

C.M. Stripling Irrigation Research Park

Monthly Newsletter

November 2021



Soil moisture sensors in the cotton field...



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College of Agricultural &
Environmental Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

From the Superintendent

Calvin Perry

October at SIRP lived up to its ranking as historically the driest month of the year. We received 3.85 inches of rainfall over 9 rainy days. Our long term average is 2.23 inches over 5 rainy days. Our high temps ranged from 90F to 65F and our lows ranged from 70F to a chilly 43F. The long term average high temp is 81F and low is 55F.

It was good that we had so little rain as we were very busy in October with harvesting research crop plots. We harvested peanut plots for Drs. Kemerait, Harris, Sintim, and Vellidis and for Brian Hayes, local extension agent. We applied defoliants to cotton for Dr. Sintim and harvested cotton for Drs. Kemerait, Porter, Sintim, Snider, and Vellidis. (Yes, I was in the picker basket helping 'bag' plot yields). We harvested soybean border rows for Dr. Vellidis. We also continued to manage cotton, peas, pumpkins and collards for grad student Jermaine.

Our forestry consultant had a crew apply herbicide over the areas where we harvested pine trees last spring. We'll be re-planting 'Slash' pine

seedlings this winter. (I will NOT be superintendent at SIRP when those mature!)

Visitors to the Park in October included the usual shady characters, including Dr. Bob Kemerait & crew, Dr. George Vellidis and crew, Dr. Wes Porter's crew, Dr. Henry Sintim and crew, Dr. John Snider and crew, and Brian Hayes (Mitchell Co. ANR agent). Elyna Grapstein, MLA grad student from UGA also visited last month.

We also had a visit from Wayne Smalley (Rivers Associates) and Tim Gavin (Hydro Rain). We have been evaluating the Hydro Rain "B-hyve Ag" center pivot remote monitoring and control system for most of '21. Wayne and Tim upgraded the modem unit in our system and did some other updating while they were here. As many of you know, we enjoy evaluating new technologies that can potentially help our growers.

We got to meet our new UGA Extension vegetable specialist, Ted McAvoy, as he and agent Brian Hayes were in the area after checking on

some sweet corn issues. We look forward to working with Ted in the future.

We were pleased to again host the monthly meeting of the Flint River Soil & Water Conservation District.

Speaking of meetings, Hugh Nall, president of Southern Ag Carriers, used our conference room to host a meeting with ag-related folks. His surprise guest at the meeting was the legendary former UGA running back Herschel Walker! Mr. Nall was an offensive lineman that blocked for Hershel back in the day.

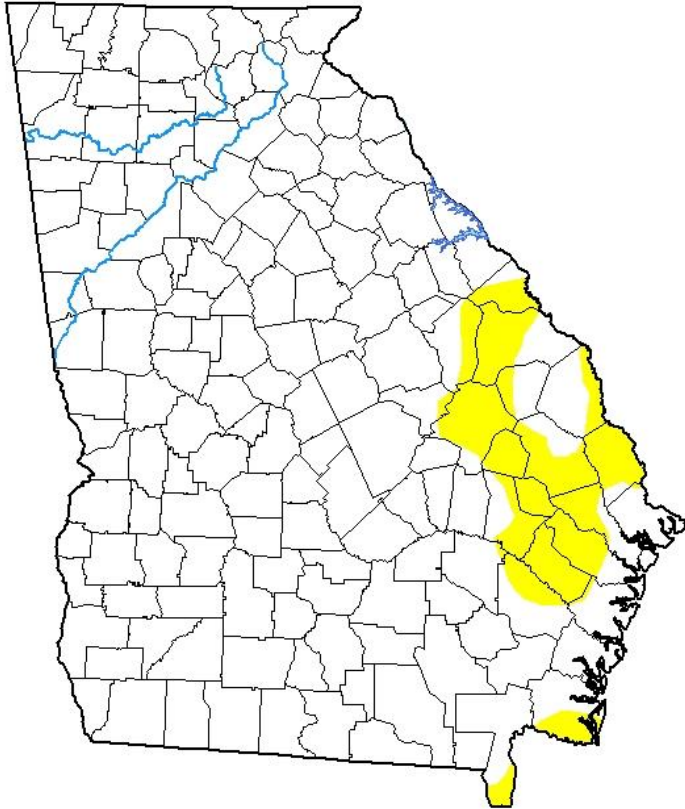
Even though COVID conditions have limited meetings, tours, and visitors to the Park, I'm pleased to report that we have had 560 visitors as of the end of October. Not too shabby!



Drought Conditions

U.S. Drought Monitor Georgia

November 2, 2021
(Released Thursday, Nov. 4, 2021)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	91.16	8.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 10-26-2021	85.30	14.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 08-03-2021	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 12-29-2020	65.78	34.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-28-2021	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 11-03-2020	87.31	12.69	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>

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droughtmonitor.unl.edu

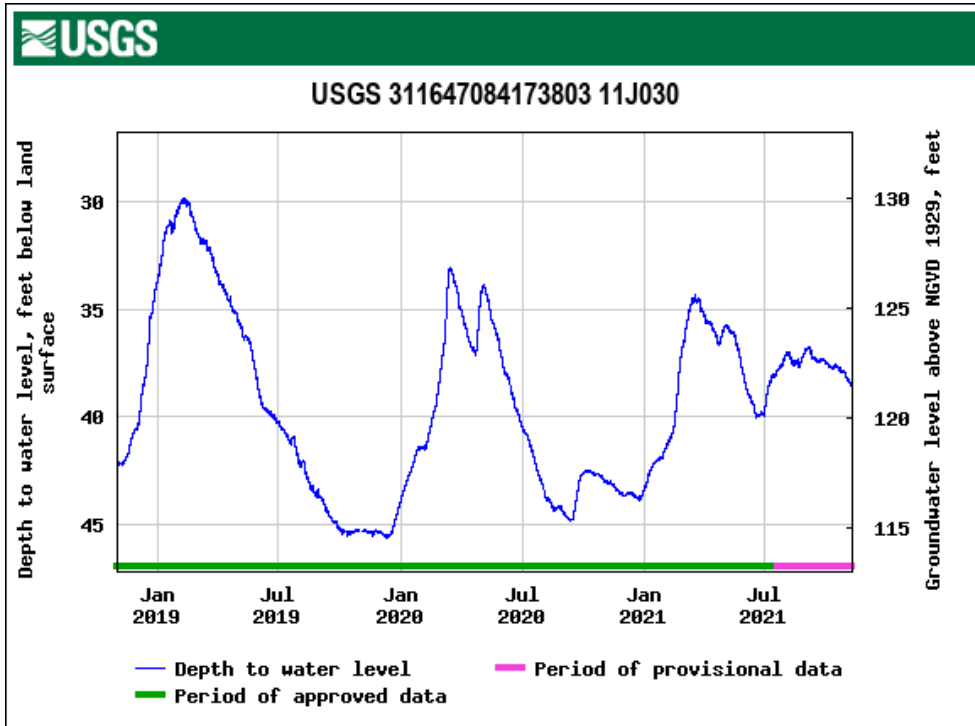
Drought Monitor map for the state of Georgia as of November 2. Currently, Georgia has 8.84% of its area in “Abnormally Dry” conditions. The dry conditions are in east central and southeast sections of the state.

For more info:

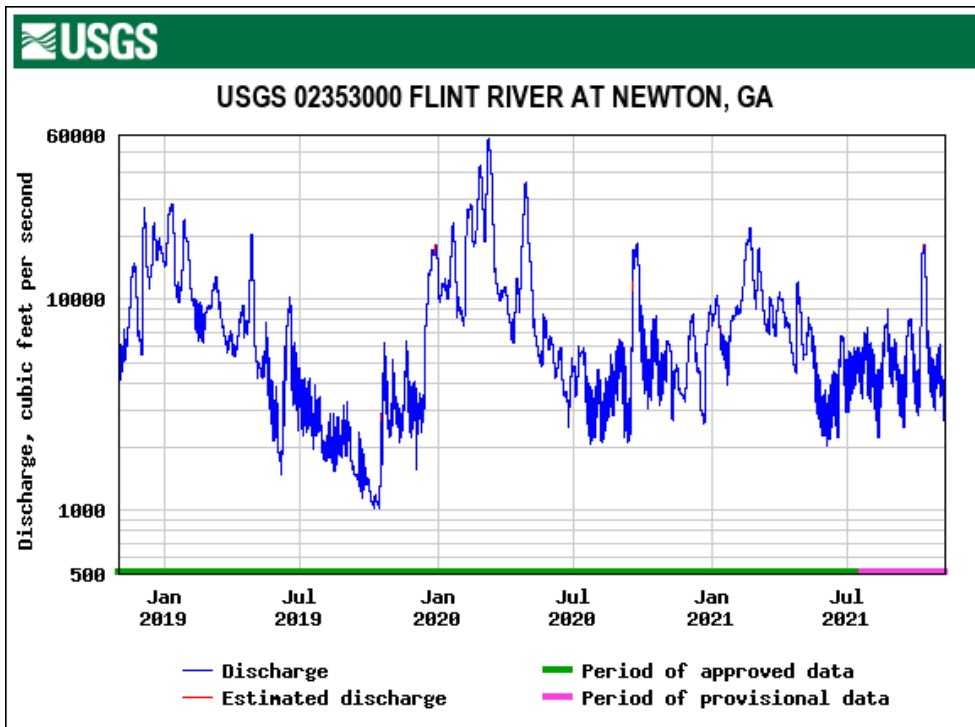
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?GA>



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

October 7-17	Georgia National Fair (Perry, GA)
October 12	FRSWCD meeting
October 19–21	Sunbelt Ag Expo (Moultrie, GA)
November 9	FRSWCD meeting

Upcoming events

December 14	FRSWCD meeting



In The News

[CAES combines research and Extension efforts to develop climate solutions](#)

[Mitchell County Extension honored for water conservation, 4-H2O Camp](#)

[UC Davis to lead groundwater & irrigation study](#)

[Strip Tillage Promotes Soil Health](#)

[Weed Wars: Laser Beam Technology May Fundamentally Change Farming](#)

[Waiting on N may help with rising costs](#)

[Peanut breeding requires vigorous patience](#)

[Not taking Extension or on-farm cooperation for granted](#)

[Researchers design sensors to rapidly detect plant hormones](#)

[This App Wants to Change the Way Puerto Rico Eats](#)

[He Plants, Harvests Two Crops From The Same field](#)

[Infrastructure Plan to Spur Growth in Rural America](#)

[Cotton and Peanut Crops](#)

[US Agriculture Exports](#)

[Georgia: Soybean Green Stem – What Can You Do?](#)

Videos:

[Georgia Peanuts: Through the Eyes of a Farmer – Ralph Sandeford – Video](#)



At the Park

Right & Below:
Dr. Snider's crew
harvesting &
weighing cotton
plots.



At the Park

Right & Below:
B.J. harvesting
soybeans in
Front 4 North.



At the Park

Right & Below:
Dr. Vellidis & crew
harvesting & bagging
peanuts in Newton
lateral field.



At the Park

Right: Spreading gypsum on VRI peanuts.



Below: Loading cotton modules, ready to go to the gin.



At the Park

Right: Bagging
Brian Hayes' cotton
plots.

Below: Hand
picking Pima cotton
for Dr. Kemerait.



At the Park

Right & Below:
Lee Co. Middle
School's STEM
class tours SIRP.



At the Park

Right: Drone photo of Stripling Park.

Below: Look who stopped by to visit SIRP... Herschel Walker.



The University of Georgia
C. M. Stripling Irrigation Research Park
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences



Thanksgiving Fun Facts & Trivia

It took 66 days for the Mayflower to travel across the Atlantic Ocean. There were 101 men, women, and children on board.

Native Americans and Colonists didn't actually have turkey during their Thanksgiving feast. The Wampanoag tribe reportedly brought deer to the celebration that added to the swan, seal, lobsters, and other seafood enjoyed during the feast.

The first national Thanksgiving in the United States was proclaimed by the Continental Congress in 1777.

Sarah Josepha Hale, editor of a popular women's magazine, began a campaign in 1827 to make Thanksgiving a national holiday. She also wrote 'Mary Had a Little Lamb'.

Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade began in 1924 and is 2.5 miles long. Four hundred Macy employees marched from Convent Ave to 145th street in New York City with animals from the Central Park Zoo.

The first-ever Thanksgiving parade balloons were made by the Good Housekeeping illustrator, Tony Sarg. He made the balloon floats that came to life in the 1927 parade.

The first TV Thanksgiving dinners were inspired by a mix-up. A Swanson employee accidentally ordered 260 tons of turkeys in 1953. A salesman told them they should package it onto aluminum trays with sides similar to airline meals. The dinner had turkey, cornbread dressing, peas and carrots, mashed potatoes, and "apple cranberry cake cobbler." Hence, the TV dinner was born.

According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the heaviest turkey weighed 86 pounds.

Thanksgiving Day is the busiest travel day of the year.

Jingle Bells was originally a Thanksgiving song composed for children to sing in a Boston Sunday School celebration.

Turkey has more protein than chicken or beef.

Turkeys will have 3,500 feathers at maturity.

What do you call the baggy skin on male turkeys' necks? Snood

Which tradition brings good luck at Thanksgiving? Breaking the wishbone

Which balloon was first flown at Thanksgiving? Felix the cat

Which comic character has made the most appearances at Thanksgiving parades? Snoopy

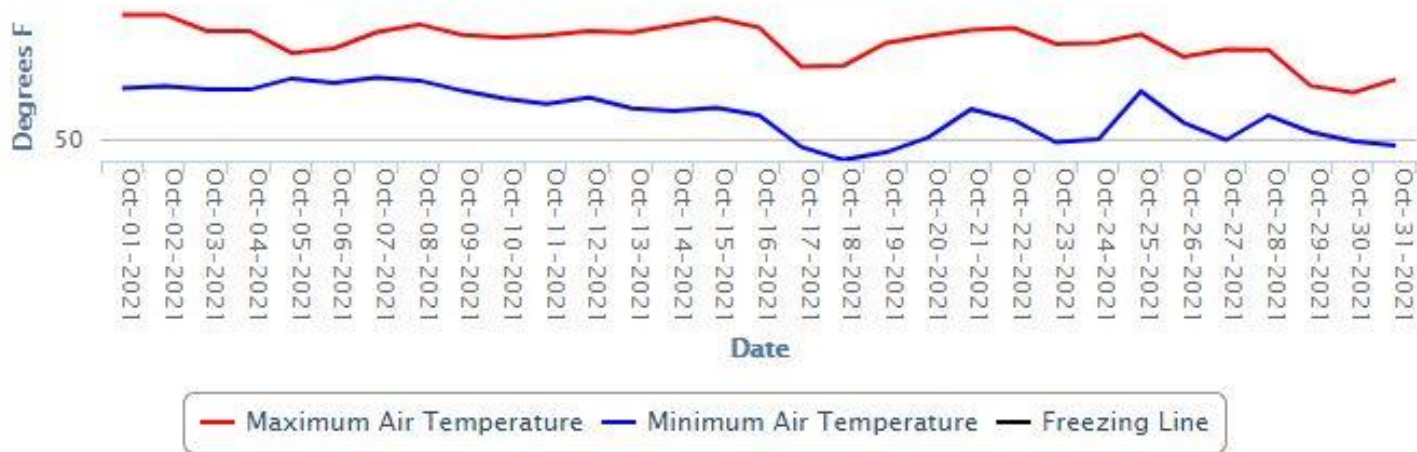
What did the Wampanoag tribe teach the Pilgrims? Land cultivation

How long did the first Thanksgiving feast last? Three days

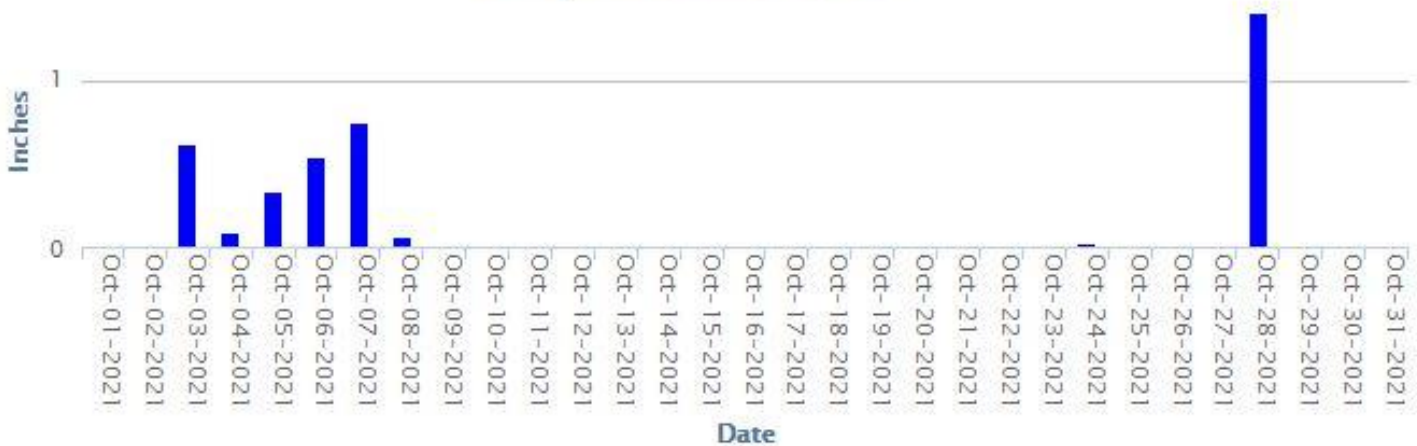


SIRP Weather

Maximum Temperature, Minimum Temperature



Daily Cumulative Rainfall



For October, SIRP had 3.85 inches of rainfall, compared to 2.69 inches in September, 6.54 inches in August, and 6.91 inches in July. From Jan. 1 to Oct. 31, we've received 52.44 inches of rain so far, & still have 2 months to go.

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



Contact Information



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Trivia:

Which culture birthed the idea of the horn of plenty,
cornucopia?

Answer: Greek culture

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