

Stripling Irrigation Research Park

October 2020



Drone photo of SIRP's "FF-N" cotton (left) and "FF-S" soybean (right) plots.

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UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

College of Agricultural &
Environmental Sciences

C.M. STRIPLING IRRIGATION
RESEARCH PARK

From the Superintendent

I mentioned the 'dog days' of summer last issue as August was quite hot/humid (as usual). Well, hot/humid continued into September, but, thankfully, the temps seemed to break lower around September 13th. Highs last month ranged from 97F (Sept 4) to 72F and lows ranged from 76F to 50F (Sept 30). After the 13th, we had no additional high temps in the 90s. The Park received 7.21 inches of rain over 11 events. Hurricane Sally brought us 4.12 inches of rain on Sept 16th.

We were busy in September with quite a bit of field activities. Early in the month we were irrigating cotton, peanut, and soybean plots; spraying and chemigating fungicides on peanuts; hand harvesting corn plots; spraying insecticide on soybeans; and mowing non-cropped areas/grass. (We terminated cotton irrigation on Sept 4). Later, we inverted all peanuts, harvested non-data peanut rows, and even 'harvested' some green peanuts (for Dr. Pilon). Mixed in were VRI valve updating, soil moisture probe removals, plot samplings and peanut plot disease ratings.

With the Covid-19 restrictions continuing, we have very few visitors to SIRP. In addition to visits from our scientists and their technicians and grad students, we had visits from Brian Hayes, Mitchell County Extension agent, former grad student Abraham Fulmer, technical service rep with BASF as well as representatives from Nutrien led by Tim Moore from Camilla office.

I attended a number of virtual meetings and events, including a background meeting with Nitricity, the UGA Cotton & Peanut Virtual Research Field Day, the Tri State Climate Learning Network, Cover Crops Virtual In-Service Training, UGA Extension State of Extension address, UGA Extension cotton specialist interviews, and Research & Education Center superintendents meetings. I also participated in meetings as a member of the UGA CAES D.W. Brooks Award committee and the Irrigation Association New Product Award committee.

I'd like to congratulate the Stripling Family Foundation on their being selected for one of the Epsilon Sigma Phi [National Friend of Extension award](#) "for their many years of philanthropic and personal support of agriculture programs in Georgia". Charles and Patsy Stripling accepted the award and credited his late parents, C.M. and Bernice Stripling, "for their many decades of support for agricultural research, education and outreach in the state".

I also congratulate the Flint River SWCD on their inclusion in the Georgia Water Coalition's 2020 [Clean 13 Water Heroes Award](#). The District has long been a great supporter of SIRP and UGA CAES.

Speaking of congratulations, a big CONGRATS goes to SIRP's own Candace Gray, administrative associate, on her 10 year anniversary with UGA. She reached this milestone on September 2nd. Now she's vested in the retirement system!

Finally, UGA [Provost Jack Hu announced](#) on September 8th that Dr. Nick Place, currently the dean for extension at the University of Florida, was named the next Dean and Director of the UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences to be effective on January 1, 2021. We look forward to getting to know Dean Place and hosting him at SIRP after the new year.



Don't forget - on [our website](#), near the bottom right, in a bright red banner, is a "Donate Now" button. Use it to make a donation to help our facility!

Calvin Perry

Water Wars

It appears that the US Supreme Court will, once again, hear oral arguments in the FL v GA water case. The case, started 7 years ago, was included in a list of cases but did not set a date for oral arguments. 2020 – the year that just keeps on giving!

Here are a few links to articles about this ‘breaking news’:

From the AJC:

[Supreme Court will hear Georgia-Florida water rights case this term](#)

From WABE/Atlanta:

[U.S. Supreme Court Will Hear Florida-Georgia Water Arguments This Term](#)

From WJCT /Jacksonville:

[Fla.-Ga. Water War Arguments To Be Heard By U.S. Supreme Court In 'Due Course'](#)

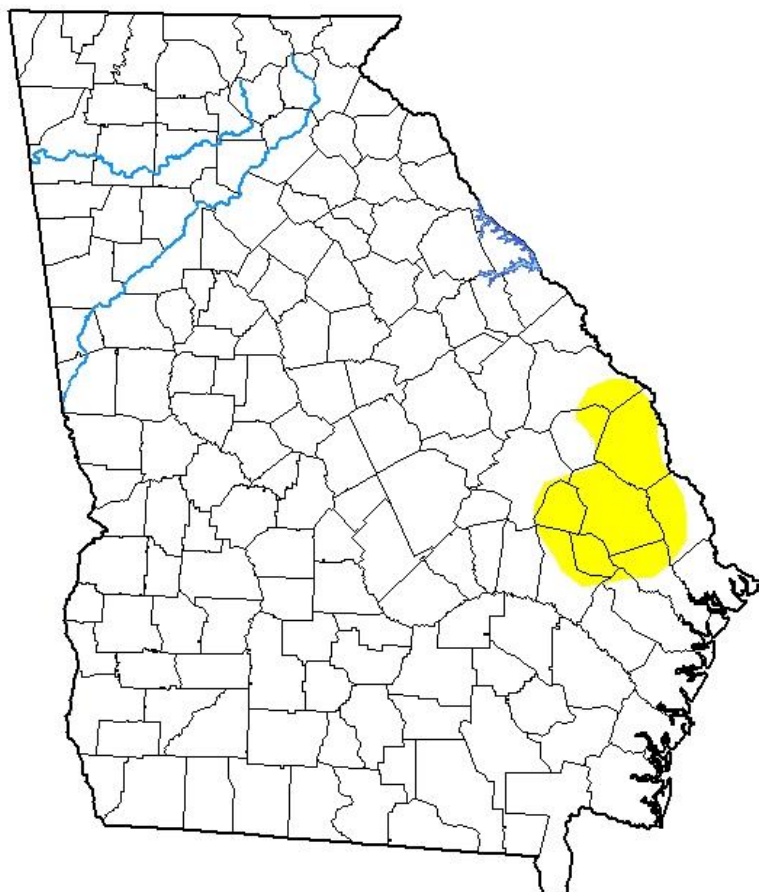
Here's the full list of proceedings and orders related to the FL v GA case:

<https://www.scotusblog.com/case-files/cases/florida-v-georgia-2/>

Drought Conditions

U.S. Drought Monitor Georgia

October 6, 2020
(Released Thursday, Oct. 8, 2020)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	95.41	4.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 09-29-2020	97.20	2.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 07-07-2020	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 09-29-2020	97.20	2.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 10-08-2019	0.00	100.00	97.16	52.98	11.80	0.00

Intensity:



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:

Brian Fuchs
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

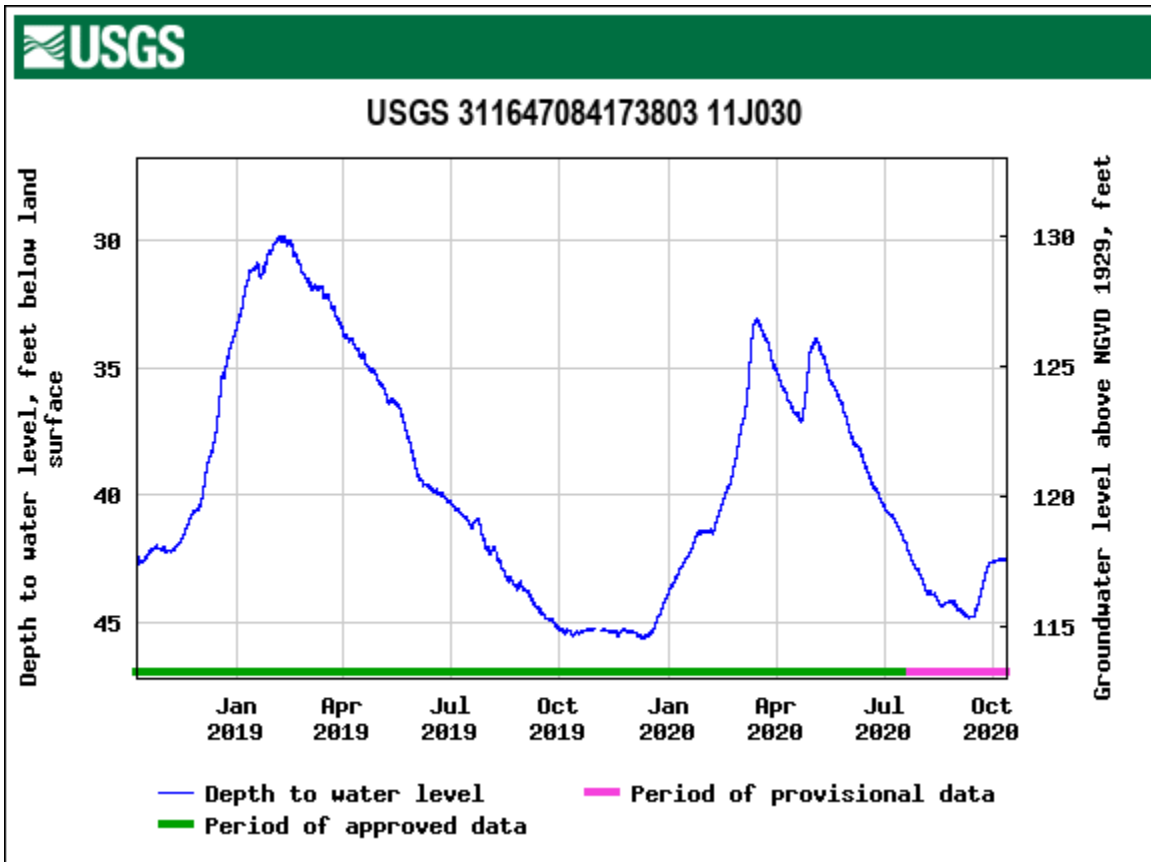
Drought Monitor map for Georgia as of Oct 6. As you can see, very little of Georgia is even abnormally dry. Currently, 96% of the state of Georgia is considered in no drought condition. There is 4.59% of the state, mostly in SE Georgia, in Abnormally Dry status.

For more info:

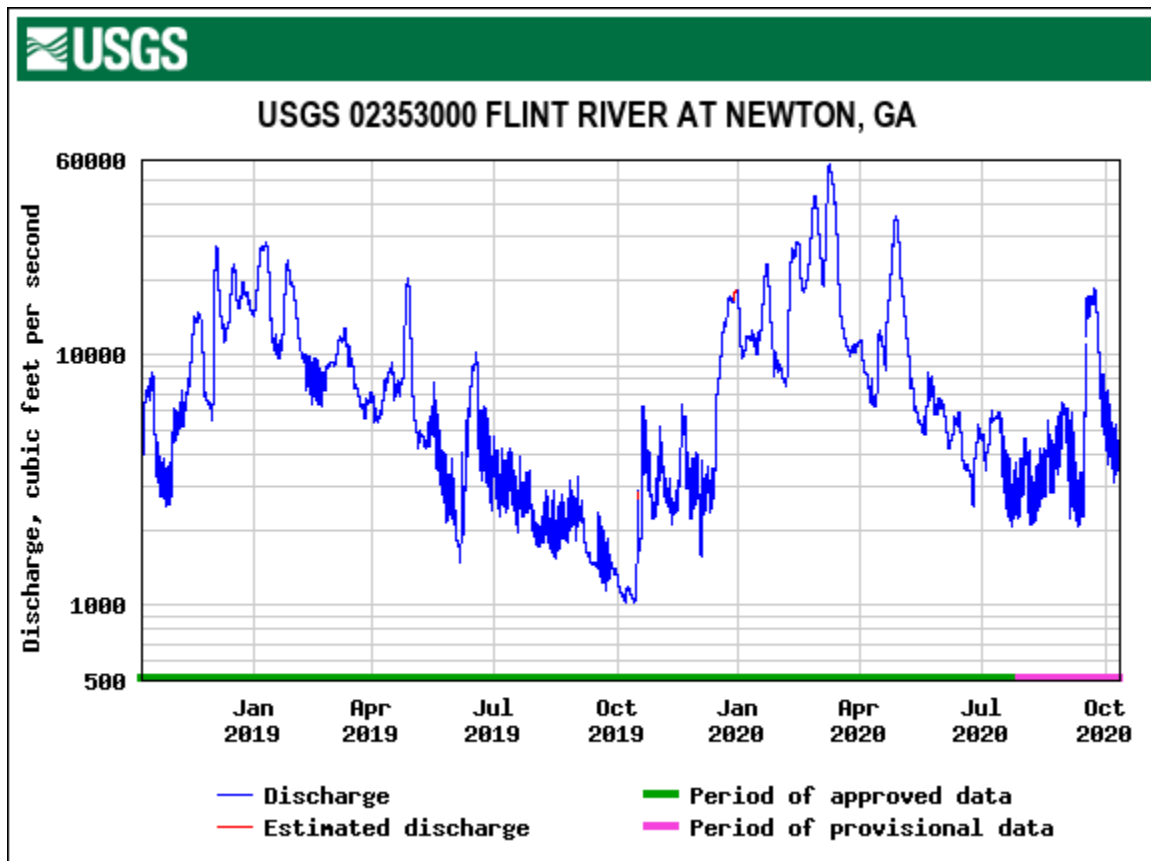
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?>

[GA](#)

Water Resources



Above - USGS data for the past 2 years for a groundwater monitoring well here at SIRP in Floridan aquifer. Below - stream gage on the Flint River at Newton for past 2 years.

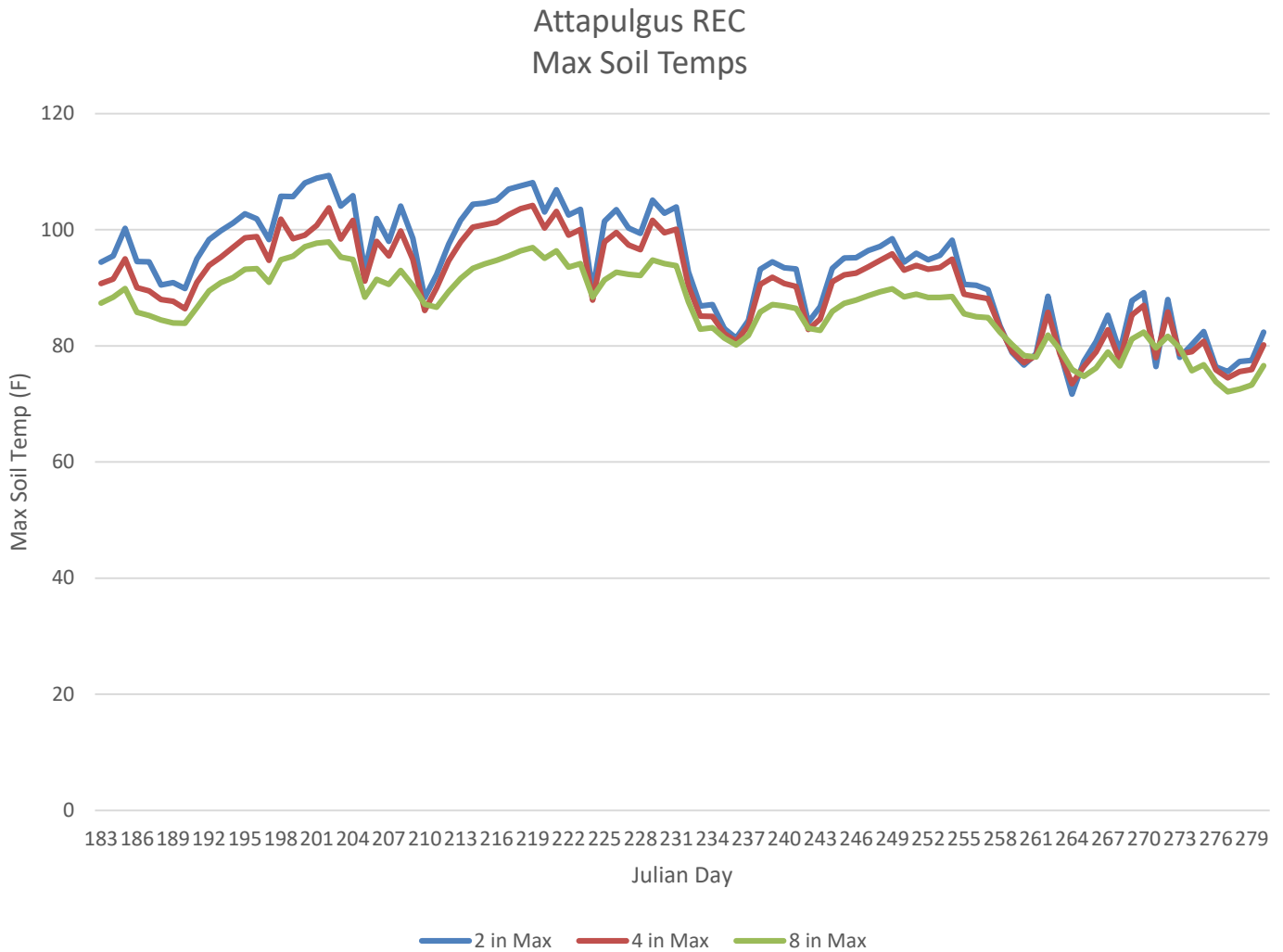


Soil Temps



We've had a request for soil temp data from this summer. Data shown is 2 in, 4 in and 8 in max soil temperatures for the period 7/1/20 to 10/6/20. Julian Day 146 = 7/1/20.

Soil Temps



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At the Park



Above: Using VRI to chemigate fungicide on the VRI peanut plots.
Below: Dr. Kemerait & Cale Cloud rating VRI peanut plots for disease.



At the Park



Above: Grad student Lorena Lacerda taking light infiltration readings in FF-N cotton. Below: Our “Camilla” and “Newton” lateral systems irrigating cotton and peanut plots.



At the Park



Above: Working on Lindsay Lateral VRI valves.
Below: Grad student Shelby Sangster sampling in the NLM cotton.



At the Park



Above: A bit of wind damage in the FF-N cotton from Hurricane Sally.
Below: Cale removing soil moisture probe from VRI peanuts.



At the Park



Above: Drone photo of BJ inverting peanuts in CLN transition rows.
Below: Marty Saylor updating Lindsay lateral VRI.



At the Park



Above: Calvin, BJ, Kyle and Mandy hand harvesting corn yields for Dr. Kemerait in his fungicide study.

Below: Proof that a persistent drip down a drop hose onto a sprinkler can create a nice algae-related mess!



At the Park



Above: Group 7 (left) and Group 5 (right) soybeans in FF-S study are at different levels of maturity.

Below: Group 7 soybeans loaded with pods.



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

[Precision technology requires better rural broadband](#)

[UGA Caes Ranked No. 2 U.S. College for AG Sciences by Niche](#)

[NASA Technology to Reveal Crop Health Insights for Agriculture Industry](#)

[The U.S. Drought Vulnerability Rankings Are in: How Does Your State Compare?](#)

[Trilogy Networks Joins Grand Farm to Provide Cloud-Based Computing for Precision Agriculture](#)

[Now is the Time of Year to Check Pivot Performance](#)

[Reinke, CropX Partner to Empower Producers](#)

[Stripling Family Foundation recognized with National Friend of Extension award](#)

[Choosing the right cover crop to protect the soil](#)

[Soybean market looks better, but where's it headed? \(A Southern view\)](#)

[Redbanded stink bug remains a threat to Alabama soybeans](#)

[Virtual format set for 2021 Beltwide Cotton Conferences](#)

[FFA Launches Initiative to Support Inclusion, Diversity and Equality in AG Education](#)

[Georgia Foundation for Ag preparing to launch Ga Mobile Ag Experience](#)

[Challenges loom as harvest season commences](#)

[How does a crop's environment shape a food's smell and taste?](#)

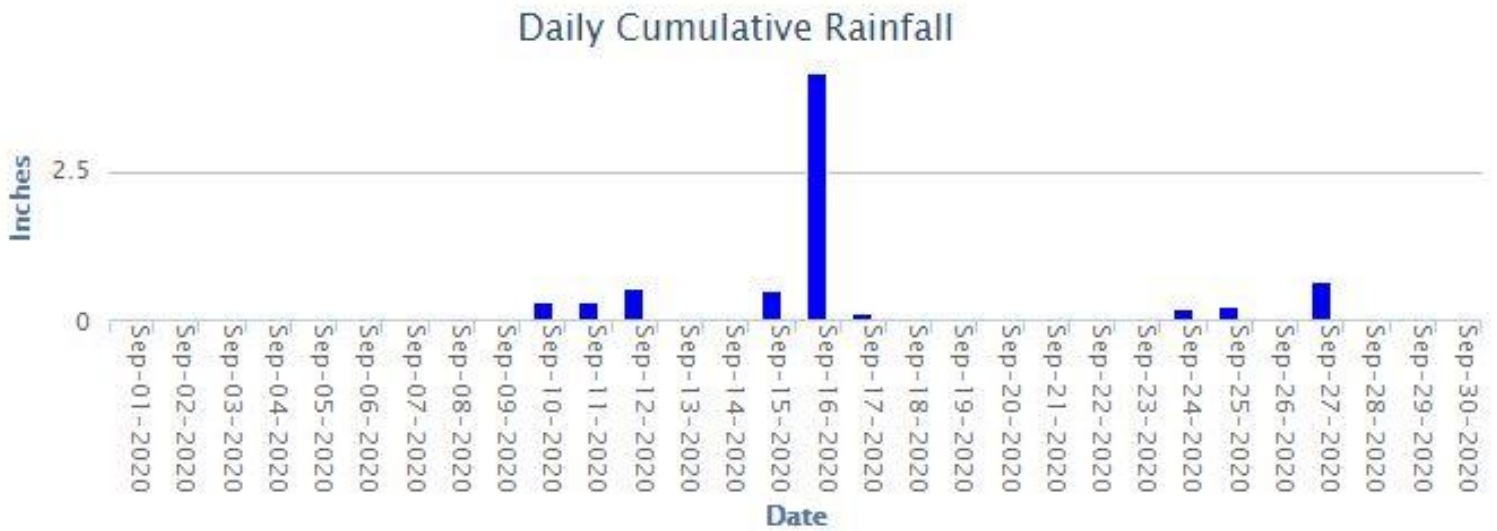
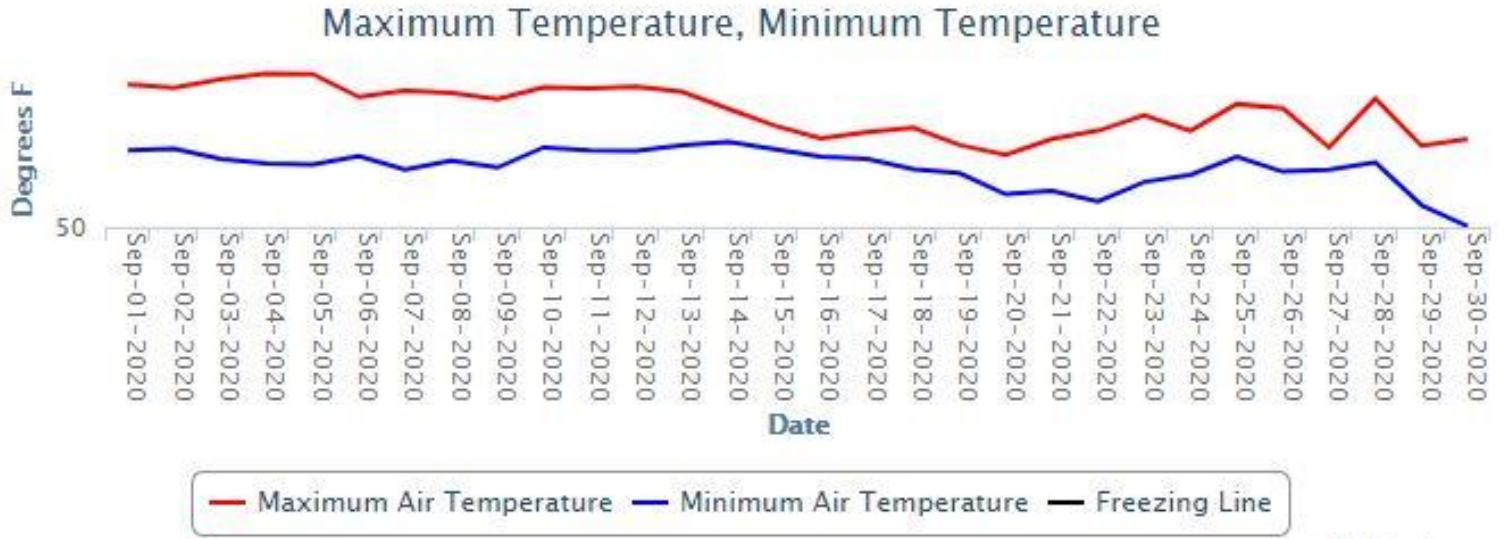
[USDA to Provide Additional Direct Assistance to Farmers and Ranchers Impacted by the Coronavirus](#)

Video / Podcast / Radio:

[Trying to Get Peanuts Harvested Before Next Possible Storm](#)

[Georgia Pecans: Late Management Pointers For A Big, Early Crop- Podcast](#)

SIRP Weather



For September, SIRP had 7.21 inches of rainfall, compared to 5.28 inches in August, 4.28 inches in July, and 2.18 inches in June. In the first 9 months of the year, we've had a total of 43.85 inches of rain.

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

Contact Information

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Trivia:

According to Greek mythology who was the first woman on earth?