

Stripling Irrigation Research Park

May 2020



Corn plots in the Newton Lateral field are coming along nicely.

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UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

College of Agricultural &
Environmental Sciences

C.M. STRIPLING IRRIGATION
RESEARCH PARK

From the Superintendent

Though SIRP staff has been deemed essential but have been working reduced schedules, research has continued at the Park practically in full swing. In response to COVID-19, we've tried to implement social distancing as best we can and we wear masks when inside and need to be in close proximity to one another. Our researchers are being understanding and sending fewer folks over and making appointments when they do – no social visits.

In April, the Park received 9.1 inches of rain over 9 rainy days. Of the 9.1, on two days, we received 1.55 inches and on April 23rd received 4.36 inches. That day brought severe thunderstorms to south Georgia with tornadoes from SW to SE parts of the state, including very near where I live and where my mother lives in 'burbs of Moultrie. The high temps in April ranged from hot 90F to 71F and the lows ranged from 71F to a chilly 41F.

Field work during April included checking pivot uniformities, applying burn down herbicides to rye cover crop, planting last of our corn plots (for Dr. Sintim and Dr. Kemerait), flagging and marking plots in Dr. Porter's "Lindsay Lateral" corn study, spreading pre-plant fertilizer, assisting with corn soil moisture sensor installs, strip-tilling for later planting of cotton, peanuts and soybeans, and repaired drip tape leaks. We also applied 'side-dress' liquid nitrogen to corn plots and started fertigation of liquid N in certain plots.

As you'd expect, all meetings, tours, workshops, etc. have been canceled. With all the uncertainty about camps, recently SIRP and Mitchell Co. Extension/4-H decided to cancel the 4-H2O Day Camp for this year. We hope we can bring it back next year.

As the state budget has been hammered by the impacts from stay at home orders and shuttering of much of our economy, we now are expecting to be faced with challenges related to our budgets. There is talk of furloughs and possible layoffs. Our administrators are working hard on a plan to meet the Governor's request for 14% budget reduction.

As I said last month, I hope all of you reading this are healthy and safe. Take care. We'll get through this.

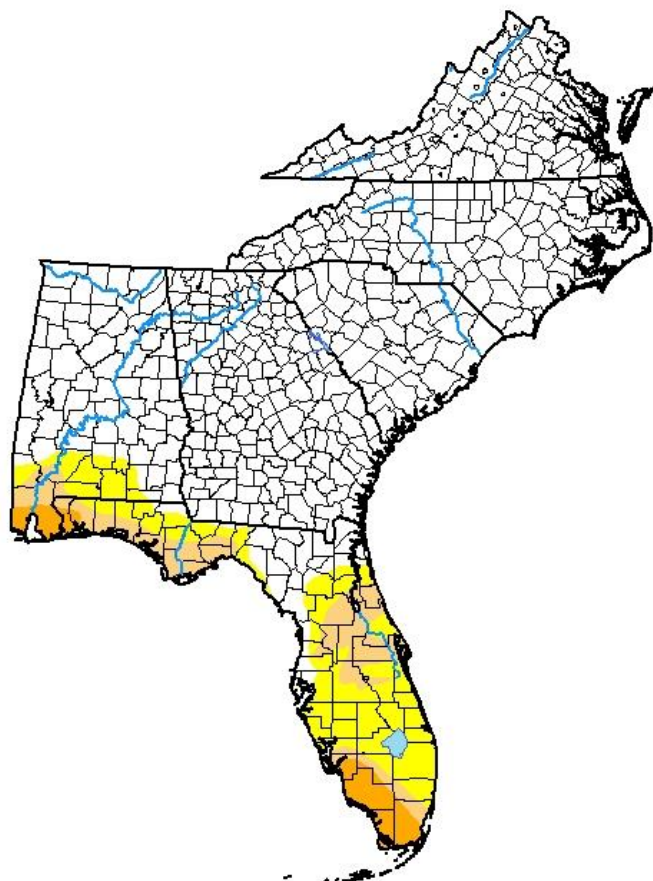


Calvin Perry

Drought Conditions

U.S. Drought Monitor Southeast

May 12, 2020
(Released Thursday, May. 14, 2020)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	80.93	19.07	8.55	2.54	0.00	0.00
Last Week 05-05-2020	83.04	16.96	6.72	1.81	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 02-11-2020	93.84	6.16	0.79	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 12-31-2019	93.12	6.88	1.69	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2019	20.54	79.46	44.26	13.71	1.87	0.00
One Year Ago 05-14-2019	73.08	26.92	4.78	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:

Richard Tinker
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



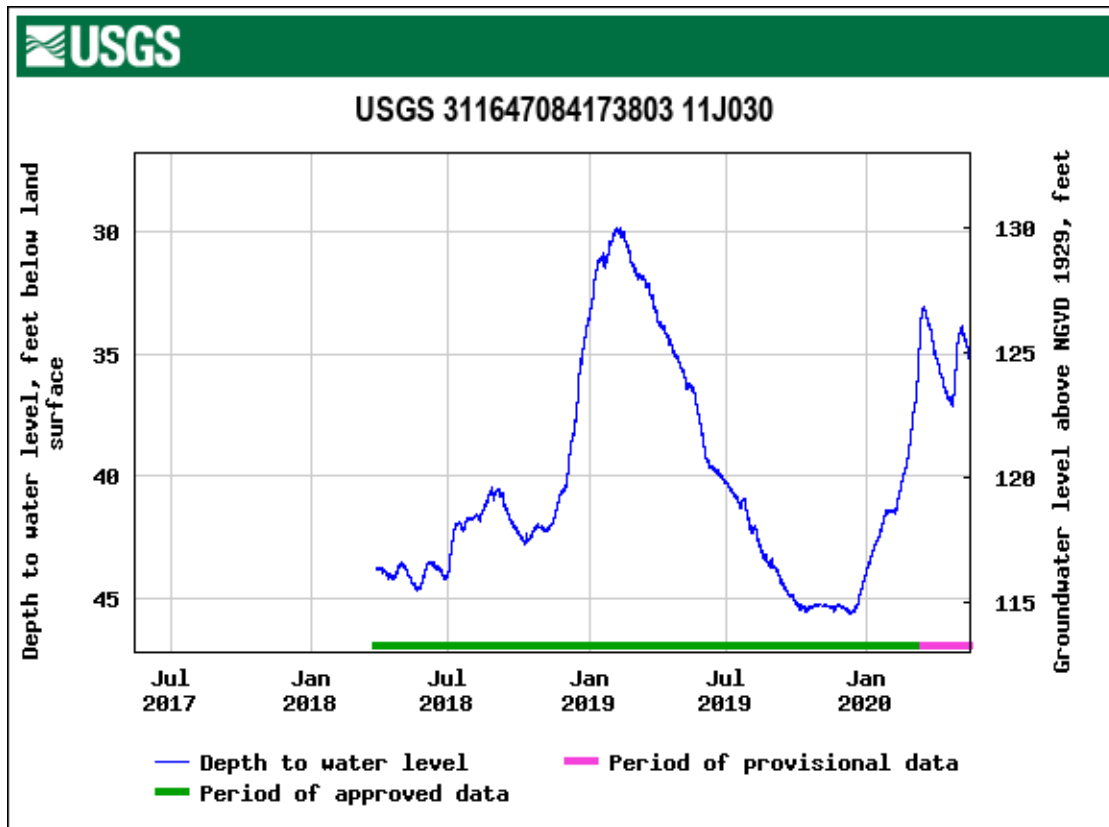
droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Drought Monitor map for SE states as of May 12th. Currently, the entire state of Georgia is considered out of drought conditions of any type, though much of our shallow soil layers are getting fairly dry. Most of Florida and a bit of southern Alabama are apparently much drier.

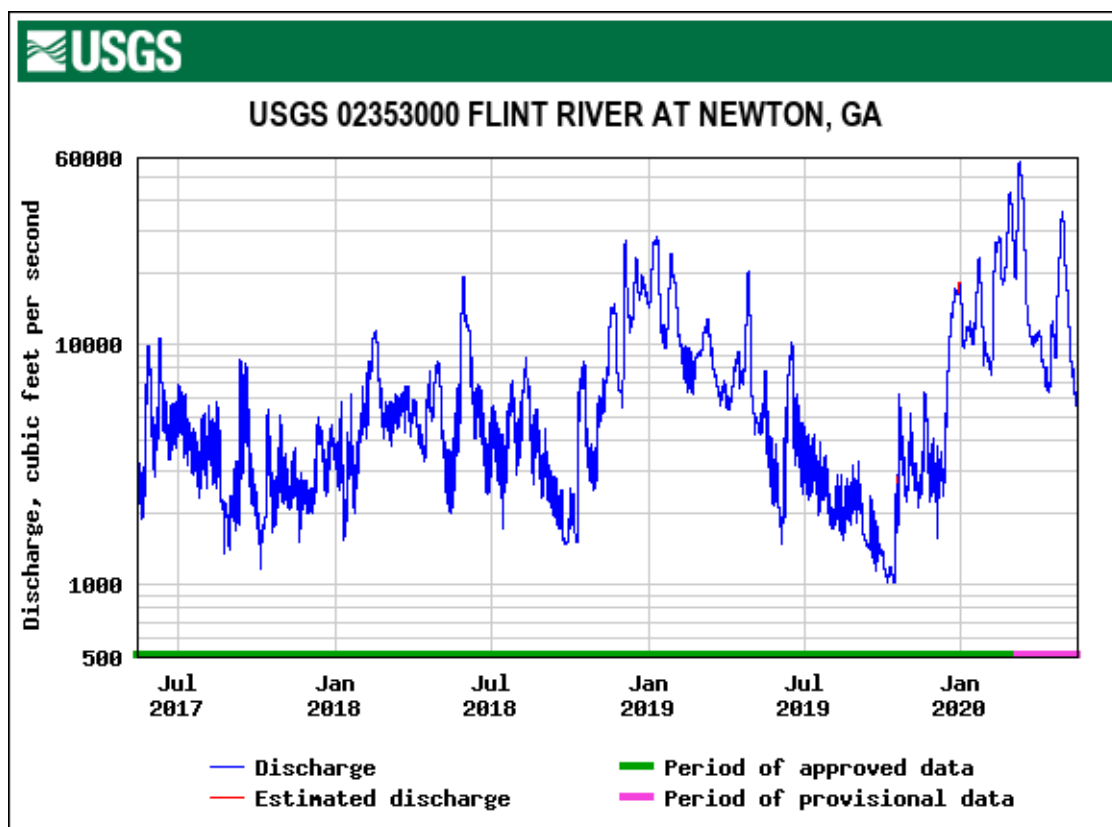
For more info:

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

Water Resources



Above and below - USGS data for the past 3 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

Right: Cale installing
CropX probe in corn field.

Below: B.J. strip-tilling
Camilla Lateral.



At the Park



Left: Kyle spreading fertilizer in the Lindsay Lateral corn.

Below: Planting Dr. Kemerait's corn fungicide study during the tornadic weather that blew thru on April 23rd.



At the Park



Above: B.J. planting more of Dr. Kemerait's studies in the VRI field.
Below: Dr. Henry Sintim's corn study in the Access field.



At the Park



Above & Below: Fertigating Dr. Vellidis' corn in the Newton Lateral field.



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

[Planter Setup Important For Successful Planting Season](#)

[Dial in the planter's systems to get season off in right direction](#)

[Valley Irrigation and Prospera Quadruple Acres Covered By A.I. Crop Detection Service](#)

[Eighteen months after Hurricane Michael, SW Ga. farmers to get relief](#)

[Connecting farmers to those needing food](#)

[UGA Extension and Georgia Department of Agriculture seek to help farmers get produce to public](#)

[Multi-million investment to calculate soil moisture from space](#)

[Growing Demand for Remote Monitoring Due to Coronavirus](#)

[Variable Rate Technology: Make the Most Out of Each Farmable Acre](#)

[Georgia Peanuts: How to Deal with a Potential Gypsum Shortage](#)

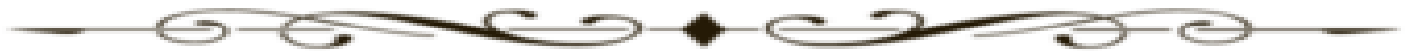
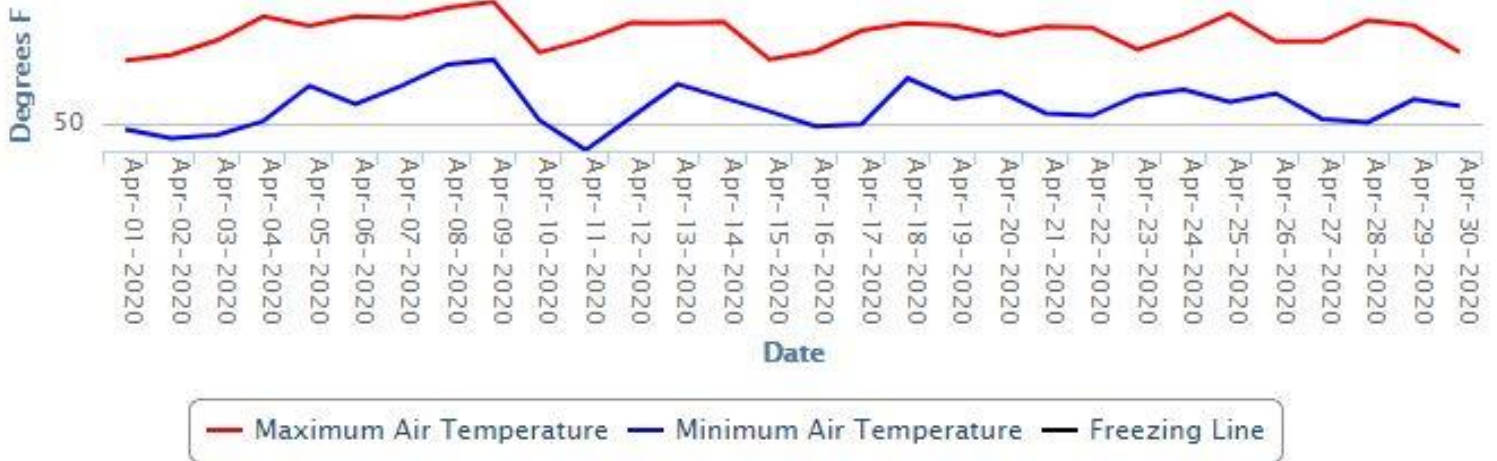
[Making use of advanced drone imaging tools](#)

[Georgia's Ag Industry Launches 'Now More Than Ever, Buy Georgia Grown' Campaign](#)

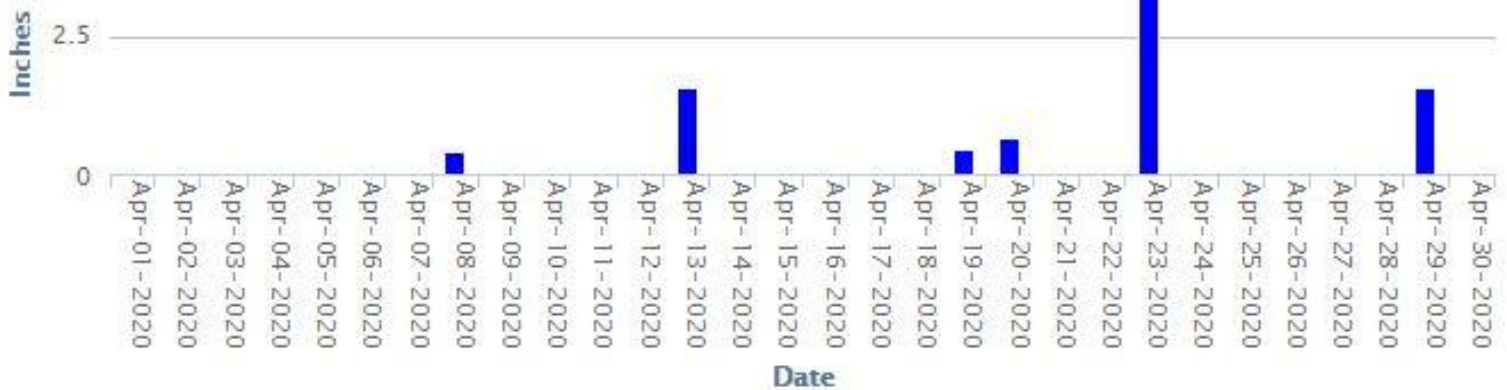
[USDA urges producers to begin work on coronavirus aid applications](#)

SIRP Weather

Maximum Temperature, Minimum Temperature



Daily Cumulative Rainfall



For April, SIRP had 0.00 inches of rainfall, compared to 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:

What was the first foreign company to start up a factory in the U.S.?