

C.M. Stripling Irrigation Research Park

Monthly Newsletter

May 2021



Dean Nick Place (in red cap) visits SIRP.



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College of Agricultural &
Environmental Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

From the Superintendent

Calvin Perry

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 91F and 60F and lows ranging from 33F to 65F. More on weather data on the next page.

Our field activities included applying burn-down herbicide to 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 Syskind; 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 Stewert 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!

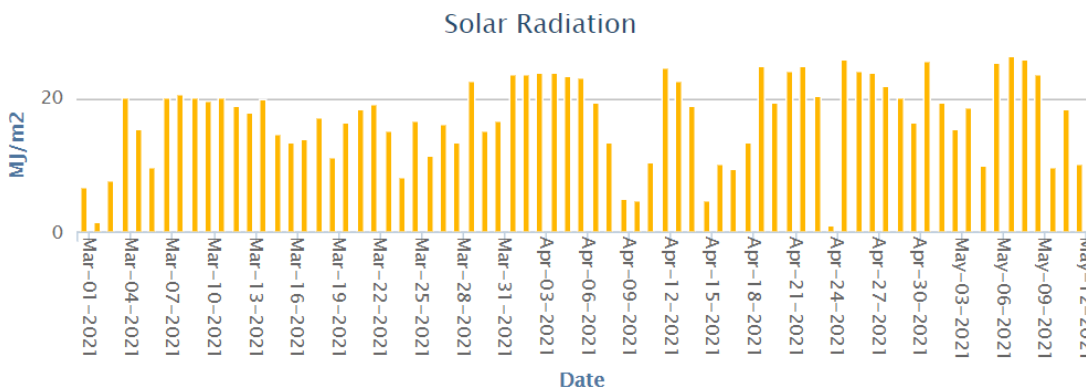
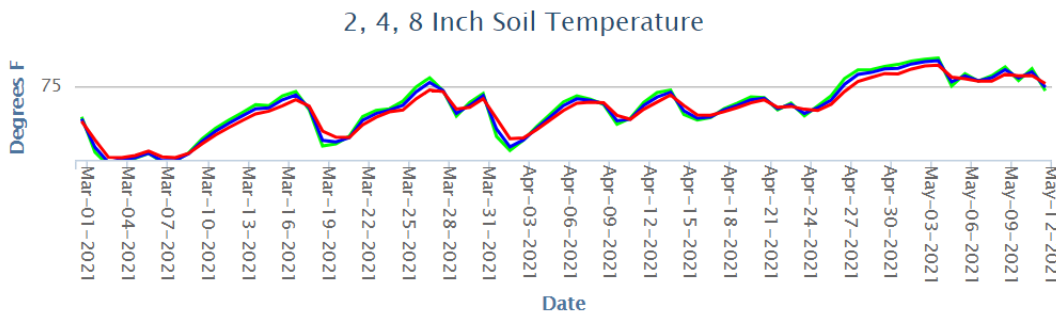
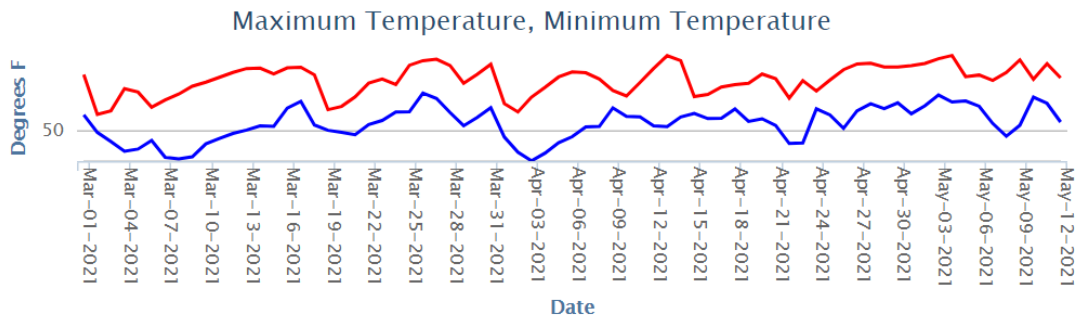


Weather Data

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>.

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 Conditions

Current U.S. Drought Monitor Conditions for Georgia

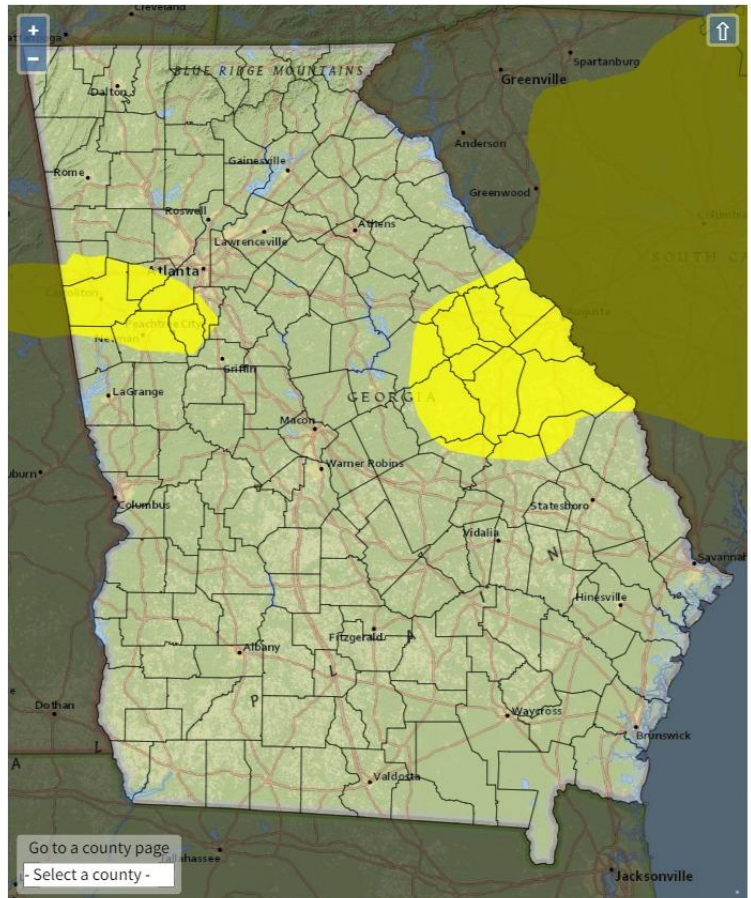
Current

The U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) is updated each Thursday to show the location and intensity of drought across the country. This map shows drought conditions across Georgia using a five-category system, from Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions to Exceptional Drought (D4). The USDM is a joint effort of the National Drought Mitigation Center, USDA, and NOAA. [Learn more.](#)

The following state-specific drought impacts were compiled by the National Drought Mitigation Center. While these impacts are not exhaustive, they can help provide a clearer picture of drought in Georgia.

	D0 - Abnormally Dry <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Topsoil moisture decreases; planting is delayed• Fire risk is elevated	10.0% of GA
	D1 - Moderate Drought <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crops are vulnerable; soil moisture is low• Gardens and lawns require more water• Stream and pond levels are lower; water temperatures increase	0% of GA
	D2 - Severe Drought <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crops are stressed; hay yield is low; producers feed cattle early; planting is delayed; soil is hard; conditions are dustier than usual• Small streams dry up; rivers are very low• Tree mortality begins	0% of GA
	D3 - Extreme Drought <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Majority of hay/grazing is lost; agriculture suffers economic losses• Outdoor burn bans are implemented• Rivers and livestock ponds are dry; wells are drying up; mandatory water conservation is implemented	0% of GA
	D4 - Exceptional Drought <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agricultural economy is severely impacted• Fire risk is high; fire activity increases• Tree mortality is high; army worm outbreaks occur	0% of GA

Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA



Updates Weekly - 05/04/21

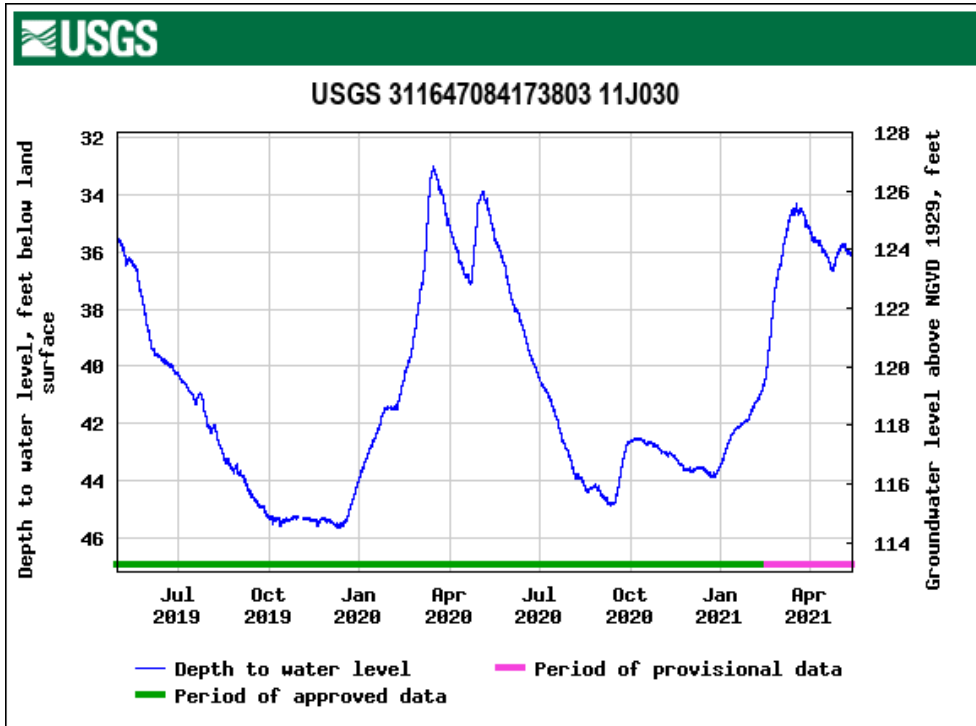
Drought Monitor map for the Georgia as of May 4. Georgia has 10% of the area affected by “Abnormally Dry” conditions – SW of metro Atlanta and in the greater Augusta area. South Georgia is not in dry status at the moment.

For more info:

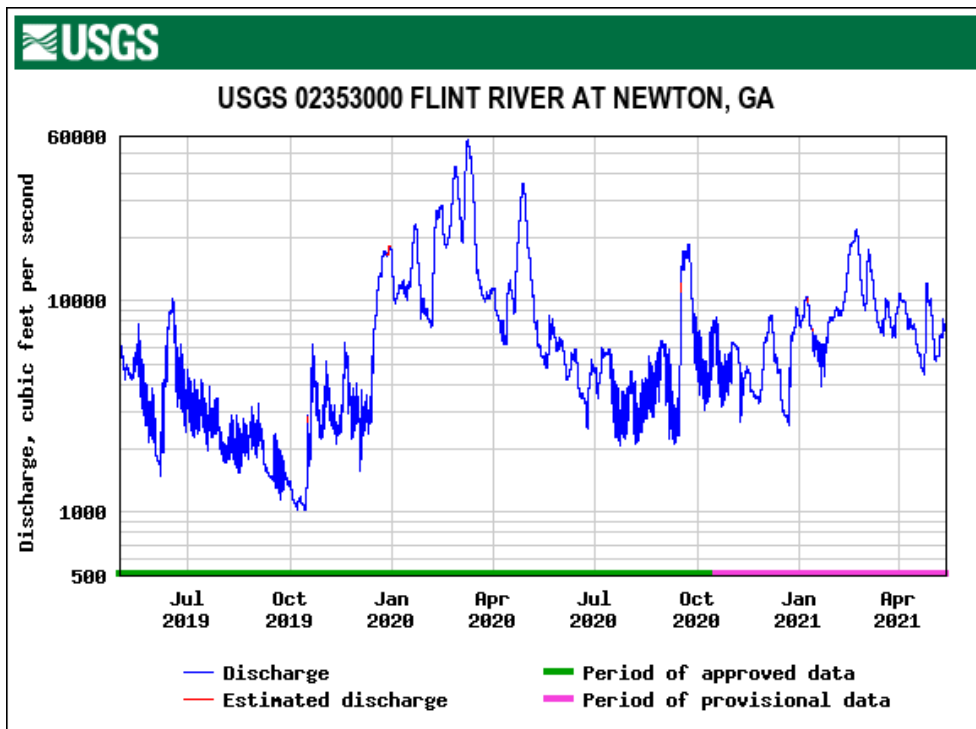
<https://www.drought.gov/states/georgia>



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

April 13	FRSWCD meeting
April 29	Dean Place visit
May 11	FRSWCD meeting

Upcoming events

May 25	Chemigation Training for Georgia Dept. of Ag Inspectors
May 31	Memorial Day
July 13 - 14	4H2O Camp
July 22	SIRP's Virtual Field Day



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 30x30 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.



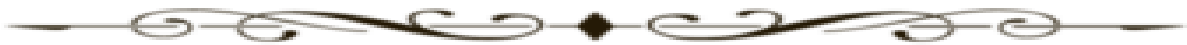
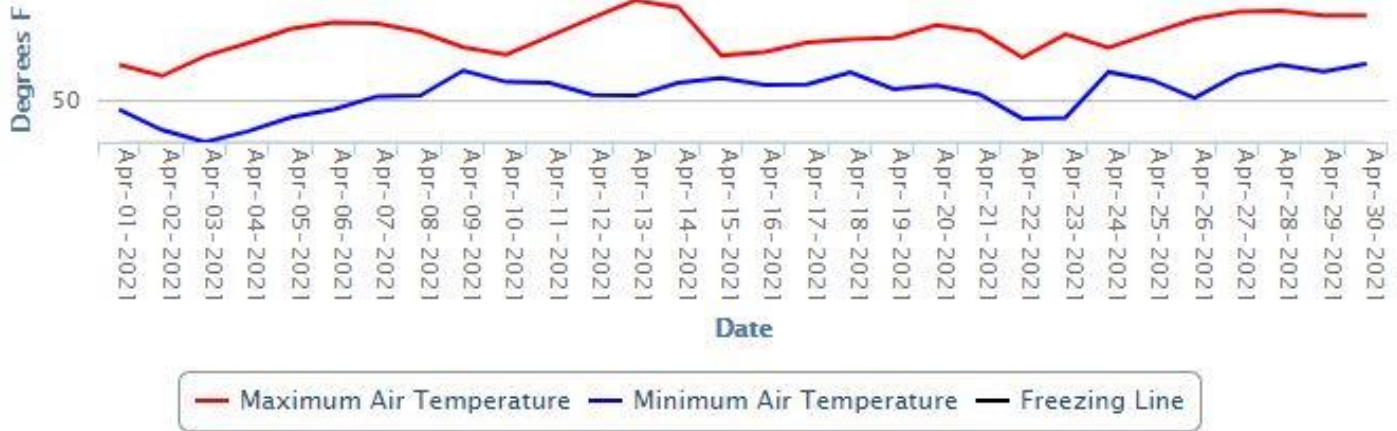
Did you know... ???

- 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. Taumatawhakatangihangakoauauotamateaturipukakapikimaungahoronukupokaiwhenuakitanatahu 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.

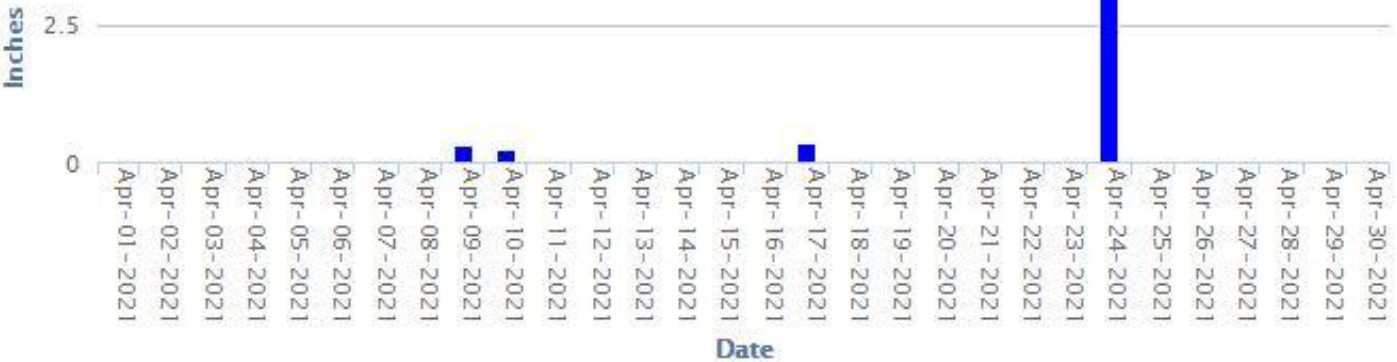


SIRP Weather

Maximum Temperature, Minimum Temperature



Daily Cumulative Rainfall



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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