

Stripling Irrigation Research Park

June 2020



Checking
irrigation from
under the
canopy of corn
plots.

This Month

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UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

College of Agricultural &
Environmental Sciences

C.M. STRIPLING IRRIGATION
RESEARCH PARK

From the Superintendent

We have been quite busy here at Stripling Park as all field research planned for the Park was approved by UGA VP for Research – corn, cotton, peanut and soybean. SIRP staff was working a reduced schedule, as field work allowed. But as of June 1, I decided conditions (and work load) was such that we need to be here full time. As I've noted previously, we're trying to implement social distancing as best we can and we wear masks when inside and need to be in close proximity to one another.

In May, the Park received only 2.03 inches of rain over 5 rainy days (all after May 17). The high temps in May ranged from 92.5F to 73F and the lows ranged from 73F to a chilly 47.4F. We don't expect to see lows like that for quite a while.

With less rain, we've been wide-open with field work at SIRP. The crew has been busy planting cotton, peanuts and soybeans; applying liquid N side-dress to late planted corn plots; applying lay-by herbicides to corn plots; marking/flagging plots; installing soil moisture sensors; and mowing alleys between plots as well as non-cropped areas around the Park. Also, with less rain, we've been quite busy irrigating corn, cotton and peanut plots across the Park. But, as they say, "that's what we're built for"! I would add that occasionally my staff allow me to hop in the tractor and do some field work (mowing usually). But after ripping down some electrical wiring conduit to one of our center pivots they may re-think that. (I did repair the damage).

I've had my share of zoom remote meetings lately, but I enjoy the zoom sessions our administrators (Drs. Moore and Stougaard) have been holding with the Research & Education Center superintendents most Fridays. This has allowed much information sharing from main campus and from the RECs around the state.

Besides the occasional researcher or their staff, we have started having a few other visitors drop in. Mike Mills from Reinke Irrigation came by to visit and look over a site for a potential future system. We also hosted staff from the Flint RiverKeeper and videographer Matt Hanner as they needed B-roll of center pivot irrigation.

Finally, on a personal note, I'm pleased to report that on May 13, UGA President Morehead and Provost Hu made it official – I've been promoted to Public Service Associate. This is interesting timing as my wife just retired from the Colquitt County School System after 33 years.



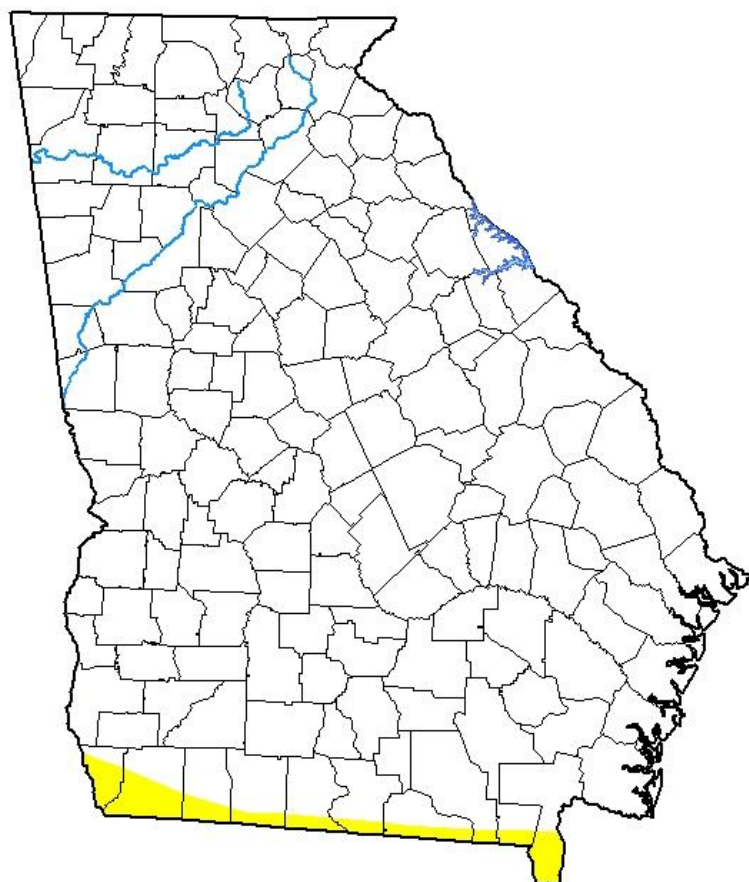
Calvin Perry

Drought Conditions

U.S. Drought Monitor Georgia

June 2, 2020
(Released Thursday, Jun. 4, 2020)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	97.58	2.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 05-26-2020	97.58	2.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 03-03-2020	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	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 06-04-2019	6.97	93.03	69.06	5.04	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



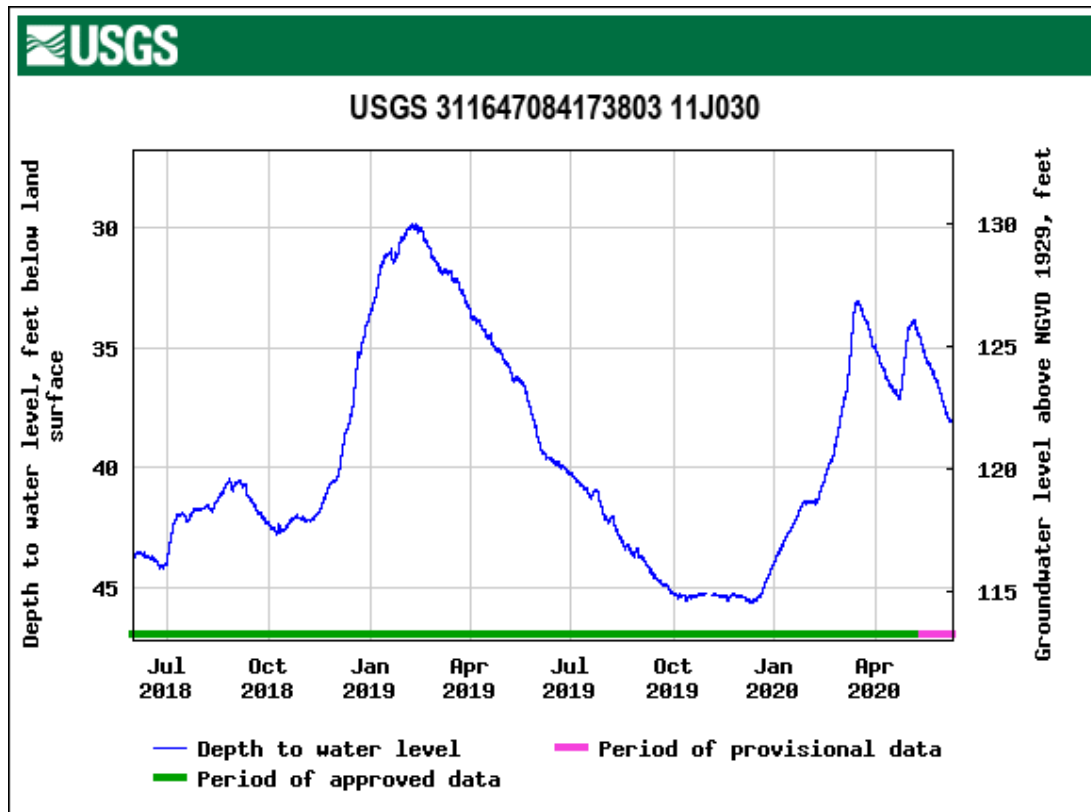
droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Drought Monitor map for Georgia as of June 2nd. Currently, most of the state of Georgia is considered out of drought conditions of any type. Rain occurring this week should erase the small patch of yellow near the Georgia-Florida border.

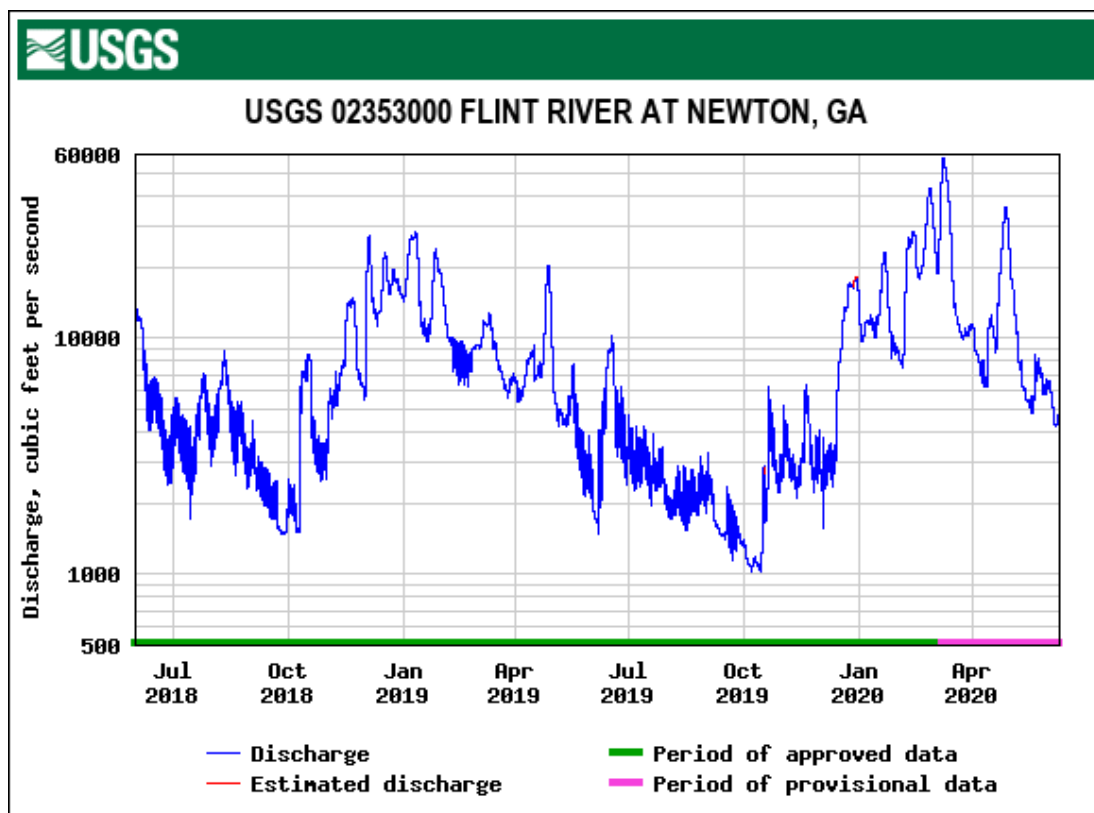
For more info:

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

Water Resources



Above and below - USGS data for the past 2 years for a groundwater monitoring well here at SIRP in Floridan aquifer (it was installed in 2018) and stream gage on the Flint River at Newton.



At the Park



Above: B.J. planting cotton in FF-North field.
Below: Dr. Vellidis and staff doing SSA installs in NLM cotton .



At the Park



Left: VRI pivot irrigating peanuts.

Below: Checking on Dr. Henry Sintim's corn plots in the Access field.



At the Park



Above: Extension water agent Cale Cloud and FRSWCD intern Bryce installing AgWet Trellis SMS sensors in local cotton field.

Below: Cale getting interviewed on camera at the park.



At the Park



Above: Driving alleys in Dr. Kemerait's corn fungicide study.
Below: Nice view of Dr. Porter's corn study from our Drone.



Events

Past events

Upcoming events

All events have been cancelled or delayed until further notice due to the COVID-19 virus.

We hope that everyone is practicing 'Social Distancing', and that you all stay safe, happy and healthy!

In the News

[Weigh the sensor's readings before blindly triggering irrigation](#)

[Drone fungicide application brings yield bump for Kentucky corn grower](#)

[Weigh the sensor's readings before blindly triggering irrigation](#)

[Georgia Cotton: With Dicamba Disruption, 3 Pigweed Scenarios](#)

[Record-high world grain production for second year in a row](#)

[EPA assures Georgia farmers agency wants to work with ag](#)

[State and federal programs offer fresh food products](#)

[Georgia Agriculture Commissioner Announces Georgia Grown To-Go Program](#)

[USDA crop progress: Corn quality on the rise](#)

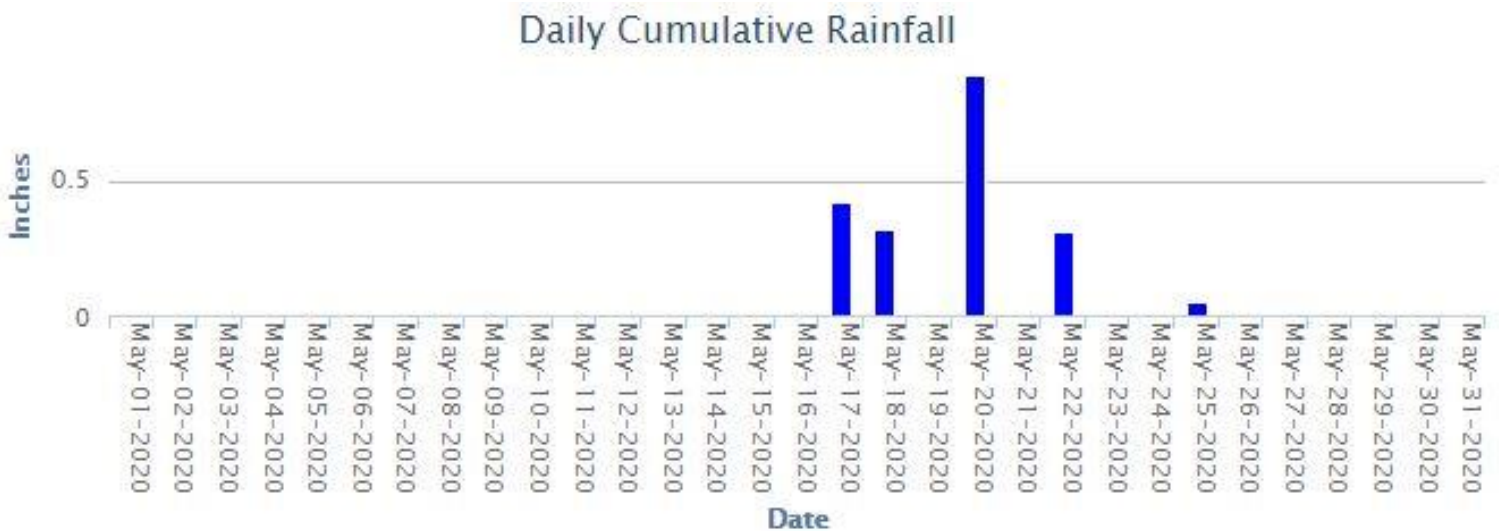
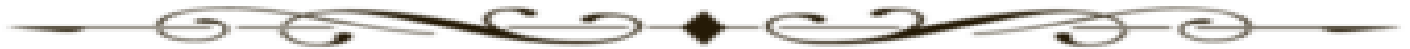
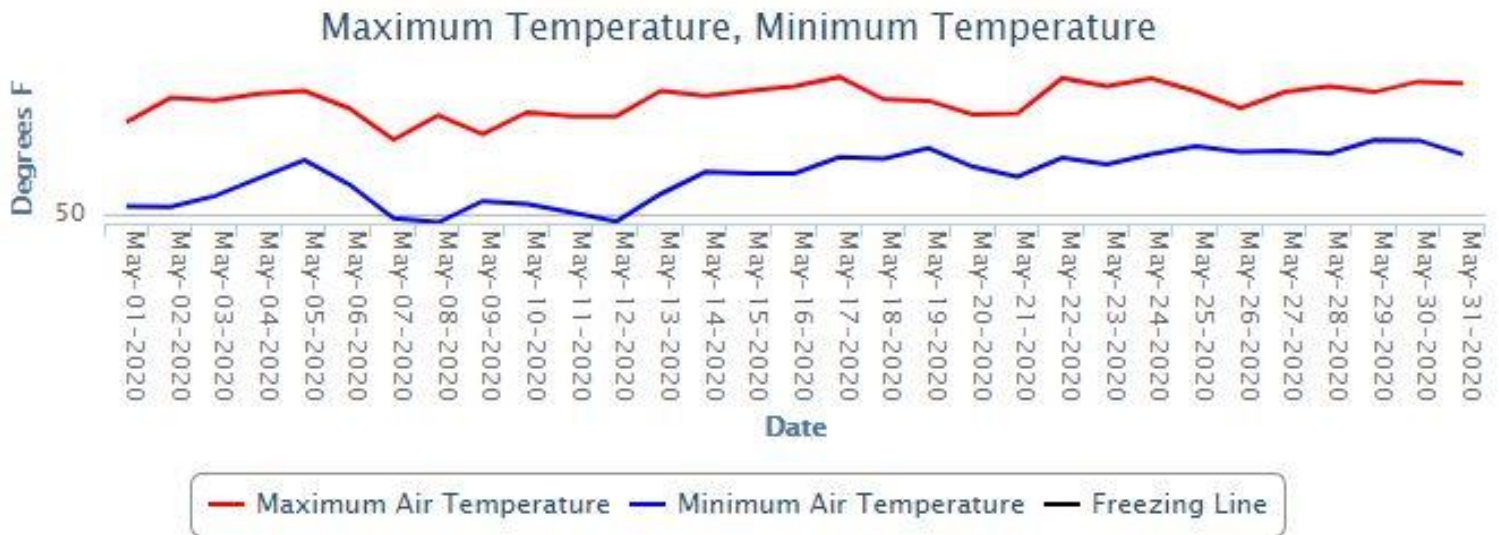
[Research Evaluates Soil Health Benefits Of Combining Manure and Cover Crops](#)

[Georgia Peanut: Initiating a Proper Fungicide Program](#)

[Southern Corn Rust Identified in Georgia Counties](#)

[Livestock Groups Oppose Great American Outdoors Act](#)

SIRP Weather



For May, SIRP had 2.03 inches of rainfall, compared to 9.10 inches in April, 3.26 inches in March, 6.03 inches for February and 4.48 inches in January.

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

Contact Information

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Trivia:

Who invented the cotton gin in 1793?

Answer: Eli Whitney. His invention of the cotton gin was one of the key inventions of the Industrial Revolution and helped shape the economy of the United States.