SIRP is 20 years old!

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I sound like a broken record, but, the dry conditions continue here at Stripling Park. During May, the Park’s weather station recorded only 2.38 inches of rain over 6 rainy days. Our high temps ranged from 93-79°F and our low temps ranged from 73-52°F. To further illustrate the dry conditions, since April 19th to today (a 52 day period), we’ve had only 10 rainy days for 3.79 inches. It’s dry! The US Drought Monitor map on the next page shows that SIRP remains right on the edge of the “moderate drought” region of the state.

What does this mean for the Park – well, we’ve applied nearly 10 inches of irrigation (irrigated following the UGA Extension checkbook method) to plots in Dr. Wes Porter’s corn irrigation scheduling study since planted on March 29.

Like most of you, the staff at the Park had so much going on in May. We irrigated some plot nearly every day, spread fertilizer, strip-tilled, flagged and planted soybean plots for Dr. Vellidis, strip-tilled and planted cotton plots for Drs. Kemerait and Sintim and Brian Hayes (Mitchell Co. Extension), strip-tilled and planted peanuts for Drs. Porter, Sintim and Vellidis and Brian Hayes, applied herbicide to corn and cotton plots, applied side-dress nitrogen to corn plots, fertigated corn plots for Dr. Sintim, did “catch can” uniformity tests on 4 of our center pivots, mowed plot alleys, and repaired a riser supplying water to one of our linear-move systems. Plus many other things too numerous to mention.

Visitors to the Park included Dr. Bob Kemerait and crew, Brian Hayes, the Flint River Soil & Water Conservation District (monthly meeting), Dr. Wes Porter’s crew, Dr. George Vellidis’ crew, Dr. Henry Sintim’s crew, Dr. John Snider with grad student Bailey Lawson and Marty Saylor (Lindsay Irrigation).

Several of us contributed articles for inclusion in the May/June issue of the Southeastern Peanut Farmer magazine Irrigation and Water Management Guidebook. Joy Carter, editor, along with Abby Richardson and intern Maddie Frost dropped by to take photos of center pivots, sprinklers, etc. You can access the magazine at: https://issuu.com/sepfonline/docs/sepf_mayjune2022_web?fr=SO DE0ZTE2NDQxMDc. (Yes, Joy put yours truly on the front cover).

We were pleased to host undergrad students from UGA’s Odom School of Ecology. Dr. Amanda Rugenski, Undergraduate Program Coordinator, brought 19 students to south GA as part of their Maymester course “Field Program in Ecological Problem Solving.” Charles Stripling joined us for part of the tour of the Park’s work.

If you’ve dropped by the Park lately, you’ll notice that things are in a bit of disarray. Dr. Allen Moore, CAES Assoc Dean for Research, provided funding to do some much needed repairs and updates to the office building at the Park. Allstate Construction and their local subcontractor, Bostick Construction, has started work (mainly painting) with more involved work to come.

It’s not surprising that our main building is in need of some repairs, painting, etc. As of May 2022, the C.M. Stripling Irrigation Research Park is now 20 years old! Former Georgia Gov. Roy Barnes dedicated the state-of-the-art Stripling Irrigation Park on May 11, 2002. We have more on our 20th Anniversary later in this newsletter.
Drought Conditions

Drought Monitor map for Georgia as of June 7. As of that date, 33% of Georgia was ‘abnormally dry’ with 12% rated as in ‘moderate drought’. Even had a bit of ‘severe drought’ over around Savannah.

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 Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>FRSWCD meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 12</td>
<td>Lower Flint Ocklocknee Water Council mtg. (Albany)</td>
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### Upcoming events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<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>
<tr>
<td>July 12</td>
<td>FRSWCD meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 14</td>
<td>IGEL</td>
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</tbody>
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Georgia: Southern Corn Rust Confirmed

Georgia Peanuts: Thrips Injury, TSWV, and the Threat of Lesser Cornstalk Borer

Study finds resistant weed-tillage-emissions link

FarmerJawn empowers community to know farmers and connect with food

How glyphosate affects brood care in bumblebees

Unspoken Truths About Pests: Soybean Aphids

Satellite IoT is the Key to Success in Precision Agriculture

Drones and Robotics in Agriculture

Louisiana Farmer Using Drone Technology to Maximize Nitrogen Efficiency in Row Crops

Weed Management – 4 Considerations from the Field

Climate change on course to hit U.S. Corn Belt especially hard, study finds

MyIPM App Series Expands to Include Row Crops

Target spot in soybeans

Peanut variety trials in Alabama important part of decision
Concept to Reality

The concept of a UGA/CAES research and education center dedicated to research, education and outreach aimed at making every drop count for the farmers of Georgia was championed primarily by three faculty in CAES: Dr. Jim Hook, Dr. Dan Thomas, and Kerry Harrison. Mitchell County’s C.M. Stripling agreed to donate 130 acres for UGA to develop the research park.

With funding from the state legislature after efforts led by then state representative Richard Royal, the Park was designed and built in approximately two years. A ground breaking was held in November 2000 and featured the Stripling family, CAES Dean Gale Buchanan, and several local politicians.
Stripling Park’s 20th Anniversary

The Park is Built
Stripling Park’s 20th Anniversary

Dedication of the Park

Former Georgia Gov. Roy Barnes along with numerous state and local leaders, dedicated the completed state-of-the-art C.M Stripling Irrigation Park on May 11, 2002.
Stripling Park Today

The Park continues to fulfill its mission as a state-of-the-art irrigation research and education center to assist farmers in managing irrigation and the general public in understanding the role of water in the economy of the region. The staff has grown from two to five full-time and one part-time employees. The infrastructure now features 5 center pivot systems, 4 linear-move systems, and 2 sets of subsurface drip irrigation. Visitors to the Park has numbered over 1000 in several years and research plots can total 1200+ some years.

Calvin Perry was named Superintendent in July of 2008 following Rad Yager who served in that capacity from 2000 to 2008.
Stripling Park Today

The Park hosts cutting-edge research each year. Much of the work at Stripling Park now focuses on advanced irrigation scheduling, chemigation and Variable-Rate Irrigation.
At the Park

Right:
B.J. & Kyle
repairing drag hose to Camilla lateral irrigation system.

Below:
B.J. planting cotton in the Front 4 North.
At the Park

Right:
Dr. Sintim’s peanuts coming up in the Pine field.

Below:
B.J. & Kyle repairing the Camilla lateral riser.
At the Park

Right:
Catch cup test in the Front 4 South.

Below:
Dr. Snider & Bailey doing stand counts in the Camilla lateral cotton.
Right:
Dr. Kemerait’s student worker, Christian, in the VRI corn.

Below:
Applying layby herbicide in VRI corn.
At the Park

Right: Dr. Porter’s crew installing SSA sensors in the Camilla lateral peanuts.

Below: Fertigating Dr. Sintim’s corn in the Newton lateral.
At the Park

Right:
Dr. Vellidis’ crew installing SSA sensors in the Front 4 South soybeans.

Below:
B.J. speaking to UGA Athens’ Ecology student visitors.
Nicolas Cage, Sofia Coppola, and Jason Schwartzman - 1st cousins
Amy Schumer and US senator Chuck Schumer - 2nd cousins
Snoop Dogg and Brandy Norwood - 1st cousins
Al Roker and Lenny Kravitz are 1st cousins once removed. Their grandparents were cousins.
Fantasia Barrino, K-Ci & JoJo - 1st cousins
Melissa McCarthy and Jenny McCarthy - 1st cousins
President Obama and President Bush - 10th cousins
President Obama and Brad Pitt - 9th cousins
Cameron Diaz and Nicole Richie are sisters-in-law. They married brothers Benji and Joel Madden, members of the band Good Charlotte.
Jeff Bezos and country singer George Strait - 1st cousins
Tom Hanks is related to Abraham Lincoln. Abraham Lincoln's mother's name was literally Nancy Hanks.
Shirley MacLaine and Warren Beatty - siblings
Julia Roberts and Emma Roberts - aunt / niece
Goldie Hawn and Kate Hudson - mother / daughter
Bryce Dallas Howard and Ron Howard - daughter / father
Tracee Ellis Ross and Diana Ross - daughter / mother
Tippi Hedren and Melanie Griffith - mother / daughter
Tom Cruise and William Mapother - cousins
Melanie Griffith and Dakota Johnson - mother / daughter
Quincy Jones and Rashida Jones - father / daughter
Meryl Streep and Mamie & Grace Gummer - mother / daughters
Beyoncé and Solange - sisters
Anderson Cooper and Gloria Vanderbilt - son / mother
Whitney Houston and Dionne Warwick - cousins
Owen Wilson, Luke Wilson, and Andrew Wilson - brothers
Kiefer Sutherland and Sarah Sutherland - father / daughter
Rob Schneider and Elle King - father / daughter
Conan O'Brien and Denis Leary - 3rd cousins
Christopher "Ludacris" Bridges and Monica Brown - cousins
Berry Gordy and Redfoo - father / son
Tyne Daly and Tim Daly - siblings
John David Washington and Denzel Washington - son / father
Andie MacDowell and Margaret Qualley - mother / daughter
Florence Pugh and Toby Sebastian - siblings
Mariska Hargitay and Jayne Mansfield - daughter / mother
For May, SIRP had 2.38 inches of rainfall, compared to 3.11 inches in April, 4.59 inches in March, 1.79 inches in February and 5.05 inches in January. A total of 16.92 inches from January through May.

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

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

Trivia / Riddle:
You measure my life in hours and I serve you by expiring. I’m quick when I’m thin and slow when I’m fat. The wind is my enemy.

Answer: A candle.

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.

Click here to Donate Now.