

Stripling Irrigation Research Park

January 2020



Happy New Year!

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UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

College of Agricultural &
Environmental Sciences

C.M. STRIPLING IRRIGATION
RESEARCH PARK

From the Superintendent

Happy New Year to all our administrators, scientists, friends and supporters! I hope your 2020 has started off well after enjoying a joyous and restful holiday break. All of us here at SIRP certainly enjoyed our break. And, like the entire Bulldog Nation, we were thrilled with the results of this year's victory in the Sugar Bowl over Baylor. We all look forward to the 2020 football season with many new faces/names to learn! Go Dawgs!

Looking back over December, the Park received 8.79 inches of rain over 10 events, with a 2.93 inch gully-washer event on the 22nd. Our high temps ranged from 78.5F to 49.7F and lows came in from 68.2F to a chilly 28.1F. (As I write this, highs for next few days will run 77F to 82F!) For the year, we received **51.73 inches of rain** - essentially our long term average amount – over 98 rainy days. For all of 2019, our average max temp was 78.8F and our min temp was 55F. You may recall that in 2018 we received a whopping 73.8 inches of rain. We've provided graphs on the next page illustrating 2019's temps, rainfall and ET.

Like many of you, many of us are now in the report writing, proposal writing, and meeting attending time of year. Our local Mitchell County Extension office is hosting a number of farmer-oriented production meetings and there will be larger corn, cotton, and peanut meetings in Tifton later this month. Make plans to attend meetings in your county and/or the meetings in Tifton.

The SIRP crew has been busy with winter maintenance on our equipment, doing some checks and tweaks of VRI zone definitions related to research plots in one of our linear-move system fields, applying lime, and have been fertilizing rye cover crop for Dr. George Vellidis.

In early December, I traveled out to Las Vegas to attend the '19 Irrigation Association "Irrigation Show and Education Week". I took the "Introduction to Irrigation: Agriculture" class while there. Very informative. I then headed up to Athens to attend a 2-day meeting of the superintendents of UGA's seven research and education centers around the state. Strategic planning was the main emphasis at the meeting. We enjoyed dinner with several of CAES' department heads. My next meeting was on Dec 6 in Albany with extension agents, consultants and colleagues from CAES and the Flint River Soil & Water Conservation District. We had an end of year wrap-up meeting related to the SW GA AgWET project.

We enjoyed a Christmas lunch here with the Mitchell County Extension office (Brian, Debra, and Sylvia) and the staff with the Flint River Soil & Water Conservation District (Perri, Casey, Judy, Lindsay, Fredando, Ken and Vanessa). It was nice to have a great crowd.

Speaking of visitors, I'm pleased to report that we have **903** folks visit Stripling Park in 2019! This included our friend Marty Saylor with Lindsay Irrigation. Marty is working to get our Lindsay Zimmatic linear-move system upgraded to work with their FieldNet system.

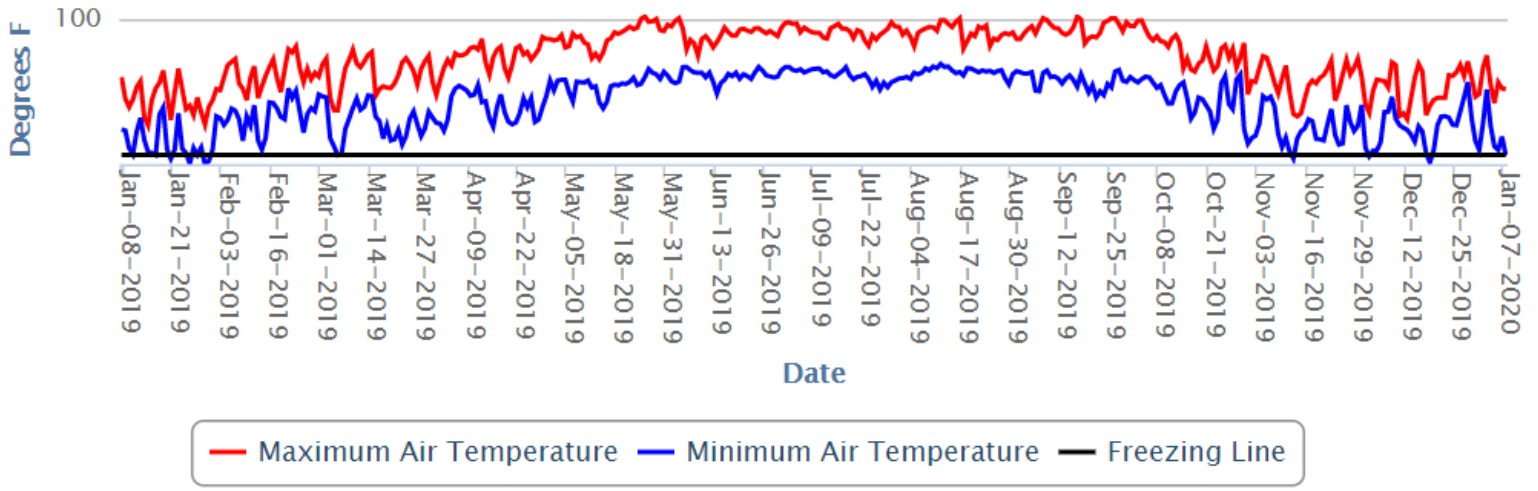
Finally, I regret that our webcam is not functional at the moment. Many of you know that our webcam, mounted on the local internet tower, is available through our website. We are working with our internet provider to try to determine the cause of the malfunction. Stay tuned!



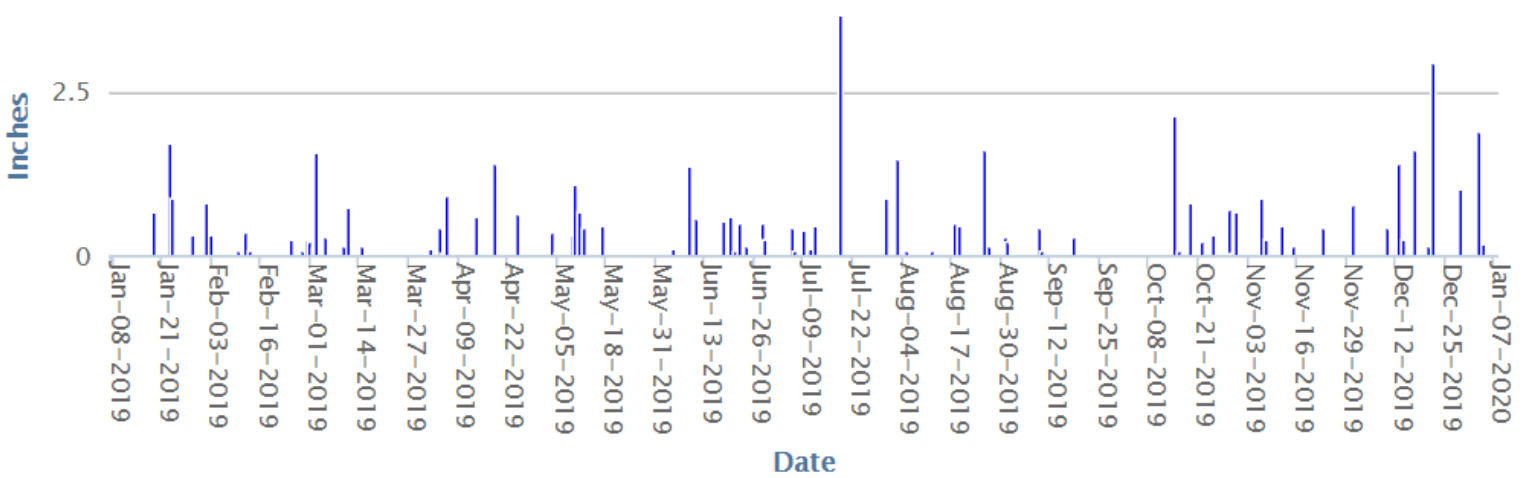
Calvin Perry

2019 Weather Data

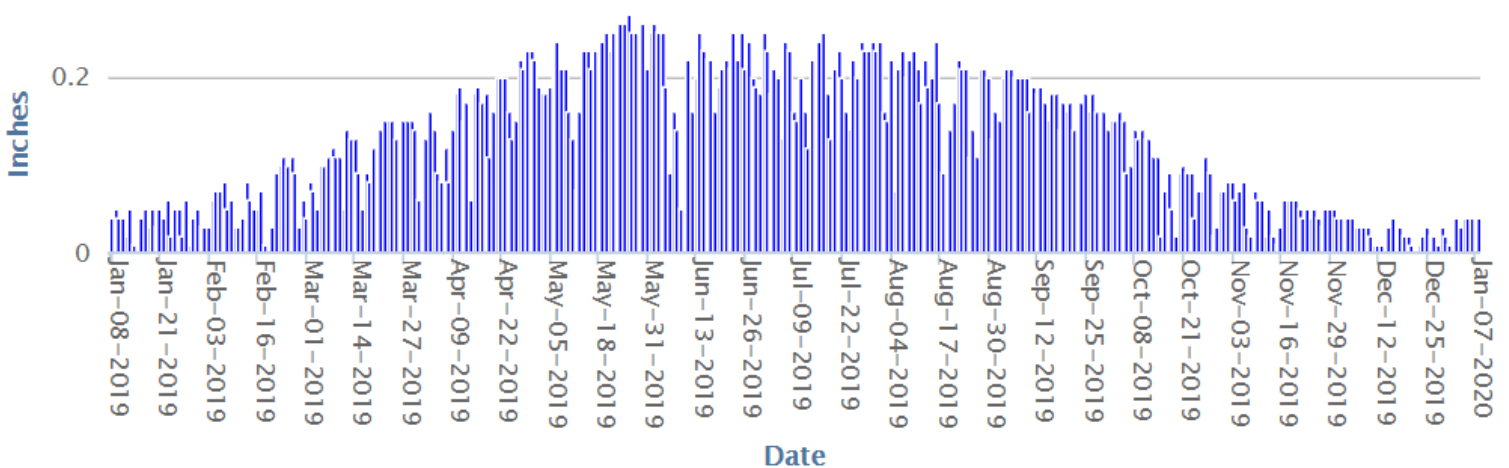
Maximum Temperature, Minimum Temperature



Daily Cumulative Rainfall



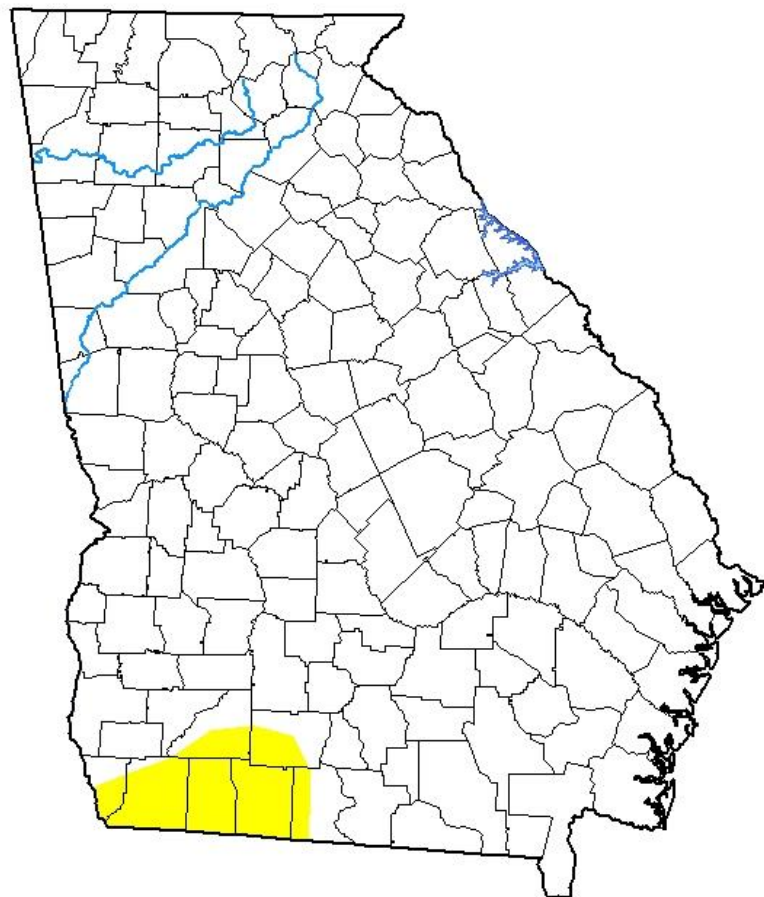
Evapotranspiration



Drought Conditions

U.S. Drought Monitor Georgia

January 7, 2020
(Released Thursday, Jan. 9, 2020)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	96.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 12-31-2019	96.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 10-08-2019	0.00	100.00	97.16	52.98	11.80	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 12-31-2019	96.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2019	0.00	100.00	61.58	28.35	4.49	0.00
One Year Ago 01-08-2019	100.00	0.00	0.00	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>

Author:

Curtis Riganti
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Drought Monitor map for SE/Georgia as of January 7th. Currently, all of GA is out of drought conditions with deep SW counties in 'abnormally dry' status. Good news for most of the state!

For more info:

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Home/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?GA>

At the Park



Above: Marty Saylor with Lindsay tweaking VRI hardware.
Below: Beautiful green rye in the Newton lateral field.



At the Park

Right: Mandy Brown & husband, Taylor, welcome baby Skylar to the world.

Below: Christmas luncheon for SIRP, Mitchell Co. Extension & Flint River District employees, along with Ext. Water Agent, Cale Cloud & SIRP retiree, Ivey Griner.



Events

Past events

Dec 2 – 4	Irrigation Association (Las Vegas, NV)
Dec 25 – 31	Christmas Holidays
Jan 1, 2020	New Year's Holiday
Jan 7	Weed Update (Mitchell Co. Extension)
Jan 8 – 10	Beltwide Cotton Conf. (Austin, TX)
Jan 14	Westminster School class tour

Upcoming events

Jan 16	GA Peanut Show (Tifton)
Jan 20	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
Jan 21	Corn Short Course (Tifton)
Jan 21	Disease Update (Mitchell Co. Extension)
Jan 27	Cotton Production Mtg. (Mitchell Co. Extension)
Jan 29	GA Cotton Conference (Tifton)
Jan 31	Peanut Production Mtg. (Mitchell Co. Extension)
Feb 12	Pecan Production Mtg. (Mitchell Co. Extension)
Apr 8	Extension Training (SIRP)
Apr 9	Extension Training (Midville)
Apr 10	Extension Training (Iron Horse)
APR 21	UK Young Ag Leaders

In the News

[2019 in Review: A Look Back at Drought across the United States in 10 Maps](#)

[After a rough 2019, farmers and congress discuss agriculture's role as a climate solution](#)

[Water war to end in 2020: Judge commends Georgia for conservation efforts](#)

[From the Publisher: Water Management](#)

[3-Decade-Long Georgia-Florida Water Dispute Heads To Supreme Court](#)

[6 Major Changes That Will Shape Global Agriculture in the 2020s](#)

[High-def mapping of moisture in the soil](#)

[Governor Kemp Issues Statement on Special Master Ruling in Water Litigation](#)

[REPORT OF THE SPECIAL MASTER](#)

[Georgia wins major victory in legal fight with Florida over water use](#)

[Georgia Peanut Farm Show, Tifton, Jan. 16](#)

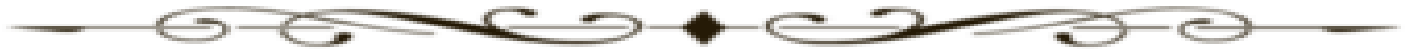
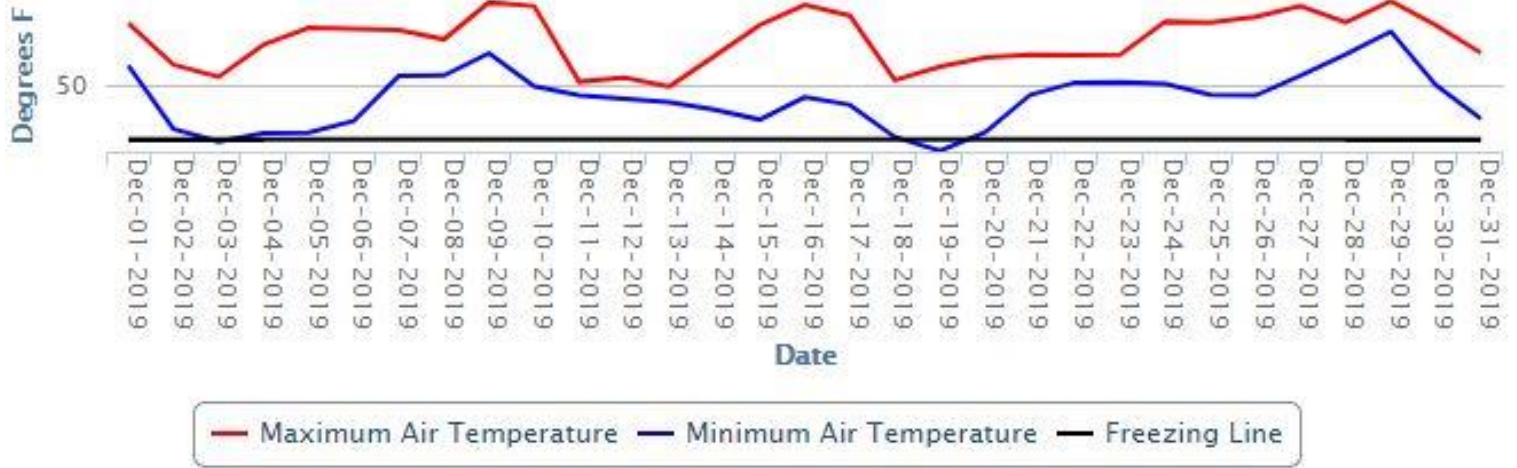
[Georgia Cotton: 2020 Winter Meeting Locations Set](#)

[Bayer criticizes Mexico over glyphosate move](#)

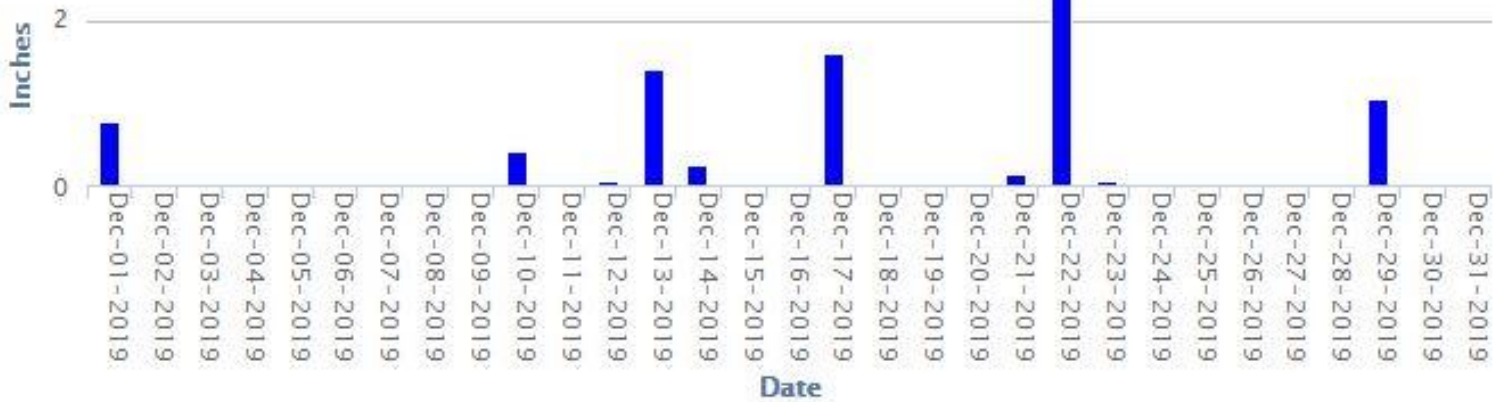
<https://www.gfb.org/media-and-publications/news.cms/2020/688/loeffler-meets-with-georgia-farm-bureau-leaders>

SIRP Weather

Maximum Temperature, Minimum Temperature



Daily Cumulative Rainfall



For December, SIRP had 8.79 inches of rainfall, compared to 2.30 inches in November, 5.08 inches in October and 1.01 inches in September.

To explore weather information, visit www.georgiaweather.net.

Contact Information

CM Stripling Irrigation Research Park
8207 Highway 37 West
Camilla, GA 31730
(229) 522-3623

Calvin Perry (Superintendent): perrycd@uga.edu
Candace Gray (Admin. Associate): sirp@uga.edu



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Trivia:

Which fruit has more genes than a human?