

Stripling Irrigation Research Park

April 2018



Worm on emerging corn plant.

View more of Stripling's photos at...

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/ugasirp>

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From the Superintendent

Field work at the Park was in full swing beginning last month. SIRP staff was busy spraying onions, deep turning cotton, peanut and soybean plot land, applying pre-plant fertilizer and strip-tilling (including Telone fumigant) corn plot land, applying burn-down herbicide to rye cover crop, marking/flagging corn plots, and planting corn at the end of the month.

The staff was also involved with repairing the end gun on our 4-tower center pivot, repairing the safety on the diesel engine on our “Newton” linear-move system, and installing new drop pipes and plumbing on our “Camilla” linear-move system.

The Park received 4.09 inches rain over 6 events during the month. Our high temps ranged from 85F to 52F and our low temps ranged from 63F to 30F.

SIRP was pleased to host several individuals or groups at the Park during March, including Golden Triangle RC&D, Mitchell County Young Farmers, Georgia Farm Bureau Water Commodity Committee, a news crew from HBO’s VICE news program, Jake LaRue from Valley Irrigation, Bobby Vick from Precision Hawk, and Wayne Smalley, owner of Rivers Associates.

I was pleased to host Rob and Jean Fowler from Covington, Ga, Eduardo Chirinos with HOI ministries, and Porfilio Fuentes with IFDC to discuss potential for UGA CAES to help farmers adopt drip irrigation practices in Honduras. The Fowlers are very involved with international development. (Jean is a former UGA Extension county agent.) We also had Paul Fryer, regional rep for US Congressman Sanford Bishop drop by for several meetings. Paul is not an ag person but is learning all he can about our industry.

I’m excited to report that AGL (Advancing Georgia’s Leaders in Agriculture and Forestry) will be coming to SIRP in August as part of one of their leadership institutes. We’ll be doing a tour of the Park and providing lunch for the class. I participated in the predecessor of AGL, Georgia Agri-Leaders, back in 2002. More on this in later newsletters.

I was privileged to once again speak to new UGA Extension agents going through their Foundations training. Like last year, Dr. Wes Porter and I tag-teamed the water and irrigation topics - I covered Georgia’s water resources, the water wars and Strippling Park. These new, young agents make me feel OLD!

Finally, I’d like to thank George Granade, Superintendent at the Griffin Campus, for hosting our annual Superintendents & Farm Managers meeting early in March. It was a great meeting.



Calvin Perry

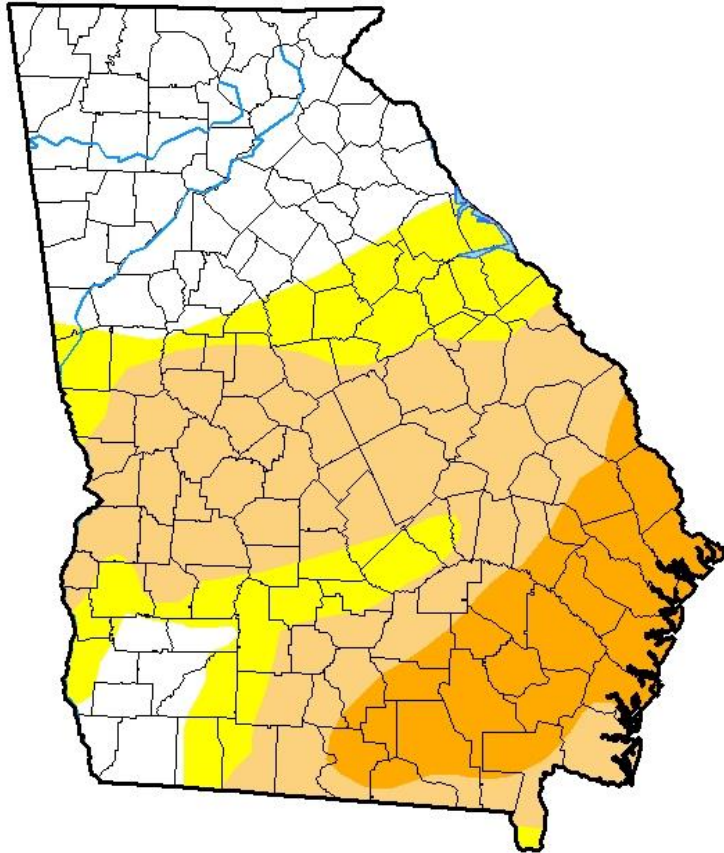
Drought Conditions

U.S. Drought Monitor Georgia

April 3, 2018

(Released Thursday, Apr. 5, 2018)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	31.27	68.73	51.19	16.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week <i>03-27-2018</i>	31.15	68.85	50.54	10.42	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago <i>01-02-2018</i>	12.14	87.86	40.66	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-02-2018</i>	12.14	87.86	40.66	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year <i>09-26-2017</i>	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago <i>04-04-2017</i>	1.09	98.91	29.94	15.05	4.16	0.00

Intensity:

- 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. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:

David Miskus
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



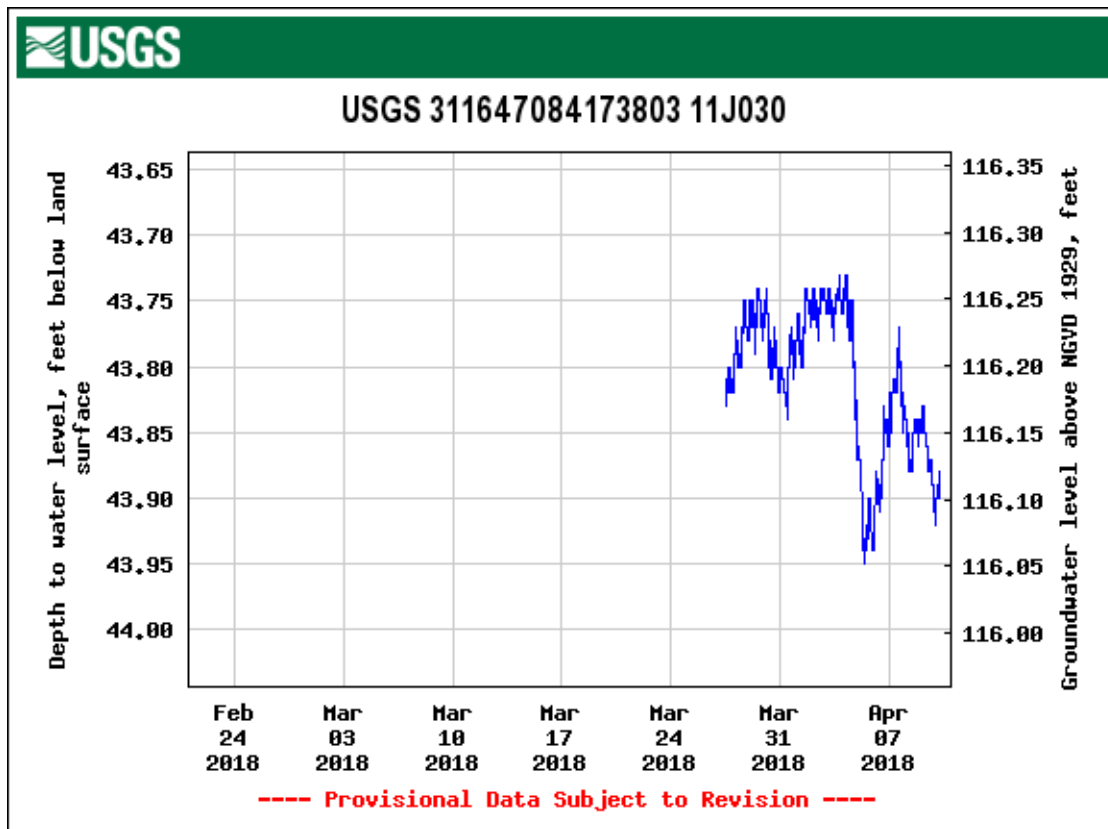
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

Drought Monitor map for Georgia as of April 3rd. Currently, 69% of GA is at least in the “Abnormally Dry” category with 16% rated as “Severe Drought” – and that zone is in SE Ga.

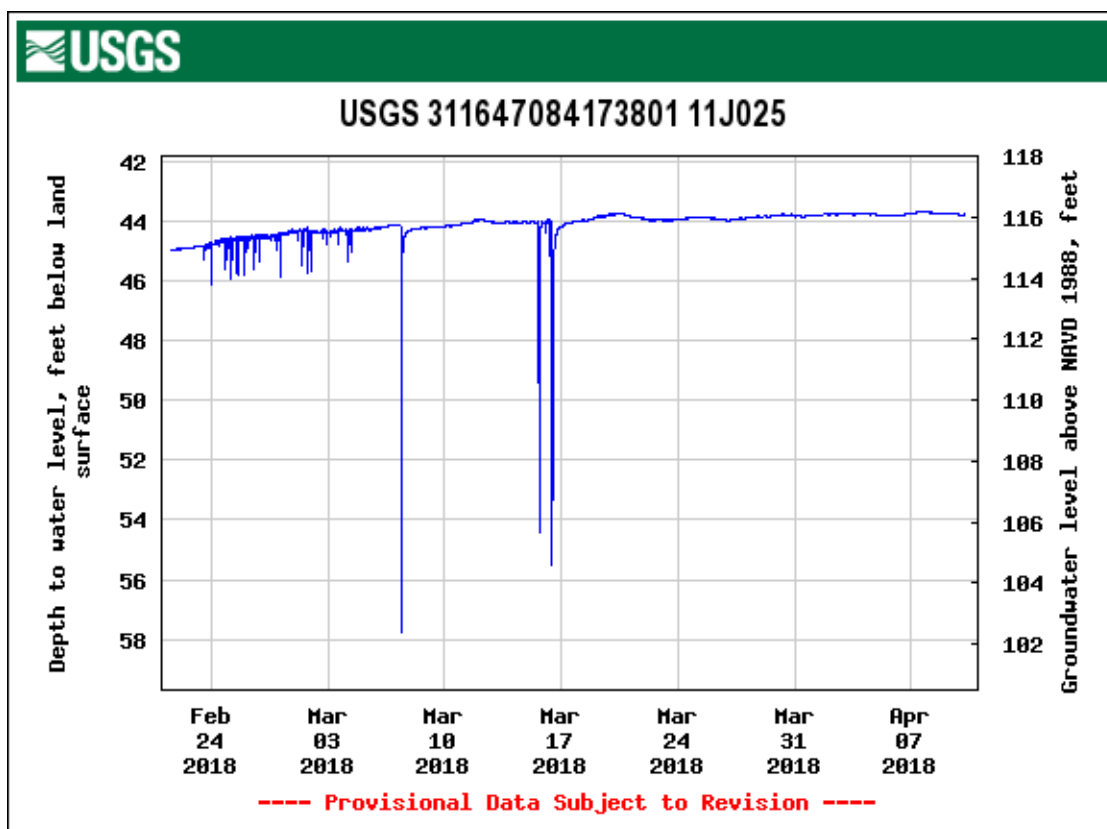
For more info:

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

Water Resources



Static water table graphs from USGS monitoring wells at the Park. Top is from the Floridan aquifer well, bottom is from the Claiborne aquifer well.



At the Park



Above: Onions progressing in Dr. Coolong's plots.
Below: Cale running field cultivator thru soybean field.



At the Park



Above: Flume in “Newton” lateral corn plot areas.
Below: BJ strip-tills and applies Telone in “Newton” lateral.



At the Park



Above: GFB Water Committee visits SIRP.
Below: B.J. and Cale repairing the Valley pivot in the VRI field.



At the Park



Research...



Events

Past events

March 1	Young Farmers mtg.
March 6	Golden Triangle (Better Backroads Workshop)
March 8	Young Farmers mtg.
March 15	Young Farmers mtg.
March 16	GFB mtg. (Water Commodity Commission)
March 20	Pecan Prod. Update (Mitchell Co. Extension)

Upcoming events

April 23	Dr. Erin Porter's class visit
June 5 – 7	4H2O camp
July 12	IGEL tour
August 22	AGL tour

In the News

[UGA Tifton rededicates Agricultural Research Building](#)

[Broadband Bill May Bring Better Internet To Rural Georgia](#)

[Georgia renews old quest to retake Tennessee border](#)

[Severe drought expands in GA](#)

[Kansas Farmers Cut Ogallala Water Use – And Still Make Money](#)

[Could Nodes and Drones Be the Future of Water Conservation?](#)

[Adjusting Planter Equipment Can Make a Significant Yield Difference](#)

[Georgia: Pecan Budbreak – Time for Nitrogen](#)

[Farmers plan to cut corn, soybean acreage, USDA says](#)

[Chinese tariffs target farmers and raise trade war fears](#)

[Cover crop economics](#)

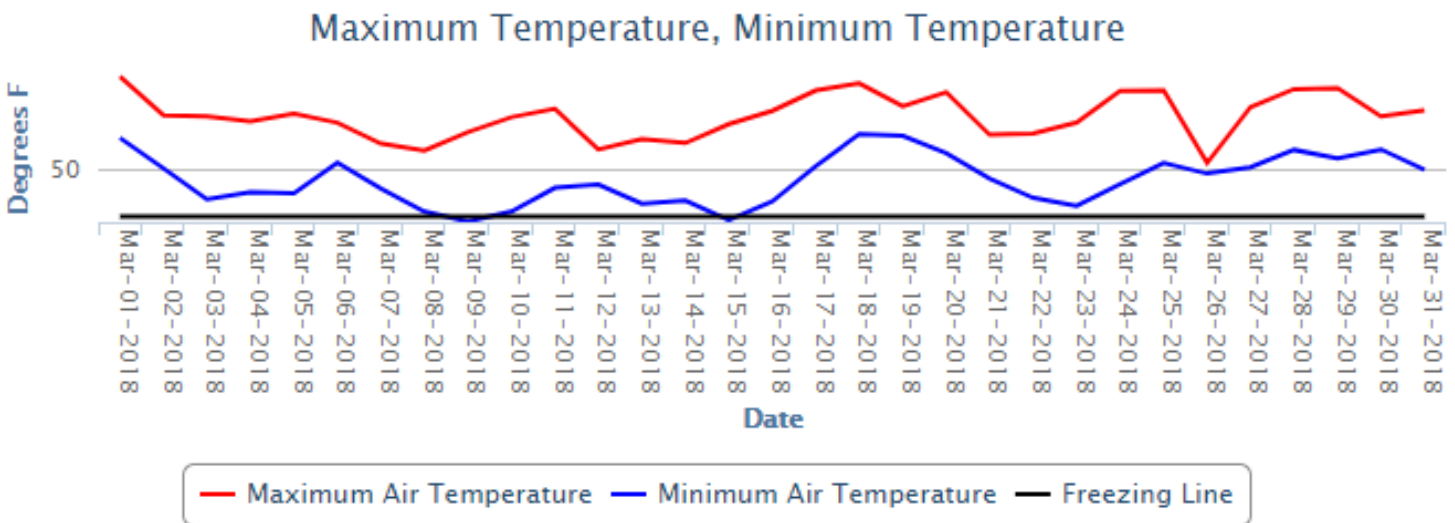
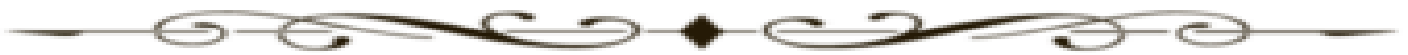
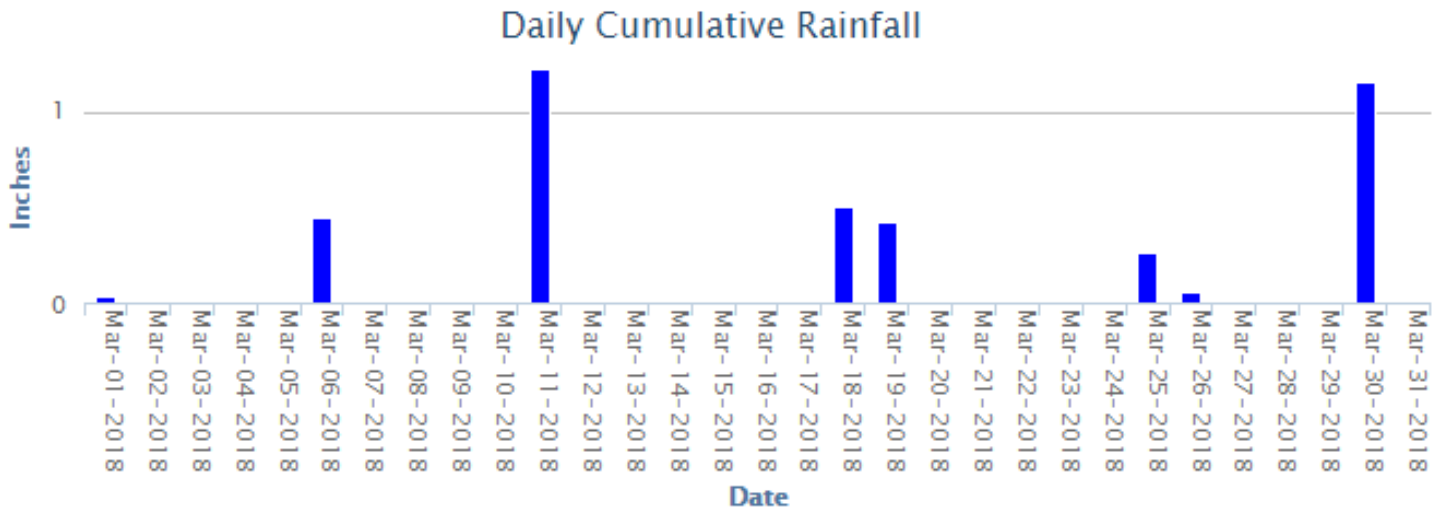
[Federal spending bill addresses multiple farm issues](#)

Video:

[Sawyer On Crops: Nitrogen For Pecans – How Much, When – Podcast](#)

[Middle Georgia Ag Teacher Shares His Love For Educating Students](#)

SIRP Weather



For March, SIRP had 4.09 inches of rainfall, compared to 6.65 inches in February, 3.50 inches in January, and 2.99 inches in December.

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

Flashback: What year was it?

- Globetrotters lose 100-99 to NJ Reds, ending 2,495-game win streak.
- Cigarette advertisements banned on TV.
- Willie Mays hits his 638th HR, sets NL record of 1,950 runs scored.
- The Beatles' "Helter Skelter" is played at Charles Manson trial.
- Charles Manson & 3 women followers convicted of Tate-LaBianca murders.
- Richard Nixon installs secret taping system in the White House.
- Amtrak Railroad begins operation.
- US launches 1st satellite into lunar orbit from manned spacecraft.
- Construction begins on Louisiana Superdome.
- 1st broadcast of "Columbo" on NBC-TV.
- Walt Disney World opens in Bay Lake, Florida.
- Billie Jean King became 1st female athlete to win \$100,000.
- 5th Country Music Association Award: Charlie Pride wins.
- American "Dan Cooper" hijacks plane, extorts \$200,000 ransom before jumping out of plane over Washington State, never to be seen again.
- "Stairway to Heaven" by Led Zeppelin first played live at Ulster Hall, Belfast by Robert Plant, Jimmy Page, John Bonham and John Paul Jones.
- Ed Sullivan's final TV show on CBS.
- "Weebles wobble, but they don't fall down" - the Weeble Toys were released.
- Until now (?)... the PostMaster General was one of the candidates for Presidential Succession.
- Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory was funded by Quaker Oats in exchange for producing a tie-in candy bar, the "Wonka Bar".
- When Frank Sinatra couldn't get a ringside ticket to Ali & Frazier's Fight of the Century, he managed to get a press pass to shoot photos for LIFE magazine instead.
- Jerry Springer became the mayor of Cincinnati for 3 years.
- Spacewar!, a scientist-only lab game, became the Galaxy game, the first coin-operated video game.

Born: Kid Rock [Robert J Ritchie], musician/actor; Mary J. Blige, R&B singer-songwriter; Mariah Carey, singer; Shannen Doherty, actress; Tony Stewart, race car driver; Marco Rubio, politician

Deaths: Jim Morrison, singer-songwriter; Louis Armstrong, jazz trumpeter and singer; Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel, French fashion designer; James Cash Penney, founder J.C.Penney; The original Shamu, Sea World orca.

Minimum Wage - \$1.60 / hr.

new car - \$3560 avg.

new house - \$28,300 avg.

gallon of gas - 0.40 cents

loaf of bread - 0.25 cents

gallon of milk - 1.18 cents

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Trivia:

Which common word changes its pronunciation when the first letter is capitalized?