

January 3, 2023

Alabama: December temperatures were generally on par with historical values, although temperatures late in the month were some of the lowest recorded in recent history. December began dry but the state received a significant amount of precipitation the rest of the month to improve drought conditions. Total rainfall for the month ranged from 2.1 inches in Talladega County to 9.6 inches in Cullman County. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 49 percent of the state had abnormally dry conditions by month's end, compared to 84 percent at the month's beginning. Most producers harvested row crops in a timely manner, but some cotton harvest was behind schedule due to equipment issues and rainy weather. Winter wheat planting continued throughout the month on schedule, but reporters in some areas noted that the late cold weather caused damage to the crop. Some fruit and vegetable producers reported losses due to the extended period of time below freezing. The cold spell also caused damage to winter grazing conditions throughout much of the state. Livestock were reported to be in mostly fair condition, with producers using significant supplemental feeding due to poor winter grazing conditions.