United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Georgia Crop Progress and Condition Report

Cooperating with the Georgia Department of Agriculture and the Cooperative Extension Service
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www.nass.usda.gov

This report contains data collected each week from respondents across the state whose occupations provide them opportunities to discuss agricultural production with farmers in their counties as well as to make visual observations. We thank all who have contributed to this report.

September 30, 2024

Media Contact: Anthony Prillaman

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Georgia, there were 4.2 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, September 29, 2024. Precipitation totals from available reporting stations ranged from 1.5 inches to at least 13 inches of rain throughout the week. Average high temperatures ranged from the low 70s to the low 90s. Average low temperatures ranged from the low 60s to the low 70s.

Crops

Hurricane Helene devastated much of the state last week with heavy rains and strong winds. Widespread damage was received in many areas but was particularly devastating for the southern and eastern portions of the state. Reporters in the most affected areas noted instances of total crop loss, field flooding, building damage, downed power lines, and blown over trees. Operators tried to harvest as much as possible before the storm, but many cotton, peanut, and soybean fields were reported to be destroyed. Pecan trees were also heavily impacted, with some reporters noting that Hurricane Helene was the most damaging storm for pecans in their lifetimes. Damage assessment was expected to continue for several weeks, as power outages and road blockages prevented a full evaluation in many areas. In areas less impacted by the storm, operators noted that crop damage was mostly minimal and that the rain was welcome after prolonged drought conditions. Better field conditions were also expected to allow for winter grain crops to begin to be seeded.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle were in mostly good to fair condition, while pastures were in mostly fair to poor condition. There were widespread reports of flooded pastures after the storm, as well as damage to livestock fencing and some reports of livestock loss. Operators were concerned about winter hay stocks due to damage to hayfields and pastures from both prolonged drought conditions and Hurricane Helene.

Crop Progress for Week Ending 9/29/24

Crop stage	Prev year	Prev week	This week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn - Harvested	94	92	95	94
Cotton - Bolls Opening	73	68	77	77
Cotton - Harvested	3	1	6	7
Hay - 3rd Cutting	84	62	68	85
Oats - Planted	9	1	6	5
Peanuts - Dug	22	7	16	29
Peanuts - Harvested	10	3	10	16
Rye - Planted	6	1	3	5
Soybeans - Drop Leaves	58	58	66	58
Soybeans - Harvested	15	13	20	12
Winter Wheat - Planted	1	1	2	1

Conditions for Week Ending 9/29/24

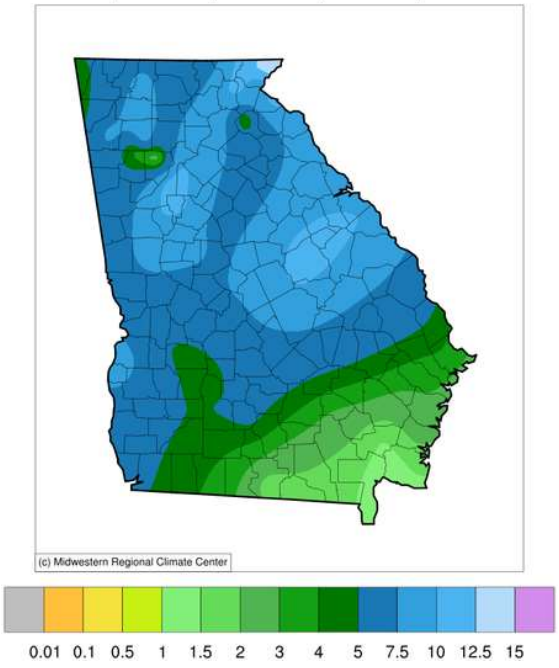
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	3	9	35	44	9
Cotton	9	16	42	28	5
Pasture and range	18	29	35	17	1
Peanuts	4	10	36	44	6
Soybeans	5	15	39	38	3

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 9/29/24

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	21	1
Short	22	3
Adequate	49	48
Surplus	8	48
Subsoil	**Previous week**	**This week**
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	16	2
Short	27	6
Adequate	51	52
Surplus	6	40

Accumulated Precipitation (in)

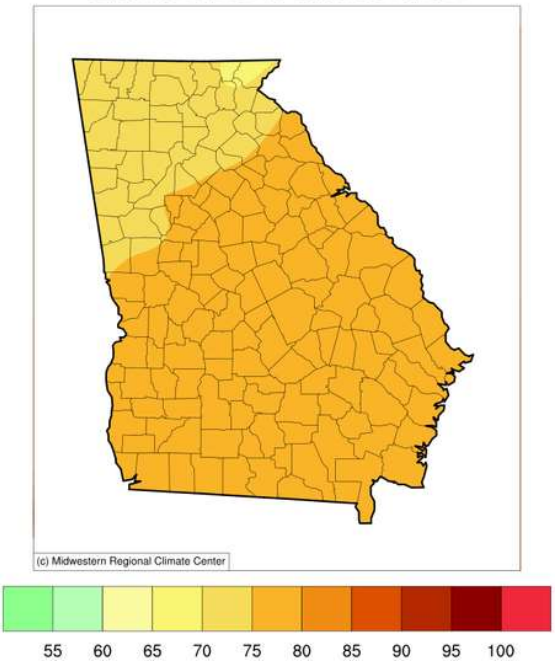
September 23, 2024 to September 29, 2024



https://mrcc.purdue.edu/CLIMATE

Average Temperature (°F)

September 23, 2024 to September 29, 2024



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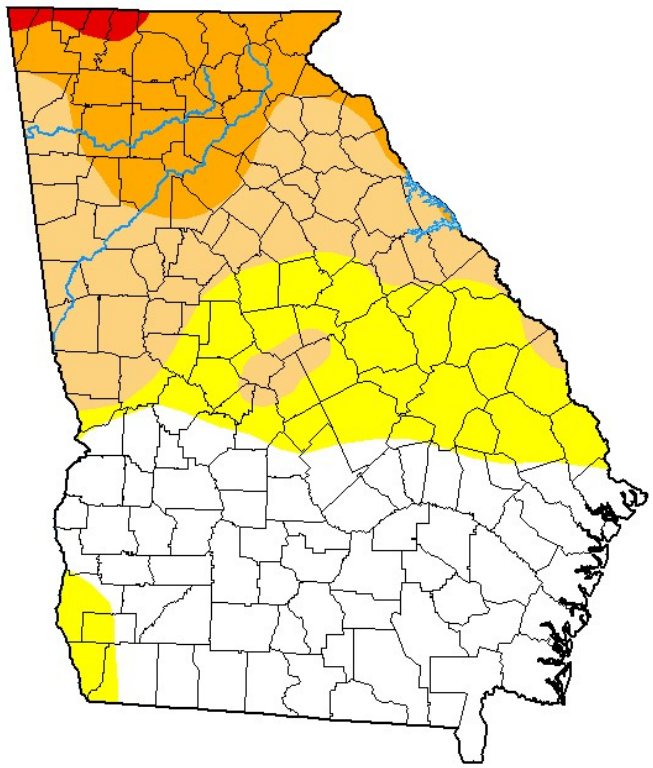
U.S. Drought Monitor

Georgia



September 24, 2024

(Released Thursday, Sep. 26, 2024)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	42.57	57.43	36.54	14.33	0.93	0.00
Last Week 09-17-2024	43.18	56.82	34.07	4.03	0.12	0.00
3 Months Ago 06-25-2024	6.09	93.91	24.77	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-02-2024	46.66	53.34	28.92	11.91	0.07	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	78.43	21.57	4.17	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 09-26-2023	78.43	21.57	4.17	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- 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. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

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U.S. Department of Agriculture

droughtmonitor.unl.edu