C.M. Stripling Irrigation Research Park

Monthly Newsletter May 2021

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Dean Nick Place (in red cap) visits SIRP.
April did bring a few showers of rain to the Park as we received 5.26 inches over 8 rainy days. Our daily temps spanned quite a range with highs between 91°F and 60°F and lows ranging from 33°F to 65°F. More on weather data on the next page.

Our field activities included applying burn-down herbicide to a rye cover crop, much strip-tillage, plot flagging, prep/plant corn for Dr. Kemerait (sentinel plots and fungicide plots), prep/plant soybean sentinel plots for Dr. Kemerait, prep/plant cotton, pumpkin, collards and southern peas for Dr. Riley’s white fly study, and assisting scientists and their staff with sensor installations. Maintenance, setup and calibration of the equipment used is always part of the process. We also worked on installing new pressure regulators, VRI valves and sprinklers on 2 of our lateral-move systems, tested zones with our Lindsay VRI system, and repaired some SDI drip leaks.

I attended (virtually) three UGA ‘events’ - “CAES Chats with Research” featuring Drs. Allen Moore and Harald Scherm plus Superintendent Eric Elsner; the Intern Supervisor Update; and our monthly REC superintendent meeting. I also caught Jain Irrigation’s “Dosatron” and “How to Select the Right Drip Tape for Your Crop” sessions.

Visitors to the Park included Dr. John Snider and grad student Devendra Chalise; Dr. Bob Kemerait along with Caleb Clements, David Morris, and Kasey Herrington; Dr. George Vellidis’ team Matt Gruver, Shelby Sangster, and Morgan Sysskind; Dr. David Riley’s team Charles Gruver and grad student Jermaine Perier; Rad Yager and Brad Mitchell with Certified Ag Resources; Hunter Brannon with Cascade Earth Sciences; Brad Baker with Georgia Dept of Ag; Andy Murdock and Marty Saylor with Lindsay Irrigation and Jason Bromlow with Lovett SE; Dr. Glen Harris; and Wayne Smalley with Rivers Associates and Greg Stewart with B-Hyve. The Flint River Soil & Water Conservation District held their April meeting in our conference room.

As noted on our front page, we were very pleased to host Dr. Nick Place, Dean and Director of UGA’s College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences as of January 1. Dean Place came to UGA/CAES by way of the University of Florida where he served as dean and director of the Florida Cooperative Extension Service. I gave Dean Place a tour of the Stripling Park and then provided refreshments and a mini-round table discussion with Murray Campbell, Marty McLendon, and Charles Stripling from the SIRP Advisory Committee, Perri Cooper with the Flint River Soil & Water Conservation District, and Brian Hayes with Mitchell County Extension. We had a great visit, answered numerous questions, and look forward to having Dean Place visit SIRP often in the future!
A recent conversation with Lanier Jordan, ANR agent in Baker Co., got me thinking about weather data as it MAY relate to some issues farmers have been having with their young plants, especially cotton and corn. I went to the UGA weather network website and pulled data (Mar 1 to May 12) from the station here at SIRP. The website is [http://georgiaweather.net](http://georgiaweather.net).

You may find it interesting to know that GDDs (base temp 65F) for Mar 1 to May 12 are:

- 2021: 224
- 2020: 308
- 2019: 284
- 2018: 173
Drought Monitor map for the Georgia as of May 4. Georgia has 10% of the area affected by “Abnormally Dry” conditions – SW of metro Atlanta and in the greater Augusta area. South Georgia is not in dry status at the moment.

For more info:

https://www.drought.gov/states/georgia
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 13</td>
<td>FRSWCD meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>Dean Place visit</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>FRSWCD meeting</td>
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### Upcoming events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 25</td>
<td>Chemigation Training for Georgia Dept. of Ag Inspectors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 31</td>
<td>Memorial Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 13 - 14</td>
<td>4H2O Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 22</td>
<td>SIRP’s Virtual Field Day</td>
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In The News

Study Reports 1,000 Acre Farmer Can Lose $103k Annually from Irrigation Issues

2021 Pecan Nut Casebearer Monitoring

Pecans: Are Trees Slow Developing Foliage, Flowers This Year?

Peanuts: Planting Season Is Thrips Season

Scientists propose improvements to precision crop irrigation

They Plant Cover Crops While Fertilizing Fields

AFBF Joins New Community-Based Effort to Improve Broadband Connectivity

Some South Georgia farmers face harvest loss following weekend storms

Tech collaboration to support sustainable ag initiatives

Needed Rain Brings High Winds, Hail and some Flooding

Bipartisan Growing Climate Solutions Act takes farmer focus

White House releases new details on 30×30 conservation plan

South Carolina farmer tripled soil’s organic matter with cover crops

Video:

FFA advisor gets national recognition on ABC’s ‘Live with Kelly & Ryan’
At the Park

Right: Dr. Kemerait rating corn plots.

Below: Strip tilling in the Camilla lateral north field.
At the Park

Right & Below: Dr. Henry Sintim & crew mixing dry fertilizer & applying to his crop plots.
At the Park

Right: An insect trap (that’s fallen over) in grad student Jermain Perier’s white fly study.

Below: Irrigating Camilla lateral corn.
At the Park

Right: Dr. Sintim’s grad student Ben Agyei mixing liquid fertilizer for corn crop.

Below: B.J. applying liquid fertilizer on Henry Sintim’s corn crop.
At the Park

Right: Corn coming up in the Newton lateral field.

Below: Planting Dr. Snider’s cotton in the Camilla lateral & FF-South fields.
Did you know... ???

- Grapes light on fire in the microwave.
- The 1939 novel Gadsby is the longest book ever published that doesn't contain the letter 'e.'
- Lobsters have clear blood.
- The longest place name in the world is 85 letters long. Taumatawhakatangihangakoauuatamateaturipukakapikimaungahoronukupokaiwhenuakitanatahu is in New Zealand.
- There was a prehistoric dragonfly that's wings spanned more than two feet.
- Bubble wrap was originally invented as wallpaper.
- Santa Claus was given an official pilot’s license in 1927.
- Einstein's brain was stolen when he died.
- A single, nearly black Densuke watermelon once sold for $6,125. It is grown on the island of Hokkaido, Japan.
- Scientists made a "nanoguitar" the size of a human blood cell.
- Antarctica is covered in a sheet of ice that's 7,000 feet thick.
- "Arachibutyrophobia" is the fear of peanut butter sticking to the roof of your mouth.
- In 1988, crowds at one LSU football game once cheered so loudly that it registered as an earthquake on a local seismograph. The game was against Auburn.
- The 10th largest pyramid in the world is a Bass Pro Shops in Memphis, Tennessee.
- A lifeboat drill was canceled the morning of the Titanic tragedy.
- There’s a Starbucks cup in every shot in the movie Fight Club.
- Birds in Minnesota get drunk off of berries.
- Lady Liberty wears a size 879 shoe.
- It's illegal to own just one guinea pig in Switzerland.
- There's a basketball court in the U.S. Supreme Court building.
- There are 118 ridges on the side of a dime.
- Cheesemakers are studying if music can change the taste of cheese.
- It only takes six minutes for alcohol to affect your brain.
- Daniel Radcliffe went through nearly 70 wands and 160 pairs of glasses during the making of the Harry Potter films.
- "Strengths" is the longest word in the English language with one vowel.
- It would cost $18.3 million to make a replica Darth Vader suit.
- Shark attacks threaten the internet. Fiber optic cables run across the ocean floor from US to Europe & Japan.
- "Q" is the only letter that doesn't appear in any U.S. state name.
- You can get your eyeballs tattooed.
For April, SIRP had 5.26 inches of rainfall, compared to 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:
Before the Beatles were formed, John Lennon, Paul McCartney and George Harrison were originally members of which group?

Answer: The Quarrymen

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