C.M. Stripling Irrigation Research Park

Monthly Newsletter

January - March 2024

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Corn status for Dr. Porter’s research.
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 Forcast, 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.
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 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 18</td>
<td>Beltwide Cotton Conf. (Ft. Worth, TX)</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 18</td>
<td>GA Peanut Farm Show (TCCC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 23</td>
<td>Corn Short Course (TCCC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 26</td>
<td>2024 GA Ag Forcast (TCCC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 31</td>
<td>GA Cotton Comm. Mtg. / UGA Cotton Production Workshop (TCCC)</td>
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### Upcoming events

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 9</td>
<td>FRSWCD mtg.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 23</td>
<td>ACF Water Council tour</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 27</td>
<td>Agri Ability Tractor Driving Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>FRSWCD mtg.</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 25 – 27</td>
<td>4H2O Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 18</td>
<td>IGEL Class of 2024</td>
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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.
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
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

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Trivia / Riddle:
Who is the king of the gods in Greek mythology?

Answer: Zeus

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