

C.M. Stripling Irrigation Research Park

Monthly Newsletter

March 2021



New front sign at SIRP.



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College of Agricultural &
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UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

From the Superintendent

Calvin Perry

Hello from a wet Stripling Park! 2021 has, so far, been chock full of “liquid sunshine”! During February, we received 5.59 inches over 15 rain days (long term average is 4.63 in / 8 days). Our high temps ranged from 83.6F to 48.2F and our lows ranged from 62.4F to a chilly 28.1F. The February long term avg high/low is 65.3F and 41.2F. So far in March, we’ve received an additional 2.45 inches.

Once again, our field work has been limited due to the rain. We had a few days of (mostly) sunshine last week and were able to get ‘burn down’ herbicides applied to our rye cover crop in areas where we will be planting corn studies later this month (if rain ceases) as well as over the area where we’ll be planting Dr. Riley’s vegetable and cotton white fly study and Dr. Kemerait’s peanut chemigation study area (it will be deep turned). Of course our sprayer needed a bit of attention after resting over our short winter. We also did some updating and cleaning up of autosteer swaths and A-B lines in our tractors’ GPS guidance systems. We were able to get some drone/overhead and ground-level photos of the rye for Dr. Sintim. We also used our autosteer systems to mark plot boundaries in the rye for his crew to soil sample by.

We attended (virtually) the UGA Extension peanut and pecan

production meetings. I also attended Dr. Corey Bryant’s “Understanding Corn Growth and Development”, the TriState Climate Learning Network meeting, Extension’s Landscape Management Seminar, the NIDIS Southeast Climate Monthly Webinar, CAES Chats with Dean Place, Jain Irrigation’s “What is Smart Irrigation” and “Why Telemetry is Needed for Great Water Management, and UF’s “Precision Ag and Irrigation” webinars.

Visitors to the Park included Dr. Henry Sintim, Corey Augusta (IT), Gary Rice, Mitchell Co. Administrator and Jerry Permenter, Assistant Administrator, Tim Gavin with Hydro-Rain, Wayne Smalley with Rivers Associates, and Perri Cooper and Lindsey Hayes with the Flint River Soil & Water Conservation District.

I attended the Lower Flint-Ochlockonee Regional Water Council meeting as a member and also made a presentation related to a seed grant from the council. As part of this seed grant, I coordinated a wrap-up meeting of the SW Ga AgWET project and the participating county extension agents. Water Agent Cale Cloud and Dr. George Vellidis also participated.

Cale and I did a virtual presentation to the Lee County Middle School STEM class on

“Georgia Agriculture and Irrigation.”

I should note that Cale is changing positions as he’s moving to Grady County as the Extension ANR agent in Cairo. We wish Cale the best. He has been a fixture at SIRP for the past 4 years.

For the first time, I listened to the oral arguments in the FL v GA case before the U.S. Supreme Court (water wars case). Each state had 30 minutes to make a statement and respond to questions from the justices. It was VERY interesting, to say the least.

If you drive by our office, you’ll notice we have new front sign panels. Our main campus sign shop did a great job for us.

Finally, take a look at the new video describing all the RECs around the state:

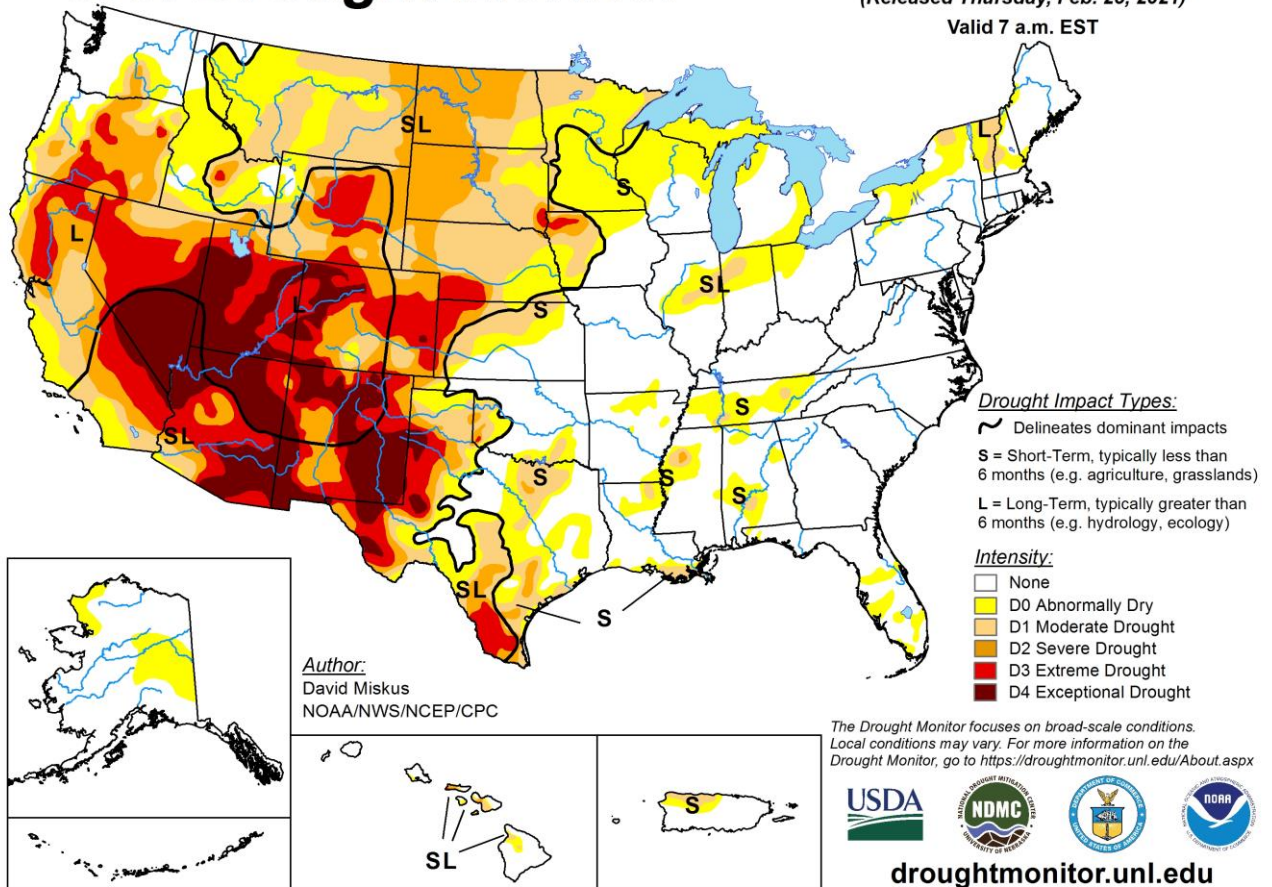
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gws_CDRoOOY



Drought Conditions

U.S. Drought Monitor

February 23, 2021
(Released Thursday, Feb. 25, 2021)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



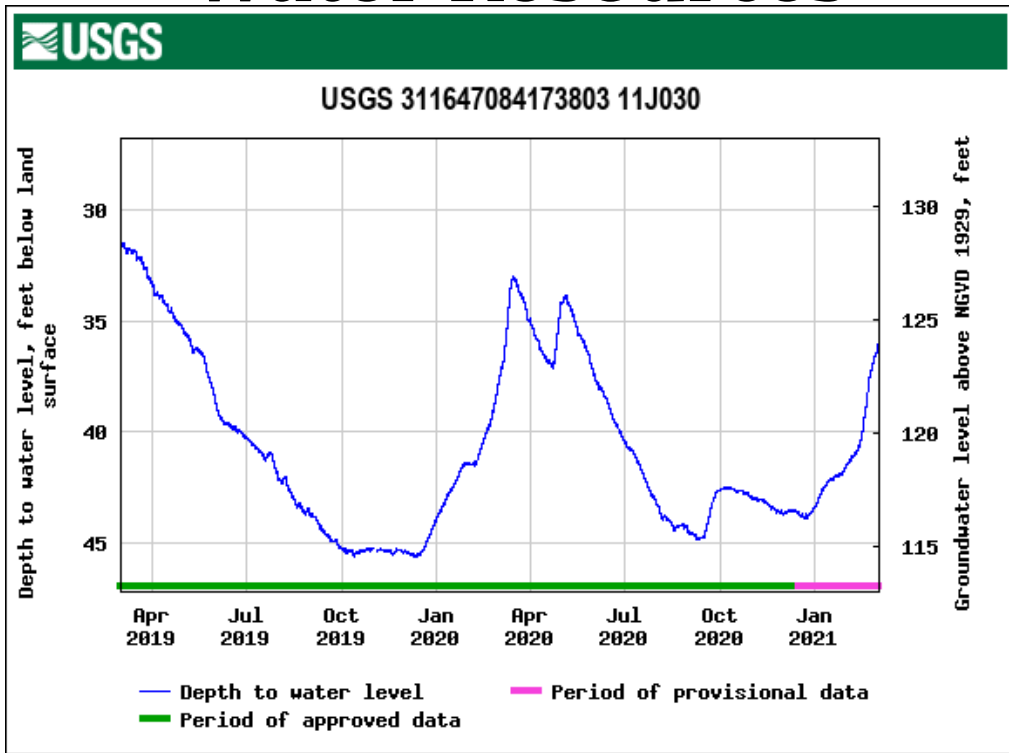
Drought Monitor map for the entire US as of Feb 23. Georgia has NO drought/dry areas as of this date. The same can't be said of the western US, even up into Oregon and Washington.

For more info:

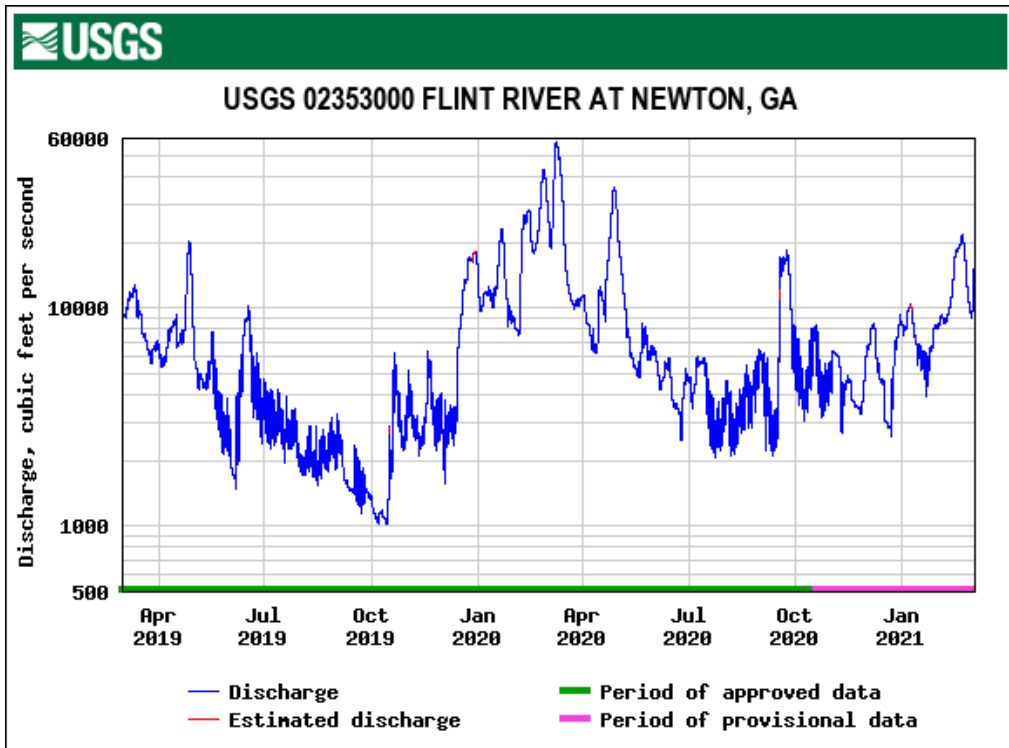
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?GA>



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.



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

[Early Weed Control A Must in Reducing Yield Loss in Field Corn](#)

[Georgia: Using Pesticides Wisely Training Continues Virtual Format in March, April](#)

[Georgia Pecans: Quality Loss Adjustment Program Documentation](#)

[Georgia agritourism poised for a rebound](#)

[Experts discuss the untapped potential for gene editing in agriculture](#)

[Healthy soils are life-giving black gold](#)

[Phosphate Prices Hit Highest Level Since 2012, As Nitrogen Prices Also Climb](#)

[Climate mitigation ‘designed by farmers for farmers’](#)

[Commodity Prices Strong, but Planting Decisions Still a Tricky Farm Puzzle](#)

[Louisiana farmer-leader advances national cotton sustainability strategy](#)

[FSU researchers develop battery component that uses compound from plants](#)

[Florida to Supreme Court: Ga’s excessive water use killing bay’s oysters](#)

[Your guide to the Florida-Georgia Supreme Court water case](#)

[Parched Oystermen, Farmers Face Off in High Court Water War](#)

[Florida And Georgia Head To The Supreme Court — Again — In Fight Over Water](#)

Video:

[Peterson Farm Bros & their cows dance in the Git Up Challenge](#)

[A Fork in the Road TV](#) (on GPB at 8:30 am Sat. & Sun.)

<https://georgiagrown.com/forkintheroad/>



At the Park

Right & Below:

Our friends with Hydro-Rain, Rivers Associates, Shoemaker Irrigation, and Wiregrass Pump along with our BJ and Kyle, working to install a B-hyve center pivot remote monitoring and control device.



At the Park

Right: Spraying burndown herbicide to terminate cover crop in the “VRI” field.

Below: Disking the same field 10 days later.



At the Park

Right: Drone photo of our “Newton” Lateral & Pine fields.



Below:
Marking plots in the “Access” field so soil samples can be taken by Dr. Sintim.



Brain Teasers

An IMPOSSIBLE Brain Teaser

This brain teaser is really not impossible, but it is tricky! Carefully read the directions in each line to make changes in the previous set of letters. Write the new letters in the blank after each instruction. The first two are completed for you.



1. Start with IMPOSSIBLE.

IMPOSSIBLE

2. Change the second vowel from the left to E.

IMPESSIBLE

3. If *occurrence* is spelled correctly, change the 2nd consonant to H. If it is not spelled correctly, change the last consonant to T.

4. Omit the letters, in order, that spell MESS.

5. Insert CABBAGE after the 1st vowel.

6. Change the 2nd I to A.

7. Move the first vowel so that is directly to the right of the 4th consonant.

8. If *mischievous* is spelled correctly, omit the first two letters. If it is spelled incorrectly, omit the double consonants.

9. Change the G to V.

10. Switch the places of the 2nd consonant and the 3rd consonant.

11. If *occasionally* is spelled correctly, omit the 2nd letter. If it is spelled incorrectly, add IN after the first letter.

12. Switch the order of the 1st and 2nd letters.

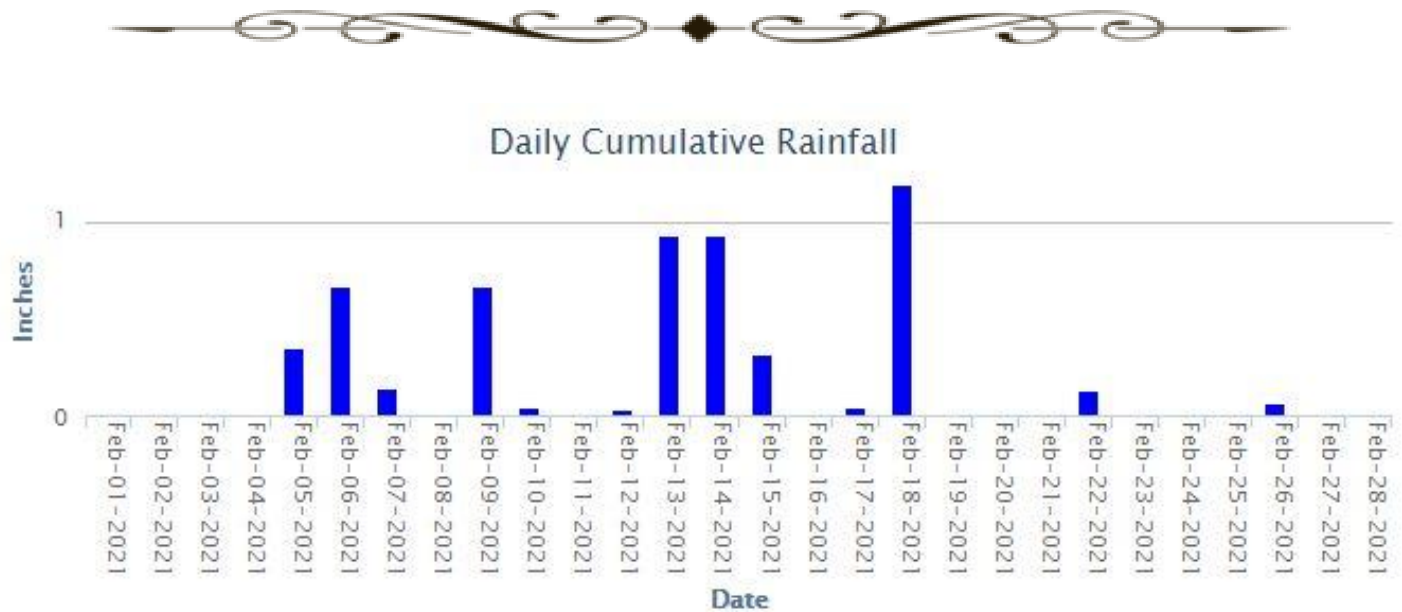
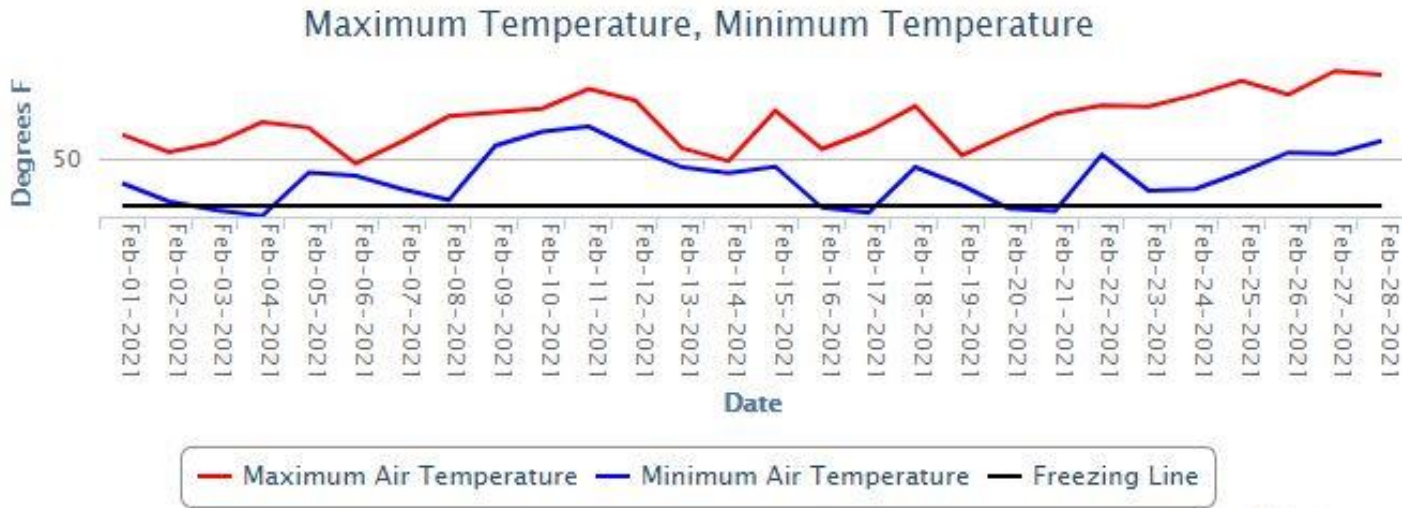
13. If your letters now form a correctly-spelled word, write them in the blank below. If not, review the directions to find any possible errors.

Solving this brain teaser is not IMPOSSIBLE. It is _____!

Answers: Achievable



SIRP Weather



For February, SIRP had 5.59 inches of rainfall, compared to 6.28 inches in January, 5.05 inches in December and 1.46 inches in November.

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



Contact Information



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Trivia:

Which mammal has no vocal cords?

Answer: Giraffe

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