

C.M. Stripling Irrigation Research Park

Monthly Newsletter

January - March 2024



Corn status for Dr. Porter's research.



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From the Sr. Agriculture Specialist

B. J. Washington

2024 is rapidly moving forward. We are half way through the month of April and the farming activities at SIRP are in full swing. We have completed the planting of the 2024 corn trials and are preparing for the peanut and cotton trials. We were also able to plant a sweet corn trial for Dr. Vellidis and grad student Emily Bedwell.

However, I should back up to the beginning. In January I was able to attend the Beltwide Cotton Conference in Ft. Worth Texas. It is always good to go to this event and listen to updates and results on the past years research projects throughout the cotton belt. UGA's cotton team is always well represented in presentations and poster competitions. It is also great to catch up with former UGA grad students and research specialist whom I have cultivated relationships with during my years here at SIRP. Also, in January were the GA Peanut Farm Show, the Corn Short Course, the 2024 GA Ag Forecast, and the GA Cotton Commodity Meeting/UGA Cotton Production Workshop all held in Tifton.

February consisted of the termination of the rye cover crop on the corn and peanut land here at SIRP. We were also able to attend a few of our local county extension meetings to get updates on disease and weed management for the upcoming growing season of cotton, corn, and peanuts. At the end of the month Mr. Calvin and I were able to attend the Superintendent and Farm Managers meeting at Amicalola Falls. We received update from Dr. Harsha on the CAES and information on a variety of topics from facilities and insurance to Precision Ag technologies and the Statewide Variety Testing Program. A big thanks to Ray Covington (Superintendent Georgia Mountain Research and Education Center) and Ms. Kelly Eisele (Admin. Specialist II) for the planning of this year's event and making it a success. Also, a huge thanks to Dr. Harsha for his contributions. I am grateful to be a part of this group and the CAES.

Mid-February and into March saw the beginning of research plot preparations on the farm. We began as always with fertilizer applications to corn areas



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followed by strip-tilling to incorporate said products. This year's corn researchers will be Dr.'s Porter, Kemerait, Sintim, Preet Virk and Lorena Lacerda along with Dr. Vellidis' sweet corn. These trials are progressing nicely, especially with all of the rain we have received. Rye cover crop has been terminated for the cotton land and we hope to start planting these trials along with peanuts later in the month and into May.

I would also like to report that SIRP has acquired a new Polaris UTV to assist us and researchers with activities related to their plot work such as installing soil moisture sensors and in season data collection. We were also able to purchase a new 15-foot bat-wing rotary mower so that we are able to maintain the grass especially during the summer months. We also received a used lay-by rig from Dr. Vellidis which will allow us to apply herbicides to our corn and cotton trials later in the season.

We have had a few visitors to the park mainly our researchers' technicians and grad students and visitors from NRCS and Flint River Soil and Water. John and Sonny from J&B Irrigation spent a morning with us fine tuning our Valley VRI map making. Marty Saylor with Lindsay Irrigation also stopped by to update Mr. Calvin and I on Lindsay's updated software and automations. I was able to host Matt Yost extension specialist and professor at Utah State University who works a lot with irrigation management. I also met with Mason Dean with the Agri Ability Project who will be hosting a tractor driving class for new and disabled farmers here at SIRP on the 27th of April.

I think that just about catches everyone up on the events that have happened at SIRP since we last spoke in December. I do hope that you are all doing well and I wish you all the best this growing season. As always, Thanks for your support of Stripling and UGA

B. J.



Drought Conditions

U.S. Drought Monitor Georgia

March 26, 2024
(Released Thursday, Mar. 28, 2024)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week <small>03-19-2024</small>	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago <small>12-26-2023</small>	52.35	47.65	28.13	11.48	0.07	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <small>01-02-2024</small>	46.66	53.34	28.92	11.91	0.07	0.00
Start of Water Year <small>09-26-2023</small>	78.43	21.57	4.17	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago <small>03-28-2023</small>	82.69	17.31	5.00	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 Rippey
U.S. Department of Agriculture



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Drought Monitor map for Georgia as of March 26, 2024. Dry conditions are non-existing across the state, 100% ample soil moisture conditions.

Currently, 0.00% of GA is abnormally dry, 0.0% moderate, 0.0% severe, and 0.0% extreme drought. For more info:

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



Events

Past events

January 18	Beltwide Cotton Conf. (Ft. Worth, TX)
January 18	GA Peanut Farm Show (TCCC)
January 23	Corn Short Course (TCCC)
January 26	2024 GA Ag Forecast (TCCC)
January 31	GA Cotton Comm. Mtg. / UGA Cotton Production Workshop (TCCC)

Upcoming events

April 9	FRSWCD mtg.
April 23	ACF Water Council tour
April 27	Agri Ability Tractor Driving Class
May 14	FRSWCD mtg.
June 25 – 27	4H2O Camp
July 18	IGEL Class of 2024



In The News

[5 AgTech Trends to Watch in 2024](#)

[Precision Farming: Creating a 'Networked Farm' for the Future](#)

[Bipartisan lawmakers eye AI safeguards for US agriculture industry](#)

[New Resource: Stink Bug Scouting Guide](#)

[Studies offer insights into future water challenges, potential solutions in Nebraska](#)

[Lower Rio Grande Valley irrigation water deficit persists](#)

[Lower Colorado River Basin states submit competing water conservation plan as deadline looms](#)

[Data From New Trials Boasts Yield Boosts With Biologicals](#)

[Space Weather: Start Planning Today for Tomorrow's GPS Outage](#)

[Here's How to Bridge the Data Gap With Your Ag Retailer](#)

[Edible blue-green algae protects honey bees against viruses](#)

[USDA, UGA break ground on new ag research facility in Tifton](#)

[Georgia's Citrus Industry is Flourishing Despite Challenges](#)

[Georgia Federal-State Inspection Service's Important Role within the Peanut Industry](#)

[Another Planting Season with Expected Challenges](#)

[Georgia Department of Agriculture Celebrates Georgia Ag Week March 18 – 24](#)

[Impregnating Fertilizers With Herbicide](#)

[Call the right play for diseases, nematodes this season](#)

[The foundation for a successful cotton crop](#)



At the Park

Right & Below:
Dismantling the SDI
manifold for the
Access Field at SIRP.



At the Park

Right & Below:
We were able to acquire
some new equipment to
help with mowing &
with the research done
in the fields.



At the Park

Right:
Repairs to main water line
near East well.

Below:
B.J. working with J & B
Irrigation to resolve VRI
software issues.



At the Park

Right & Below:

J & B Irrigation installing new
Seametrics flowmeters on
lateral systems at SIRP.



At the Park

Right & Below:

Planting sweet corn in the Newton lateral for Dr. Vellidis and PhD grad student Emily Bedwell.



At the Park

Right:
Spreading fertilizer
in the Lindsey
lateral corn area.

Below:
Daryl deep turning
soil in the Camilla
lateral field where
peanuts will be
planted.



Trivia/Puns/Riddles

What is the rarest blood type among humans? AB-negative

How many wives did King Henry VIII have? Six

In what year and in which city were the first modern Olympic Games held?
1896 in Athens, Greece

What is the specific term used to describe a type of sandstorm characterized by strong winds carrying a wall of dust and sand, reducing visibility and causing hazardous conditions? Haboob

In the early 20th century, a soft drink named “Bib-Label Lithiated Lemon-Lime Soda” was known for containing lithium. Which company later acquired this beverage and transformed it into a popular lemon-lime soft drink we know today? Coca-Cola Company (they rebranded it as 7UP).

What is the scientific term for the “little brain” at the base of the brain that coordinates movement and balance? Cerebellum

What is the official animal of Scotland? Unicorn

What year was the very first model of the iPhone released? 2007

Which company developed the first commercially available computer mouse?
Xerox

What animals are pearls found in? Oysters

Who did Forbes name the youngest self-made billionaire in 2019?
Kylie Jenner

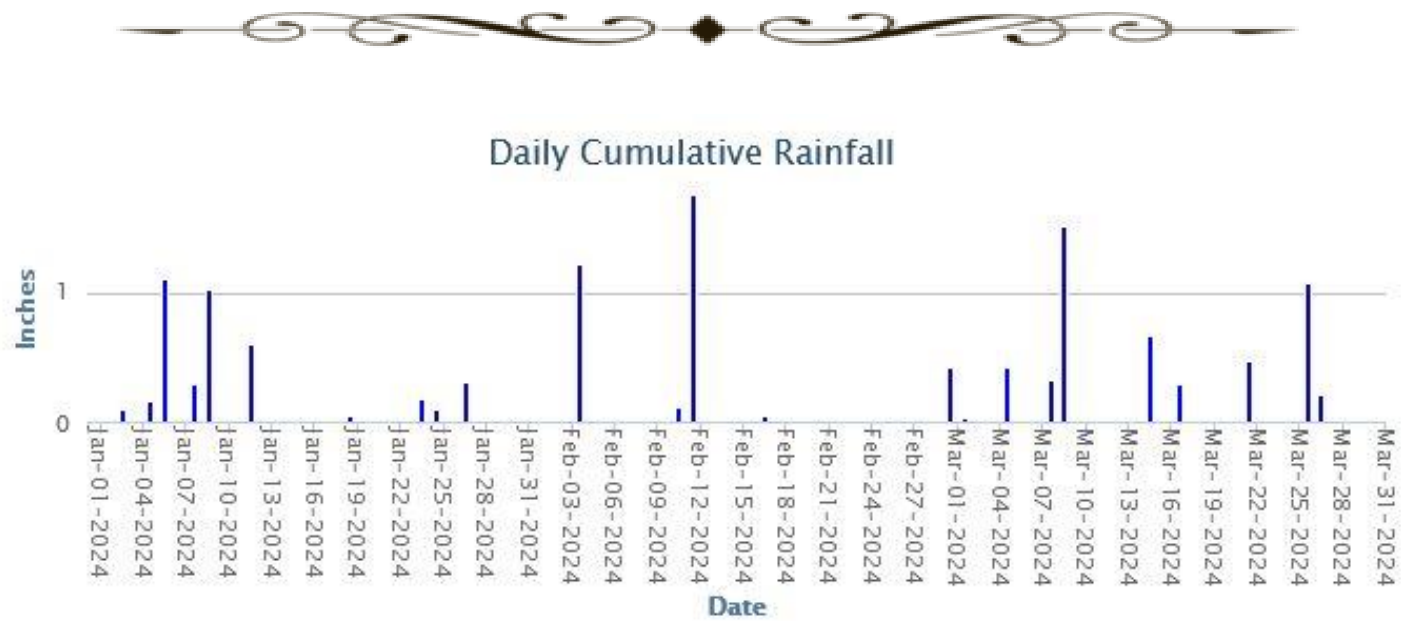
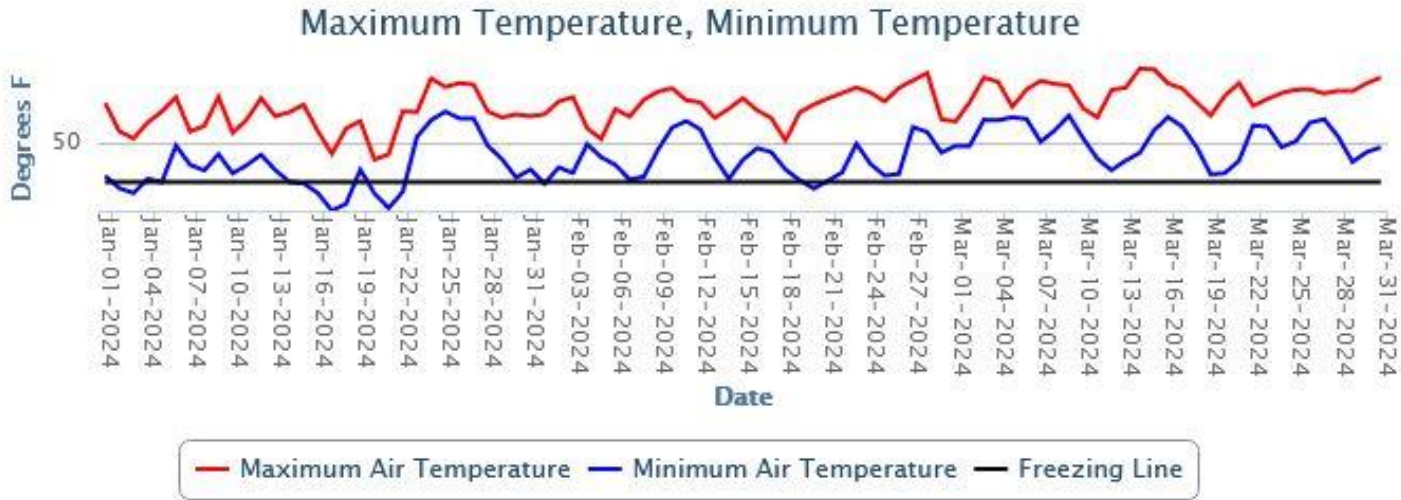
Which animal can be seen on the Porsche logo? Horse

How many parts (screws and bolts included) does the average car have?
30, 000

Which car is often called the first muscle car? The Pontiac GTO



SIRP Weather



For January to March, SIRP had 12.68 inches of rainfall, compared to 9.29 inches from October to December, 2023, and 10.13 inches from July to September, 2023. For the 2023 year, SIRP received 46.47 inches of rain.

To explore weather information, visit 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

B. J. Washington (Sr. Ag. Specialist): bwashing@uga.edu
Candace Gray (Admin. Associate): sirp@uga.edu

Trivia / Riddle:

Who is the king of the gods in Greek mythology?

Answer: Zeus

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