

# Stripling Irrigation Research Park

December 2018



Candace and Mandy decorating SIRP's Christmas tree.

View more of Stripling's photos at...

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

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# From the Superintendent

Wow – where did 2018 go – here we are in mid December already with holidays just around the corner. This year will certainly be one we'll remember for years to come.

Last month, we concentrated on finishing the harvest of our cotton and soybean crop. We harvested Dr. Kemeraït's cotton plots with our picker, along with non-data rows. We harvested the non-data row soybeans with our grain combine and then worked with our colleagues in Tifton to get a Zurn plot harvester brought over to harvest Dr. Vellidis' 19 soybean plots. We ran our stalk-puller implement through all of our cotton studies and then sowed rye cover crop seed in three of our fields (winter weeds will provide cover in other fields). We also did some fence repair of sections damaged by October's hurricane.

We added a new employee to the SIRP team last month. Mandy Brown started on November 15<sup>th</sup> in our of our Ag Specialist positions and will be primarily responsible for carrying out irrigation applications here at the Park. She is getting a crash course on pivots, laterals, SDI, VRI, VFD, plots, treatments and reps. Mandy is a 2017 ABAC graduate and is originally from Thomson, Ga. She previously worked with USDA entomology in Tifton. We're glad to have Mandy join our team!



Ag Specialist Mandy Brown

Visitors to SIRP last month included the Flint River Soil and Water Conservation District supervisors for their monthly meeting. We also had the Georgia FFA state officers come by for a tour.

I attended a couple meetings of importance in November. I was invited to participate in a meeting in Live Oak, Florida, that included several Florida Farm Bureau and Georgia Farm Bureau representatives for the purpose of initiating a discussion between the two groups about water resources, state laws and policies, and conservation, particularly as related to agriculture. Back in the summer, our friends with Georgia Farm Bureau started the discussion by inviting a representative from Florida to meet at Stripling Park. Candace and I had meetings in Athens on UGA main campus with all of CAES research and education center leadership from around GA. As I've noted, all RECs are now under the direction of Dr. Bob Stougaard, new Assistant Dean for Research for CAES. The meeting provided time for information sharing and planning as we move forward under Bob.

By the way, I'm pleased to report that Stripling Park has hosted 1007 visitors this year.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. SIRP will be shut down the week of Christmas so we can enjoy the time with our friends and families. We look forward to working with many of you in 2019!



Calvin Perry



# From the Superintendent

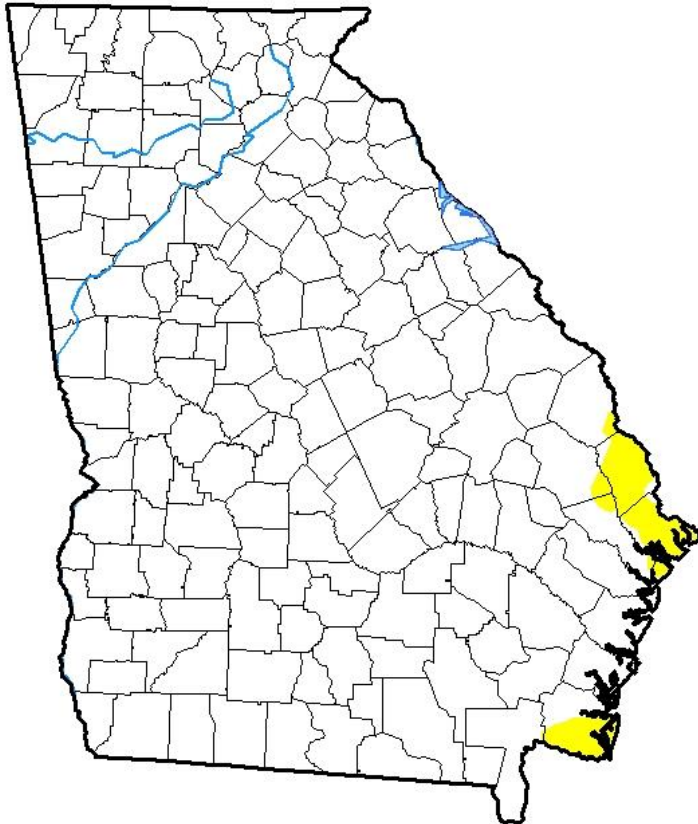
I was honored to receive one of 4 Alumni Award of Excellence recognitions from our UGA CAES Alumni Association last month. Former President & Jimmy Carter was inducted into the Georgia Ag Hall of Fame. Sonny Perdue, Secretary of Agriculture, assisted Dean Sam Pardue with the presentations. It was a wonderful event and I'm very grateful for the honor and for my friend, Dr. George Vellidis, for nominating me.



# Drought Conditions

## U.S. Drought Monitor Georgia

**December 4, 2018**  
(Released Thursday, Dec. 6, 2018)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	97.72	2.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 11-27-2018	89.00	11.00	2.29	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 09-04-2018	92.16	7.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-02-2018	12.14	87.86	40.66	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-25-2018	70.95	29.05	6.72	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 12-05-2017	24.91	75.09	44.68	0.00	0.00	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:

Deborah Bathke  
National Drought Mitigation Center



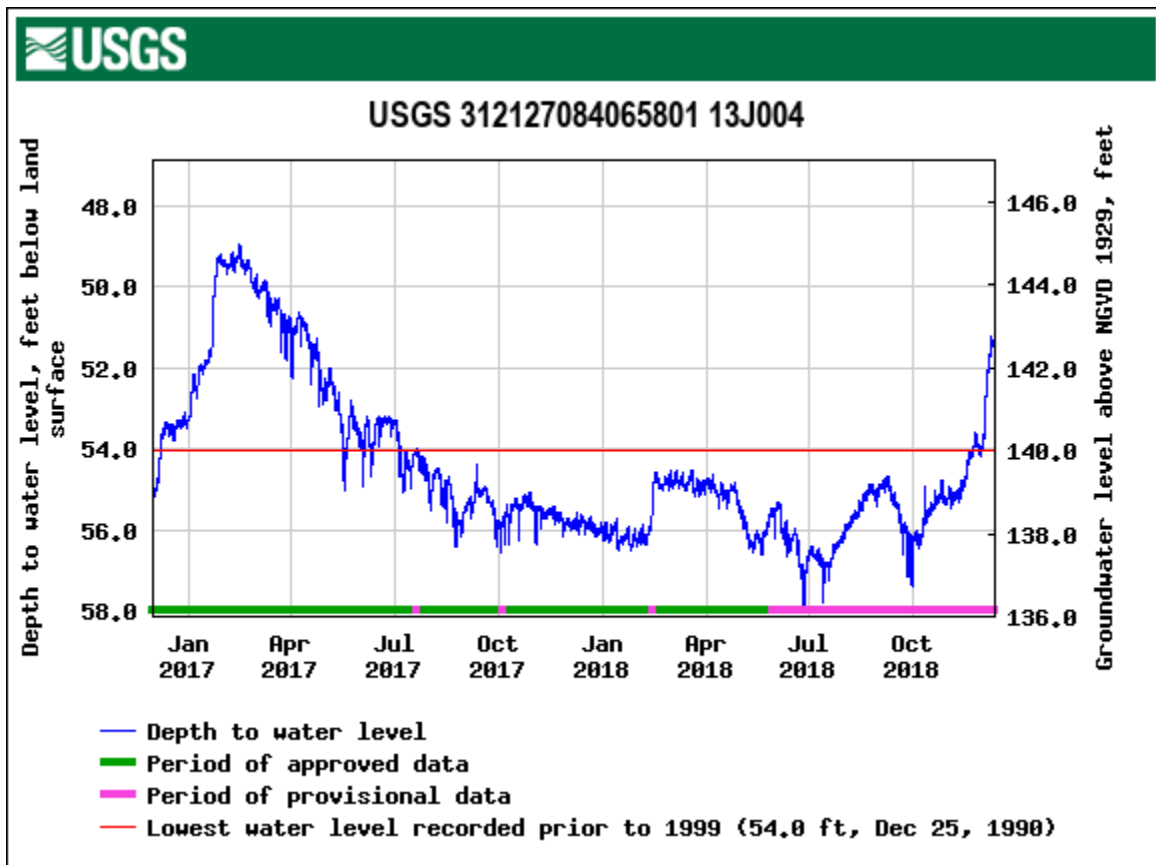
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

Drought Monitor map for Georgia as of December 4<sup>th</sup>. With the recent rains, conditions are such that 97.72% of the state is not classified as in a drought condition. There are a few counties on the coast that are abnormally dry.

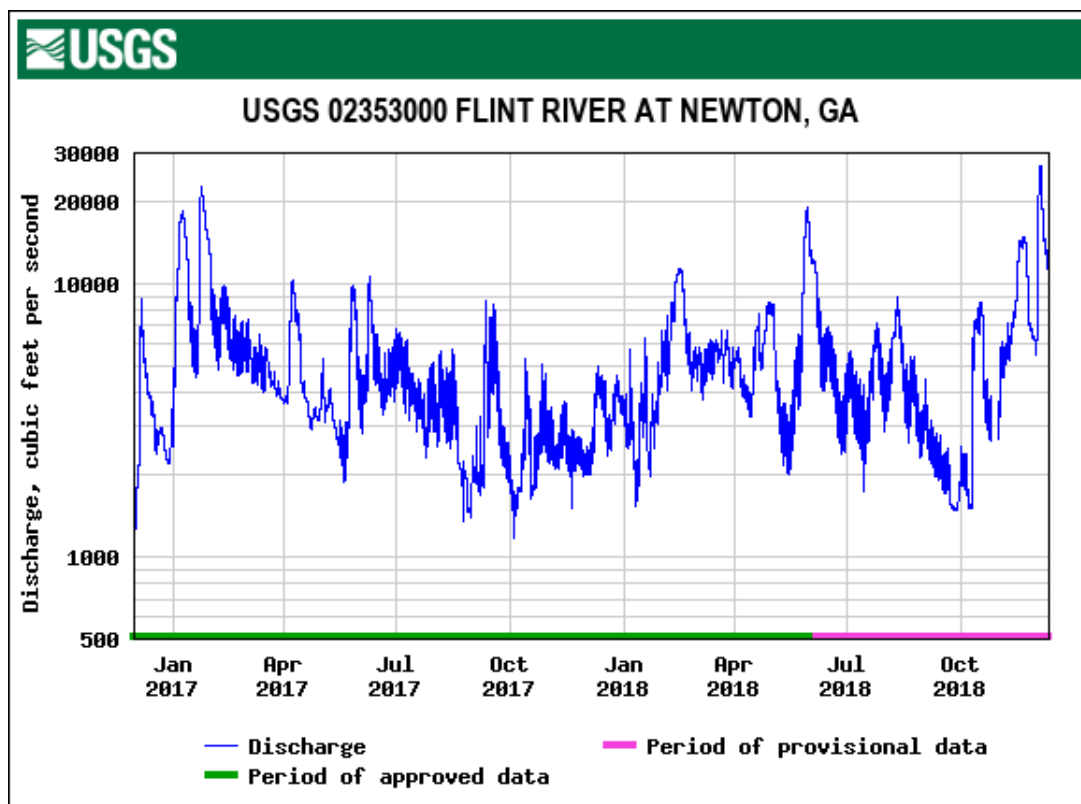
For more info:

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

# Water Resources



Above and below - USGS data for past 2 years for a groundwater monitoring well in northern Mitchell County and stream gage on the Flint River at Newton.





# At the Park



Above and below: David Griffin harvested soybean plots using Dr. Noland's (former faculty member) Zurn plot combine harvester.





# At the Park



Above and below: SIRP's BJ leading our fence repair effort. This section of fence was damaged by falling oak tree limbs as a result of hurricane Michael.





# At the Park



Above: State FFA officers toured SIRP.

Below: BJ and our inmate, Paul, doing some florescent light ballast repair.





# At the Park



Above: New employee Mandy working the bagging attachment in our 2-row cotton picker.

Below: Former employee Cale helping us collect soil samples.



# Events

## Past events

November 13	FRSWCD District Meeting
November 22-23	Thanksgiving holidays
November 26	ABAC class tour – Dr. Erin Porter
December 3-7	Irrigation Assoc. Show & Conf. (Long Beach CA)
December 11	FRSWCD District Meeting

## Upcoming events

January 8-10	Beltwide Cotton Conf. (New Orleans)
January 15	Westminster Schools student tour
January 17	Ga Peanut Conf. (Tifton)
January 22-23	Auburn Irrigation Conferences
January 30	Ga Cotton Conf. (Tifton)
June 11-13	4-H2O Summer Camp



# In the News

A month after Hurricane Michael, Ga. farmers grapple with losses

<https://www.myajc.com/business/economy/month-after-hurricane-michael-farmers-grapple-with-losses/fd0BSmFkj8qpfpvOfKJeoM/>

TROUBLESHOOTING PIVOTS AFTER HARVEST

[https://www.agriculture.com/machinery/irrigation-equipment/troubleshooting-pivots-after-harvest?cid=302854&did=302854-20181112&mid=16173952901&utm\\_campaign=todays-news\\_newsletter&utm\\_content=111218&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=agriculture.com](https://www.agriculture.com/machinery/irrigation-equipment/troubleshooting-pivots-after-harvest?cid=302854&did=302854-20181112&mid=16173952901&utm_campaign=todays-news_newsletter&utm_content=111218&utm_medium=email&utm_source=agriculture.com)

For Ga. Farmers Impacted By Hurricane Michael, The Road To Recovery Looms Large

<https://www.wabe.org/for-ga-farmers-impacted-by-hurricane-michael-the-long-road-to-recovery-looms-large/>

'We Don't Know What We're Gonna Do': Georgia Farmers A Month After Hurricane Michael

<http://www.gpbnews.org/post/we-dont-know-what-were-gonna-do-georgia-farmers-month-after-hurricane-michael>

New PheNode technology can help farmers make real-time decisions

[http://www.hpj.com/bickel/new-phenode-technology-can-help-farmers-make-real-time-decisions/article\\_8eb1a40c-ce56-11e8-b111-9f0879702e4a.html](http://www.hpj.com/bickel/new-phenode-technology-can-help-farmers-make-real-time-decisions/article_8eb1a40c-ce56-11e8-b111-9f0879702e4a.html)

Penetrating the soil's surface with radar

<https://www.soils.org/discover-soils/story/penetrating-soil-surface-radar>

Reinke introduces the Annex pivot controller

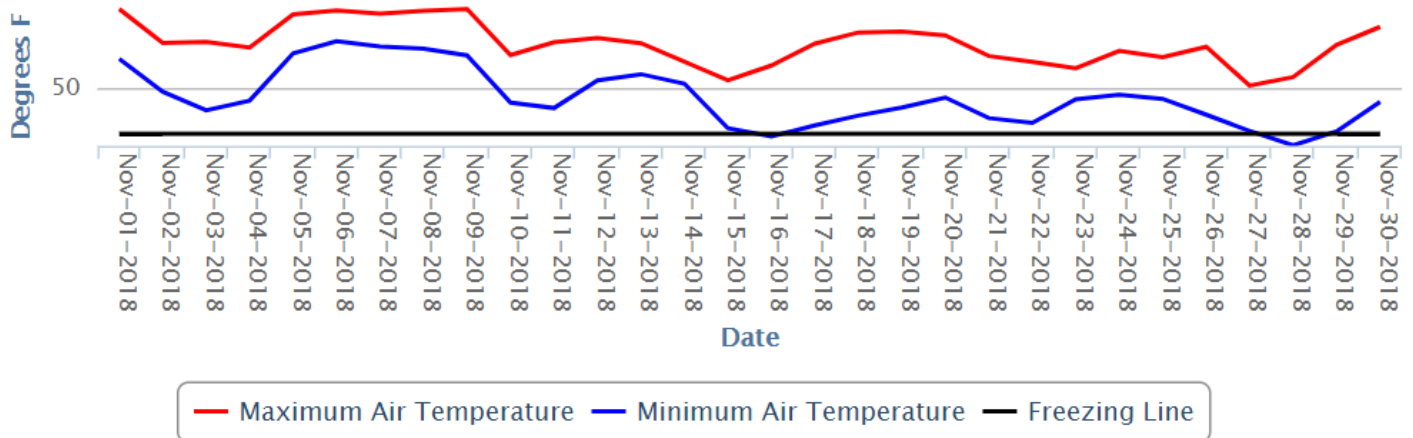
<http://georgia.growingamerica.com/news/2018/11/reinke-introduces-the-annex-pivot-controller-2018-11-15>

Preparing Ag Majors to Meet Modern Demands

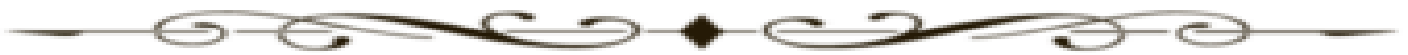
<http://georgia.growingamerica.com/features/2018/11/2018-11-14-SamPardue>

# SIRP Weather

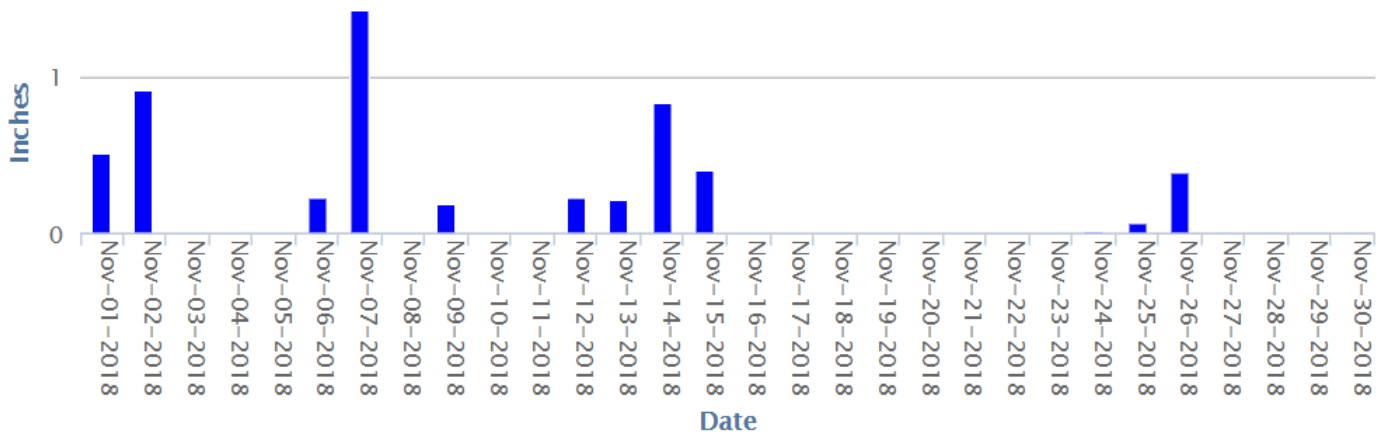
## Maximum Temperature, Minimum Temperature



Highcharts.com



## Daily Cumulative Rainfall



Highcharts.com

For November, SIRP had 5.48 inches of rainfall.

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



# Contact Information

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UNIVERSITY OF  
**GEORGIA**  
College of Agricultural &  
Environmental Sciences

**Did you know... ???**

On average, a cow produces 90(!) glasses of milk each day.