

# C.M. Stripling Irrigation Research Park

Monthly Newsletter

December 2023



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College of Agricultural &  
Environmental Sciences  
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

# From the Sr. Agriculture Specialist

## B. J. Washington

December has arrived, and the holiday season is rapidly approaching. November was pretty dry with rainfall being 1.64 inches over 10 events. The temperatures ranged from a high of 83.8 degrees to a low of 26.8 degrees. I will say that December has started off pretty wet with three rain events equaling 4.85 inches. These events will do well to fill our surface and subsurface water supplies.

November saw us complete harvest of all crops for the 2023 growing season. We have completed the planting of our rye cover crop over all field areas at the park. The staff has also been busy with harvest machinery clean-up. We will also be taking soil samples for nutritional analysis for the upcoming 2024 growing season. We will be working towards Irrigation system maintenance in the coming weeks.

We have also received assistance from Mitchell County in trimming the lower limbs on our live oaks which surround the perimeter of the park. Using their machinery, they will be able to make quick work of this project that would have taken the staff weeks to do. We really do appreciate their willingness to help with this endeavor.

That is all for now, but as always, thanks for your support to Stripling and to UGA. We do wish you all the best through the holiday season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

B. J.



# Notes of Interest

## Calvin Perry

Last month, Ms. Allison Williams, a volunteer teacher at an after-school program in California, contacted us about her class using info found on Stripling Park's website. Ms. Williams wrote, *"Our environmental awareness and water conservation class led us to your webpage, which has been an invaluable resource. We wanted to express our gratitude. One of our students, Cheryl, discovered another page for her extra credit that intrigued the class. She suggested sharing it with you as a potential addition to your page. We'd love to know if you think it's a good fit. Cheryl would be thrilled to see her idea featured alongside others on your page."*

We decided to create a new section on our website's Resources page (<https://striplingpark.caes.uga.edu/resources.html>), titled "Homeowner/Urban Water Resources", and included Cheryl's suggested website – "Ultimate Guide on Water Conservation: How To Save Every Drop" (<https://californiadegrees.org/the-ultimate-guide-on-water-conservation-how-to-save-every-drop/>).

Thanks for your suggestion Cheryl and thanks to Ms. Williams for contacting us!

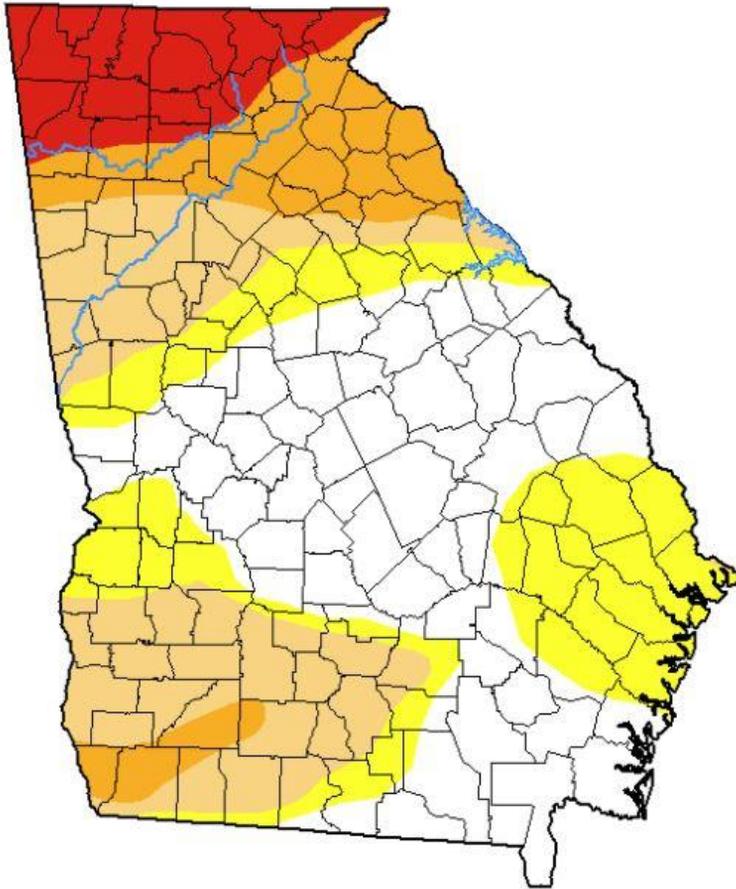


# Drought Conditions



## U.S. Drought Monitor Georgia

**November 28, 2023**  
(Released Thursday, Nov. 30, 2023)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	37.88	62.12	41.07	19.91	8.69	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 11-21-2023	36.08	63.92	48.47	24.74	9.71	2.15
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 08-29-2023	88.99	11.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-03-2023	46.36	53.64	28.04	4.81	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-26-2023	78.43	21.57	4.17	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 11-29-2022	30.81	69.19	47.68	20.27	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:

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Western Regional Climate Center



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

Drought Monitor map for Georgia as of November 28, 2023. Dry conditions exist across various parts of the state. Currently, 62.12% of GA is abnormally dry, 41.07% is in moderate drought, 19.91% is under severe drought conditions, and 8.69% is under extreme drought conditions. For more info:

<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Maps/MapArchive.aspx>



# Events

## Past events

<b>November 11</b>	Veterans Day
<b>November 14</b>	FRSWCD mtg.
<b>November 23 - 24</b>	Thanksgiving Holidays



## Upcoming events

<b>December 12</b>	FRSWCD mtg.
<b>December 25 - 29</b>	Christmas Holidays
<b>January 1, 2024</b>	New Year's Day
<b>January 3 - 5</b>	Beltwide Cotton Conf. (Ft. Worth)
<b>January 23</b>	Corn Short Course



# In The News

[Farmers Are Strip-Tilling Covers Now. Is That A Good Idea?](#)

[Top-yielding 2023 cotton varieties in North Carolina on-farm trials](#)

[Test soil for potential nematode problems](#)

[Short pecan crop gets shorter on tough weather](#)

[Spray-On Bioplastic Shield Stops Weeds](#)

[Proud to be a Georgia Farmer: Chandler Akins](#)

[Proud to be a Georgia Farmer: Karla Thompson](#)

**Video / Podcast / Radio:**

Agri-Pulse [Open Mic Interview: Farm Bureau President Zippy Duvall](#)



# At the Park

Below:

Kyle sowing rye cover crop  
in the Newton lateral field.



MERRY  
*Christmas*





Below:

Meeting of the advisory board of the GA-FIT Project at SIRP. GA-FIT = Georgia Flow Incentive Trust. They are working with farmers to develop new drought response tools and a Habitat Conservation Plan in the Lower Flint River Basin.

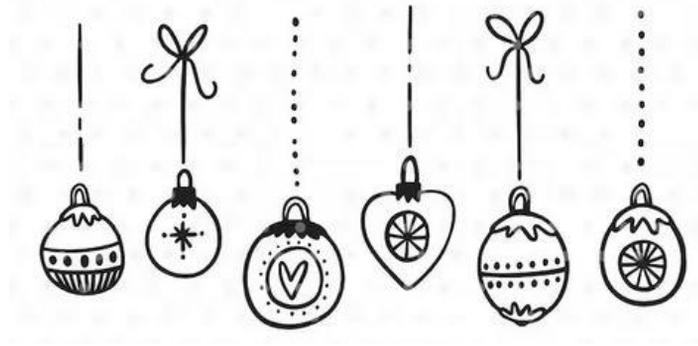


# At the Park

Below:  
The rye cover crop is coming  
along nicely.



# At the Park



Below:

Mitchell County trimming the lower limbs on our live oaks which surround the perimeter of the park.



# At the Park

Below:

Putting up our  
Christmas tree  
at SIRP.



# Trivia/Puns/Riddles



All about Christmas...

What's the highest-grossing Christmas movie of all time?

Home Alone

True or false: "Jingle Bells" was always intended to be a Christmas song.

False! It was originally written for Thanksgiving

Buddy the elf sticks to the four main food groups: candy, candy canes, candy corns and \_\_.          Syrup

How many total gifts are given in the song of the 12 days of Christmas?

364 (1 Partridge x 12 times, 2 Turtle doves x 11 times, and do on)

What does the word Noel mean in Latin?          Birth

What are the two other most popular names for Santa Claus?

Kris Kringle and Saint Nick

Which real-life person is Santa Claus based on?

The Christian bishop St. Nicholas

Which country started the tradition of putting up a Christmas tree?

Germany

What country first invented eggnog?          Britain

What is the most popular tree topper?          Angel

How long does it take to grow a Christmas tree?          Up to 10 years

How many sides does a snowflake have?          6

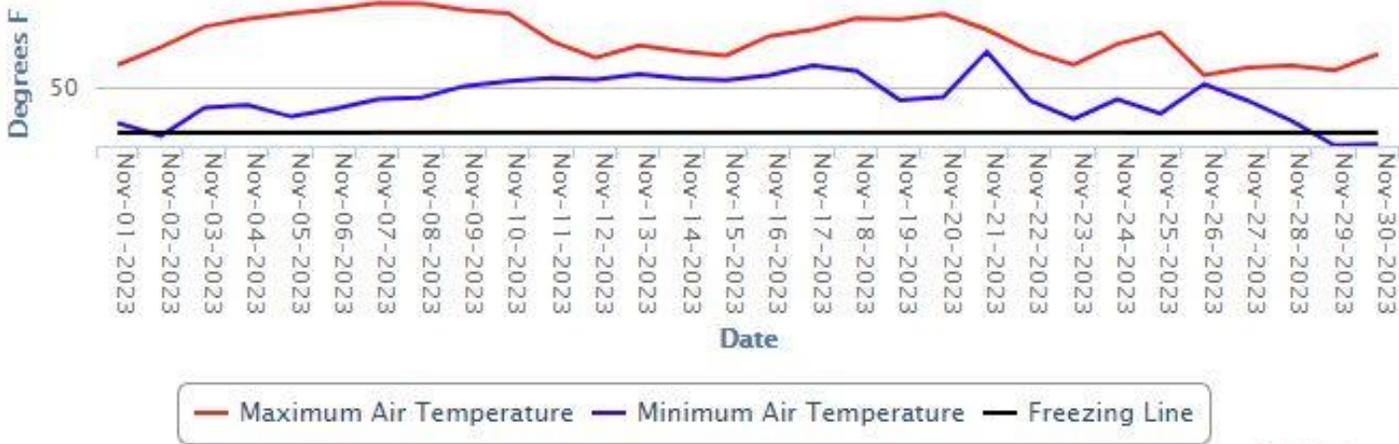
What is the calendar called that typically has treats in it and you open one everyday until Christmas?          Advent Calendar

Who assembled the first strand of electric Christmas lights?          Thomas Edison

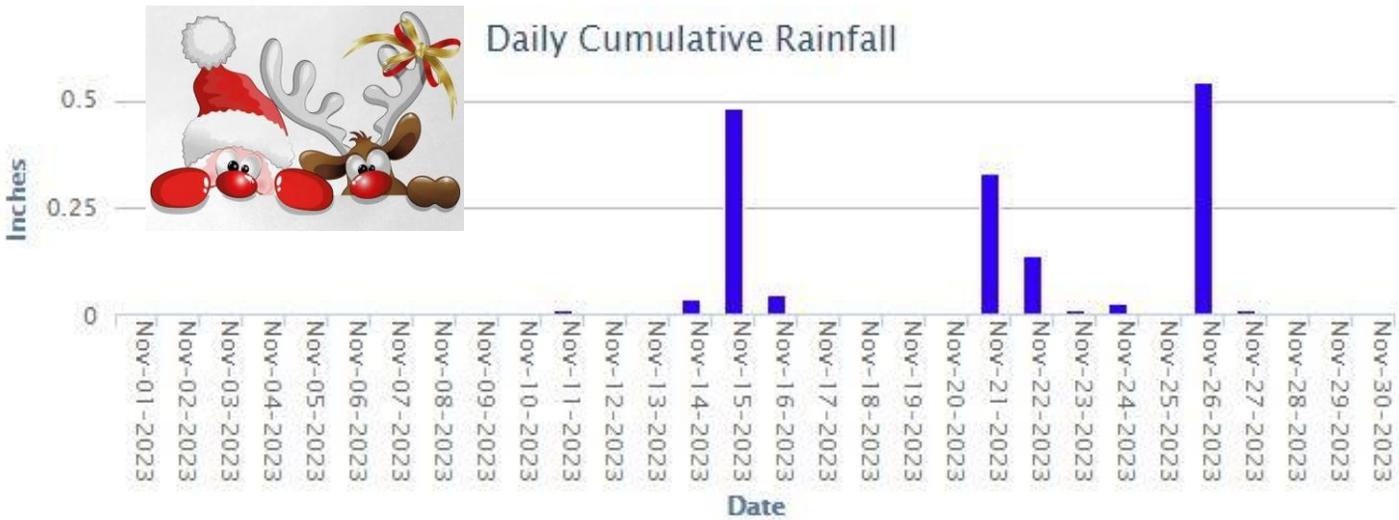


# SIRP Weather

Maximum Temperature, Minimum Temperature



Daily Cumulative Rainfall



For November, SIRP had 1.64 inches of rainfall, compared to 1.08 inches in October, 2.47 inches in September, and 3.26 inches in August. So far, SIRP has received 39.90 inches of rain this year, with only 1 month to go.

To explore weather information, visit [www.georgiaweather.net](http://www.georgiaweather.net).



# Contact Information



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### Trivia / Riddle:

What is the largest living structure on Earth?



Answer: The Great Barrier Reef

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