	NA

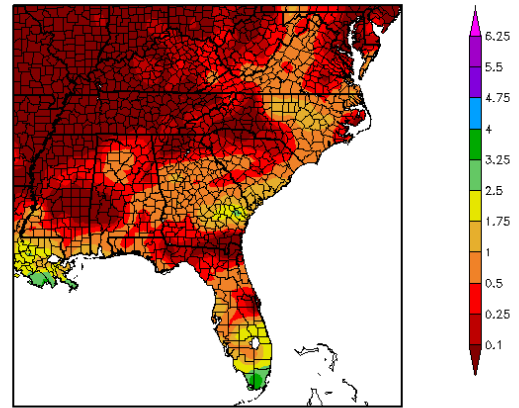
Southeastern U.S. Precipitation & Average Temperature

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

Temperature (F)
4/27/2015 - 5/3/2015



Precipitation (in)
4/27/2015 - 5/3/2015



Generated 5/4/2015 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

Generated 5/4/2015 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

U.S. Drought Monitor, April 28, 2015

National Weather Service

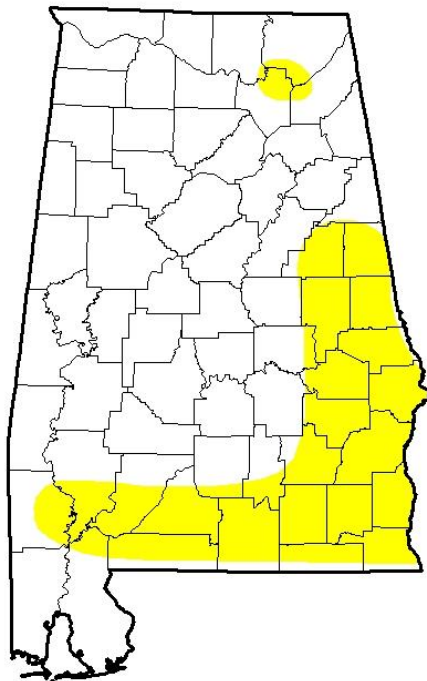
<http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm>

U.S. Drought Monitor Alabama

April 28, 2015

(Released Thursday, Apr. 30, 2015)

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	73.06	26.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 4/21/2015	67.97	32.03	2.45	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 1/27/2015	61.06	38.94	1.63	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 1/3/2014	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 4/28/2014	97.11	2.89	0.00	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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<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

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