Hope everyone had a nice 4th of July!

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June continued the pattern of hot and dry conditions here at Stripling Park. For the month, we received 3.2 inches of rain over 6 rainy days. Historically, we should receive 5.09 inches over 10 rainy days. For the year, we are about 7.6 inches below our long term average of 27.74 inches. During June, our high temps ranged from a steamy 101.7 to 68.5°F and our lows ranged from 76.3 to 66.2°F. The drought monitor map on the next page illustrates the dry conditions.

The SIRP crew was very busy in June applying fertilizer and herbicide to cotton plots, applying gypsum, herbicide and fungicide to peanut plots, chemigating corn plots, fertigating cotton plots, marking and mowing alleys, and irrigating! I don’t think we’ve irrigated this much this often in my 14 years at the Park.

Visitors to the Park included Dr. Sintim’s crew, Dr. Vellidis’ crew, Dr. Snider and crew, Dr. Kemerait and crew, Dr. Porter’s crew, and Brian Hayes (Mitchell Co. extension).

Our big event for June was the annual 4-H2O Day Camp. We have partnered with Mitchell Co. Extension 4-H to put on the camp for 14 years. This year we hosted about 80 campers and county 4-H leaders from 8 surrounding counties. Speakers at SIRP included Dr. Steve Golladay, Caitlin Sweeney, Jamie Rogers, and Jeneil Patel (The Jones Center at Ichauway), Cale Cloud (Grady Co. Extension), Dallas Ingram (Ga DNR), Sylvia Davis (Baker and Mitchell Co. Extension), Fredando Jackson and Jordan Parker (Flint River Fresh), Becca Morson (Crisp Co. Extension), Mitzi Parker and Josie Baltz (Sumter Co. Extension), and Kerri Copello (Fox31 News).

If you’ve come by the Park office lately, you’ll see things are in a bit of chaos as we’re getting some much needed painting and repair work done. Things are progressing well and should be finished soon.

On a sad note, we learned of the death of Dr. Jim Hook, retired Professor with the University of Georgia’s Crop & Soil Sciences Department, Tifton Campus. Dr. Hook along with Dr. Dan Thomas and Kerry Harrison were the “driving force” behind UGA / CAES developing the C.M. Stripling Irrigation Research Park. Dr. Hook was a respected research scientist, working for 40+ years in soil and water conservation. The state and region has benefited from Dr. Hook’s work in crop water use and we continue this work even today here at the Stripling Park.

On a personal note, I was pleased but challenged to have Dr. Hook serve on my graduate committee many years ago. He was a tough but fair committee member. Then and over the following years in my professional career, Dr. Hook provided invaluable guidance and advice. He was an avid photographer. Luckily he provided SIRP with a trove of digital photos related to SIRP’s development and early years as well as related to general irrigation. Here is a link to Dr. Hook’s obituary: https://bit.ly/3NVkKoz

Don’t forget - on our website, near the bottom right, in a bright red banner, is a “Donate Now” button. Use it to make a donation to help our facility!

From the Superintendent
Calvin Perry
Drought Monitor map for Georgia as of July 5. As of that date, ~90% of Georgia was abnormally dry with ~50% (including SIRP) in moderate drought conditions - and now 3.4% of the state is in severe drought conditions.

For more info:
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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 14</td>
<td>FRSWCD mtg. (Mitchell Co. Ag Center)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 21-23</td>
<td>4H2O Camp</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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## Upcoming events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 12</td>
<td>FRSWCD mtg. (Mitchell Co. Ag Center)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 14</td>
<td>IGEL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Georgia Pecans: No Need to Panic, Overirrigate in Hot Conditions

Georgia Pecans: Be Careful of Foliar Sulfur Sprays Under High Temperatures

Georgia Peanuts: Time to Scout for Lesser Cornstalk Borer

Farmer DIY: Weed-Specific Robotic Sprayers at Agriculture’s Door

Climate change is making plants more vulnerable to disease. New research could help them fight back

Are you doing these 8 things to keep boom sprayer on target?

Old Farmer’s Almanac maintains popularity through generations

Does being anti-GMO mean you’re pro-starvation?

Who trusts gene-edited foods? New study gauges public acceptance

SMART Farm initiative aims for collaboration

How to control stinging fire ants — on the farm and in your yard

Cotton weed management based on real-farm research

Plan for pests this growing season

Rising fuel costs continue to impact farmers

Spider mites are a problem in cotton

Irrigation safety in thunderstorm season
4H2O Camp
At Gin Creek
4H2O Camp - At the Park
At the Park

Right:
Kyle mowing alleys in the cotton fields.

Below:
B.J. & Kyle spreading landplaster (gypsum/calcium) in the peanuts plots.
At the Park

Right:
Cotton blooms in the Front 4 field.

Below:
Kyle repairing leak in Newton lateral irrigation system.
At the Park

Right:
Grad students Arash & Paulo marking vegetable plots in the VRI.

Below:
Spraying fungicide on Bryan Hayes’ on-farm trials.
At the Park

Right: Fertigating cotton in the Newton lateral field.

Below: Dr. Kemerait, Christian and B.J. discussing spraying of cotton plots.
Fun Puns...

I lost my mood ring and I don’t know how to feel about it!

Yesterday, I accidentally swallowed some food coloring. The doctor says I’m okay, but I feel like I’ve dyed a little inside.

So what if I don’t know what apocalypse means? It’s not the end of the world!

My friend drove his expensive car into a tree and found out how his Mercedes bends.

Becoming a vegetarian is one big missed steak.

I was wondering why the ball was getting bigger. Then it hit me.

Some aquatic mammals at the zoo escaped. It was otter chaos!

Never trust an atom, they make up everything!

Waking up this morning was an eye-opening experience.

Long fairy tales have a tendency to dragon.

What do you use to cut a Roman Emperor’s hair? Ceasers.

The Middle Ages were called the Dark Ages because there were too many knights.

My sister bet that I couldn’t build a car out of spaghetti. You should’ve seen her face when I drove pasta.

Never discuss infinity with a mathematician, they can go on about it forever.

My wife tried to apply at the post office but they wouldn’t letter. They said only mails work here.

I wasn’t originally going to get a brain transplant, but then I changed my mind.

There was a kidnapping at school yesterday. Don’t worry, though – he woke up!
For June, SIRP had 3.20 inches of rainfall, compared to 2.38 inches in May, 3.11 inches in April, and 4.59 inches in March. A total of 20.12 inches from January through June.

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

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Trivia / Riddle:
Where does the rock band AC/DC originally come from?

Answer: Australia

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Ag research keeps Georgia agriculture on the leading edge of the industry. Consider giving to the C.M. Stripling Irrigation Research Park today.

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