

## **January 30, 2017**

**Alabama:** With much needed rainfall occurring throughout January, the drought has finally lessened for the vast majority of the state. According to the latest US Drought Monitor, only 2.3 percent of the state now remains in the severe category, which is down from 23.3 percent of the area in the week of January 3, 2017. Recent rainfall has water supplies returning to normal levels. Late planted small grains and winter grazing are in fair to good condition and have been filling out with the increased rainfall and warmer temperatures. Pastures are also greening and mostly fair, however not yet at a level to sustain livestock herds. Cattle are in fair condition as they recover from the stress brought on by the drought and marginal grazing of this past summer and fall. Hay supplies are steadily decreasing and hay will continue to be brought in from neighboring states until pastures are fully restored. Farmers hope to gain enough soil moisture for spring plantings. Average mean temperatures for the month ranged from 48°F in Moulton to 58°F in Mobile. Precipitation estimates for the month ranged from 3.05 inches in Gadsden in the northeast to 16.29 inches in Chatom in the southwest.