

C.M. Stripling Irrigation Research Park

Monthly Newsletter

June 2021



Irrigating “Newton” lateral field.



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College of Agricultural &
Environmental Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

From the Superintendent

Calvin Perry

Like most of our neighboring farms, May was a busy month at the Park. In 2021, May was also a hot and dry month. Our high temps ranged from 94-72F and our lows ranged from 69-46F. We received only 2.1 inches of rain during 6 rainy days! We've been dry! (Long term averages: high 86.5F, low 61.5F, 3.58 inches rain over 7 rainy days).

With the lack of rainfall last month, we were quite busy irrigating corn. We also applied dry and liquid fertilizer (some by fertigation) as well as herbicides to corn plots, and prepped, fertilized and planted cotton, peanut and soybean plots. We also installed soil moisture sensors and did some sprinkler uniformity testing.

SIRP's BJ and Kyle have been working diligently to install a new 'research' boom system on our LeeAgra, Inc. "Spider" sprayer. This system, from R&D Sprayers (Opelousas, LA), provides a multi-boom, self-contained plot sprayer using compressed air and canisters (1 per boom). Our thanks to Dr. Bob Kemerait for providing the funding for this vital upgrade.

Speaking of new equipment, our PO was issued for a new 2-span lateral-move irrigation system to be installed in our "Access Road" field on the eastern side of the

Park. The hardware should be arriving in late June or early July. More on this later.

Visitors to the Park included Dr. Henry Sintim & crew, Dr. Bob Kemerait & crew, Dr. George Vellidis & crew, Dr. John Snider and grad student Devendra, Brian Hayes (Mitchell Co. ANR agent), Cale Cloud (Grady Co. ANR agent), David Hall (SE District Water Educator), Blaire Colvin (FMC), and Ward Black (Foothills Compost).

We were pleased to again host the monthly meeting of the Flint River Soil & Water Conservation District. This group continues to be a great partner and supporter of the Park. We think the District may continue to meet in our conference room for their monthly meetings.

SIRP was also pleased to host our first in-person training post-COVID. Cale Cloud, Brian Hayes, David Hall, and SIRP's BJ and Mandy provided 24 Georgia Department of Ag inspectors with hands-on training of various aspects of ag chemigation and fertigation. I hate I had to miss this event, but a darn kidney stone had me sidelined.

I participated in a virtual joint meeting today of the Upper Flint, Middle Chattahoochee and Lower Flint-Ochlocknee (LFO)

Regional Water Councils and heard from Mark Masters (Georgia Water Planning and Policy Center) about ag water demand forecasting. His group's data shows that currently there are 9216 center pivots in the LFO irrigating over 549,000 acres.

Finally, I'd like to introduce our Summer Extension Intern – Ms. Amy Deariso. Amy will be working with Mitchell Co. Extension and with us here at the Park. Amy is quite familiar with livestock so she is interested in learning more about row-crop agriculture. She's already quite a drone pilot. You can learn more about Amy on the next page.



Summer Extension Intern

Amy Deariso, 20, is the 2021 summer intern for us here at SIRP and Mitchell County Extension. She was raised on Luke Farm in Meigs, Ga, and is the sixth generation to be involved in the agriculture industry. Amy's family farm specializes as a cow-calf operation, producing hay as well. She showed livestock throughout her high school years, including cows, goats, and sheep. Her favorite animal to exhibit was, by far, a heifer calf.

This summer she will be shadowing our Extension Agent, Brian Hayes, while also working alongside many of our scientists here at Stripling Park. Her projects thus far consist of an Ultra-Late cotton trial, where she analyzes yield rates of cotton planted very late into the year. She also is testing a SmartIrrigation App for corn production. This app uses weather data, such as evapotranspiration and rainfall, to estimate when irrigation is needed.

Amy is currently a Senior at UGA on the Tifton campus, set to graduate in the Spring of 2022. She is majoring in Agricultural Education with an Extension Emphasis. Amy has plans of attending a master's program in ADSC or CRSS, as well. Her goal in life is to research and raise livestock at high production standards and rates, helping educate cattle producers in the areas of grazing and herd production.

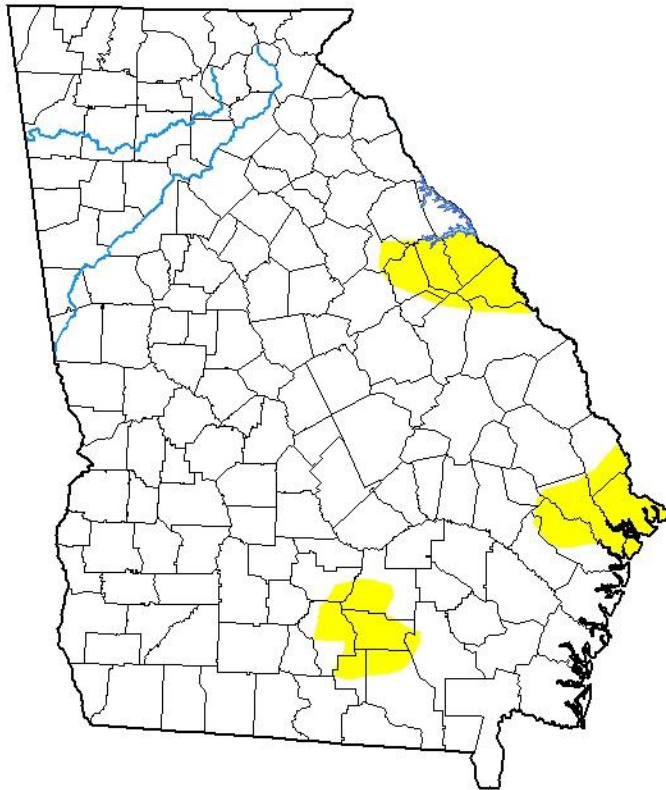
Welcome, Amy!



Drought Conditions

U.S. Drought Monitor Georgia

June 1, 2021
(Released Thursday, Jun. 3, 2021)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	93.23	6.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week <i>05-25-2021</i>	97.86	2.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago <i>03-02-2021</i>	99.43	0.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <i>12-29-2020</i>	65.78	34.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year <i>09-29-2020</i>	97.20	2.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago <i>06-02-2020</i>	97.58	2.42	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:

Brian Fuchs
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

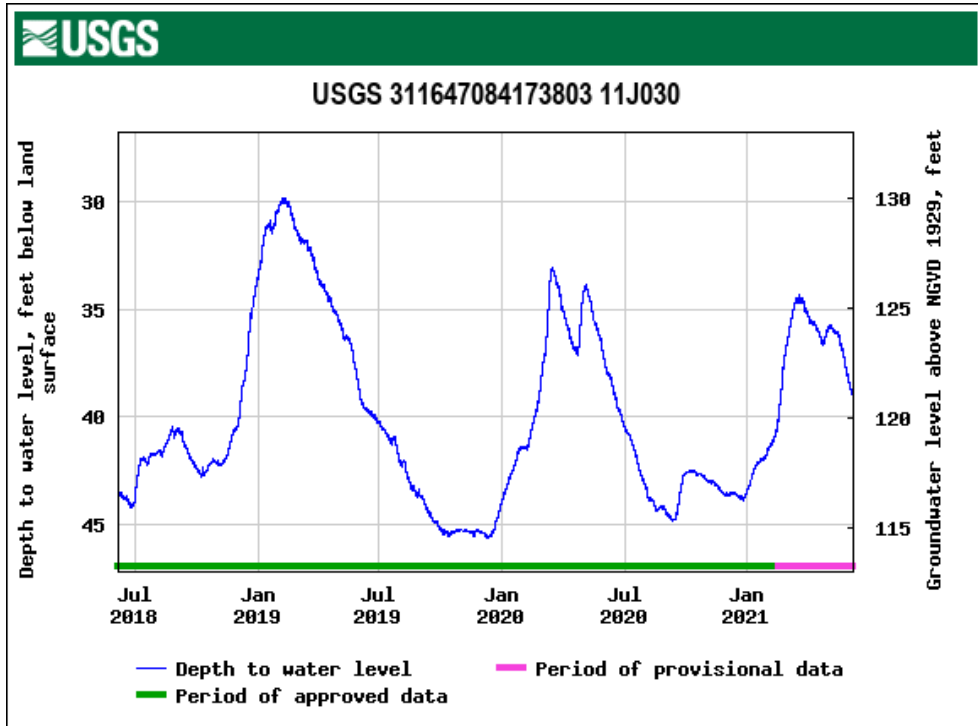
Drought Monitor map for the Georgia as of June 1. Georgia has only 6.77% of the area affected by “Abnormally Dry” conditions – essentially in 3 ‘pockets’. Surprisingly, most of south Georgia is not officially in “dry” status at the moment.

For more info:

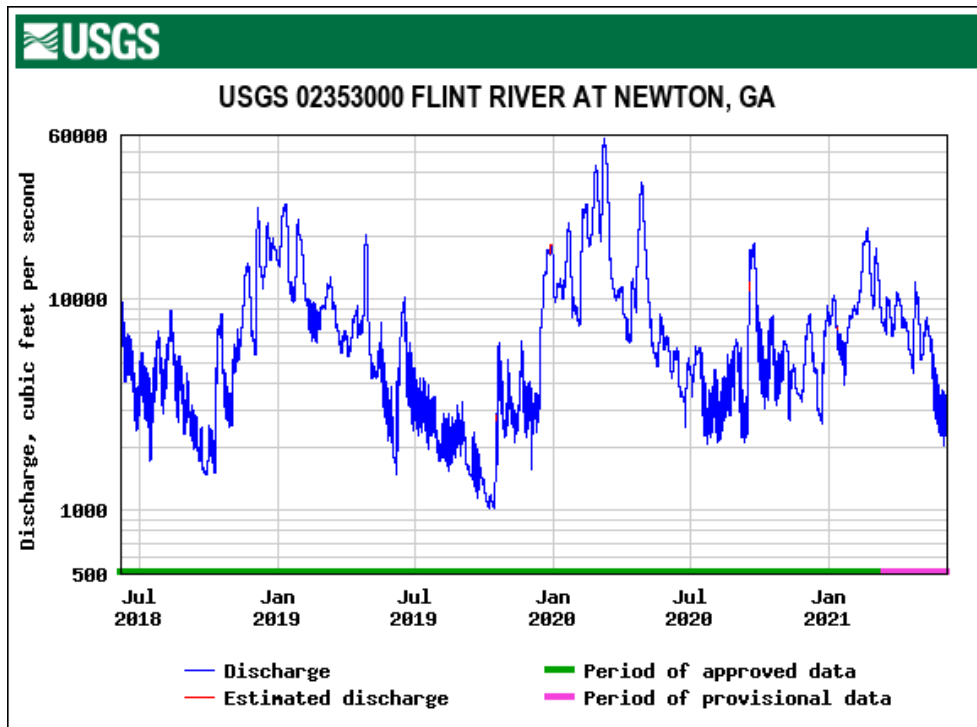
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?GA>



Water Resources



Above - USGS data for the past 3 years for a groundwater monitoring well here at SIRP in Floridan aquifer. Below - stream gage on the Flint River at Newton for past 3 years.



Events

Past events

May 11	FRSWCD meeting
May 25	Chemigation Training for Georgia Dept. of Ag Inspectors
May 31	Memorial Day
June 8	FRSWCD meeting

Upcoming events

July 4	Independence Day
July 13	FRSWCD meeting (Mitchell Co. Ag Center)
July 13 - 14	4H2O Camp
July 22	SIRP's Virtual Field Day
August 10	FRSWCD meeting



In The News

[Irrigating Corn To Reduce Stress and Make a Profit](#)

[Farmers & ranchers once again worried about WOTUS](#)

[UGA Extension recommends water-wise irrigation methods for the home landscape](#)

[What Gives Millennial Peanut Farmers Hope for the Future?](#)

[Heat can increase risk for certain diseases in peanut](#)

[High oleic soybean variety delivers to farmers' bottom line](#)

[Discussing North Carolina peanut stands and what growers are asking](#)

[A new generation brings new skills to farm industry](#)

[USDA embarks on adding resilience to food system](#)

[USDA Reports 73% Of Corn, 67% Of Soybeans Are Good to Excellent](#)

[Scout Emerging Corn for Insects; Don't Assume Protection](#)

[ARS Scientists Sample the Skies with the Suction Trap Network](#)

Video:

[Through the Eyes of a Farmer – Adam McLendon – Video](#)

[I Farm It Like That - Farmer D \(I Like It Parody\)](#)



At the Park

Right: Mandy fertigating Dr. Sintim's corn plots in the "Newton" lateral field.

Below: Matt & Morgan installing SSA's in the Newton lateral south field.



At the Park

Right: Installing CropX soil moisture probe in the “Camilla” lateral middle field.



Below: Planting cotton in the Access Rd. field.



At the Park

Right: Amy performing a uniformity test on the 2 lateral fields.



Below: B.J. strip tilling the Newton lateral middle field.



At the Park

Right & Below:
Ga. Dept. of Ag
visits SIRP for
Chemigation
training.



At the Park

Right: Kyle strip tilling ahead of B.J. planting.



Below: Calvin, B.J. & Kyle getting the planter set up to plant soybeans in the FF-North field.



Music Trivia

What singer has had a Billboard No. 1 hit in each of the last four decades?

Mariah Carey

Who was the first country artist to sell over 10 million copies of an album What was the album name?

Garth Brooks

What is the first name of the singer with the huge hit “Fallin”?

Alicia Keys

What was the first rock-n-roll song to hit #1 on the charts?

"Rock Around the Clock" by Bill Haley and His Comets.

Tamla Records is the former name of what current record label?

Motown Records

Ozzy Osbourne was the lead vocalist of which classic heavy metal band?

Black Sabbath

Sheryl Crow’s first big break came as a backup singer for which singer?

Michael Jackson

What singer holds the world record for most words in a hit single?

Eminem

What show fostered young talents like Justin Timberlake, Britney Spears, and Christina Aguilera before they became pop stars?

The Mickey Mouse Club

Which popular singer is referred to as “the Boss”?

Bruce Springsteen

The B-52’s & R.E.M. bands formed in which city?

Athens, GA

Ace Frehley is a member of which iconic rock band?

Kiss

Which singer is a godmother to Elton John’s two sons?

Lady Gaga

Who was the very first American Idol winner?

Kelly Clarkson

What rock icon was the founder of The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Long-haired Men?

David Bowie

Keith Moon and John Entwistle of The Who are said to have inspired the name of which other classic rock band?

Led Zeppelin

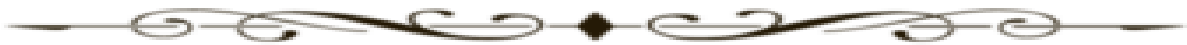
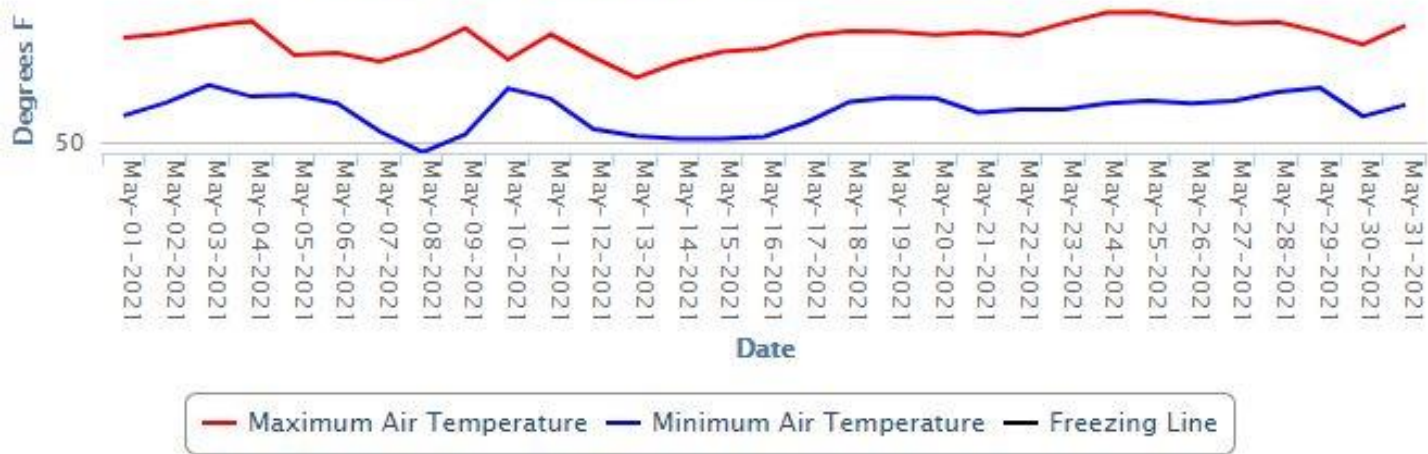
In The Big Lebowski, The Dude can’t stand which band?

The Eagles



SIRP Weather

Maximum Temperature, Minimum Temperature



Daily Cumulative Rainfall



For May, SIRP had 2.10 inches of rainfall, compared to 5.26 inches in April, 4.45 inches in March, 5.59 inches in February, and 6.28 inches in January.

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



Contact Information



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Trivia:

What is the world's biggest island?

Answer: Greenland

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