

# C.M. Stripling Irrigation Research Park

Monthly Newsletter

July 2022



Hope everyone had a nice 4<sup>th</sup> of July!



## In This Issue

- ▶ From the Superintendent
- ▶ Drought Conditions
- ▶ Water Resources
- ▶ Past & Upcoming Events
- ▶ In The News
- ▶ 4H2O Camp
- ▶ At the Park
- ▶ Fun Puns
- ▶ SIRP Weather
- ▶ Contact Information



College of Agricultural &  
Environmental Sciences  
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

# From the Superintendent

## Calvin Perry

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 68.5F and our lows ranged from 76.3 to 66.2F. 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!



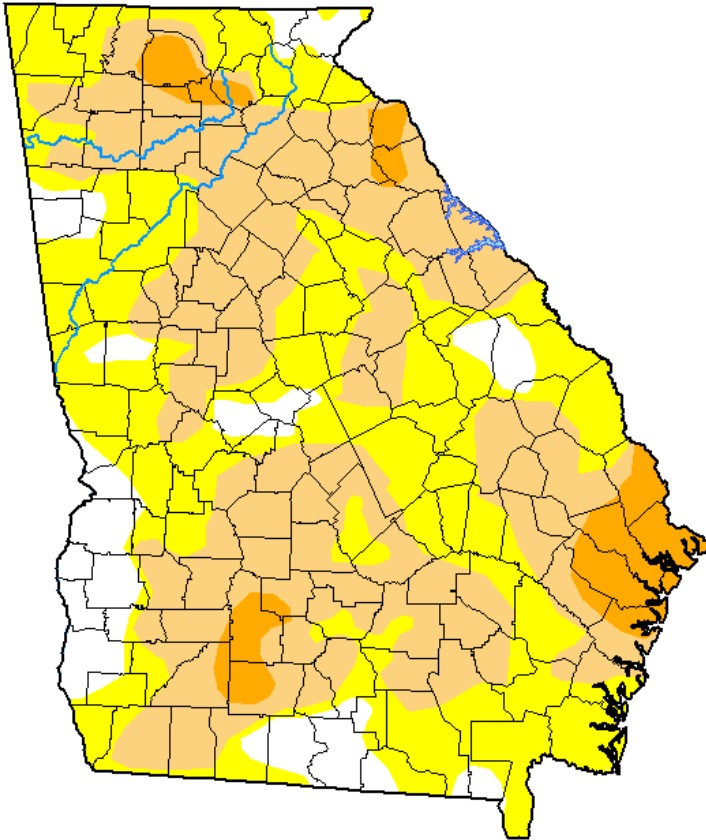
# Drought Conditions

## U.S. Drought Monitor Georgia

July 5, 2022

(Released Thursday, Jul. 7, 2022)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	10.16	89.84	49.62	6.55	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 06-28-2022	6.45	93.55	54.94	3.41	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 04-05-2022	45.79	54.21	28.13	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-04-2022	97.01	2.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-28-2021	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 07-06-2021	100.00	0.00	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>

Author:

Brad Pugh  
CPC/NOAA



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

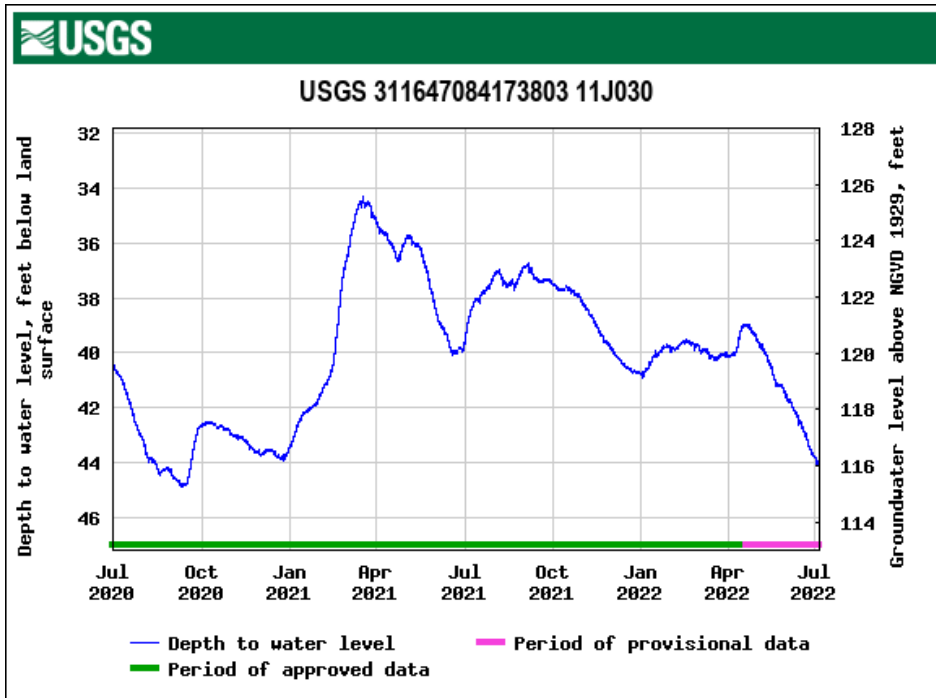
Drought Monitor map for Georgia as of July 5. As of that date, ~90% of Georgia was abnormally dry with ~50% (including SIRP) in moderate drought conditions - and now 3.4% of the state is in severe drought conditions.

For more info:

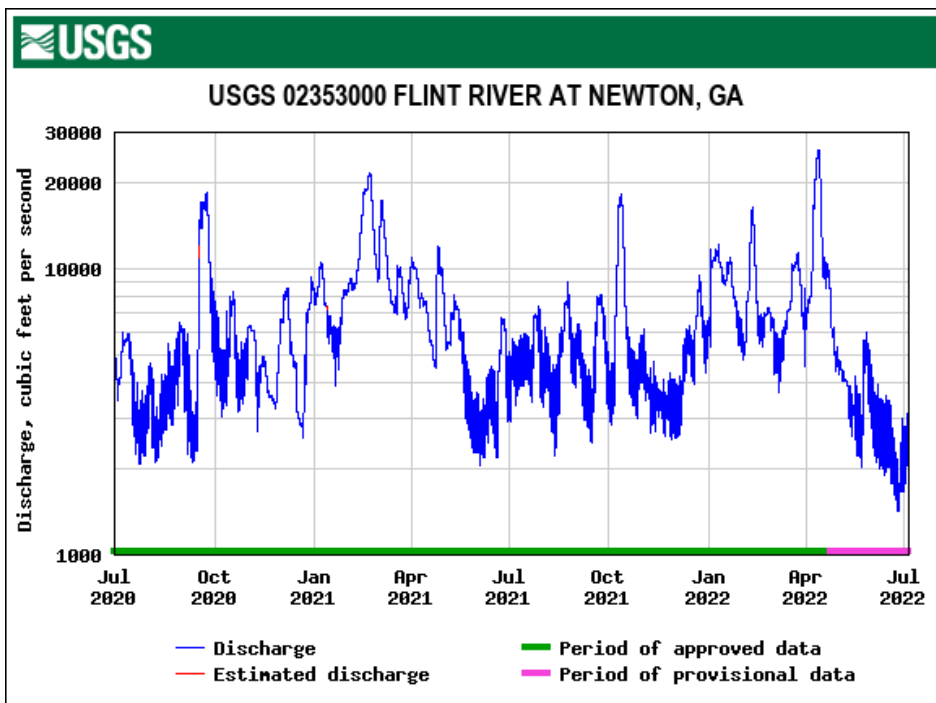
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?GA>



# 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

<b>June 14</b>	FRSWCD mtg. (Mitchell Co. Ag Center)
<b>June 21-23</b>	4H2O Camp

## Upcoming events

<b>July 12</b>	FRSWCD mtg. (Mitchell Co. Ag Center)
<b>July 14</b>	IGEL



# In The News

[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.

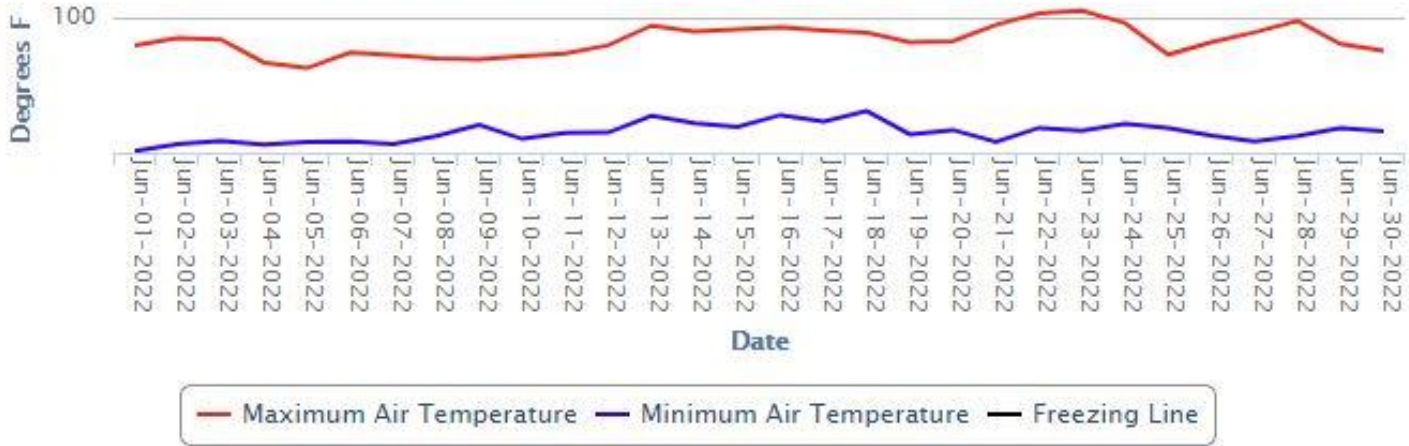
I wasn't originally going to get a brain transplant, but then I changed my mind.

There was a kidnapping at school yesterday. Don't worry, though – he woke up!

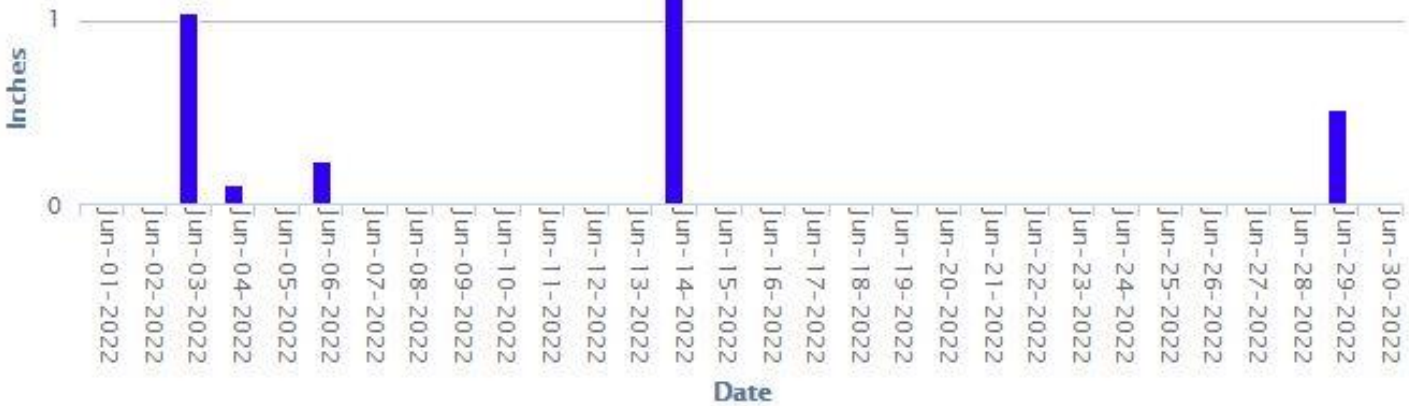


# SIRP Weather

Maximum Temperature, Minimum Temperature



Daily Cumulative Rainfall



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](http://www.georgiaweather.net).



# Contact Information



## C.M. Stripling Irrigation Research Park

*College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences*

**UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**

8207 Highway 37 West  
Camilla, GA 31730  
(229) 522-3623

[striplingpark.caes.uga.edu](http://striplingpark.caes.uga.edu)

Calvin Perry (Superintendent): [perrycd@uga.edu](mailto:perrycd@uga.edu)

Candace Gray (Admin. Associate): [sirp@uga.edu](mailto:sirp@uga.edu)

### **Trivia / Riddle:**

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

Answer: Australia

### **Commit to Groundbreaking Research**

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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