

January 8, 2025

GEORGIA: December temperatures were 1.9 degrees colder to 2.8 degrees warmer than historical averages depending on location. Total rainfall for the month ranged from 0.9 inches in Glynn County to 10.6 inches in Lumpkin County. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 32 percent of the state had abnormally dry conditions and 9 percent had moderate drought conditions by month's end, compared to 65 percent abnormally dry and 12 percent with moderate drought conditions at the month's beginning. Cotton and peanut harvest wrapped up in December with some late planted fields were reported to have had some frost damage. Cool temperatures allowed fruits and berries to accumulate necessary chill hours, but producers remained concerned of freeze damage if bud break occurs early. Pecan growers continued to clean up their orchards from Hurricane Helene damage. Winter forage did not develop as well as expected and producers were supplementing with hay more than previous years. Cattle prices have been strong, so some producers are reducing herd sizes. General clean up from Tropical Storm Debbie and Hurricane Helene continued as producers could shift focus away from finishing out the growing season.