

Stripling Irrigation Research Park

February 2019



Mandy and helper removing shallow SDI drip tape.

View more of Stripling's photos at...
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/ugasirp>

This Month

- ▶ From the Superintendent
- ▶ At the Park
- ▶ Past & Upcoming Events
- ▶ In The News
- ▶ SIRP Weather



From the Superintendent

We spent much of January attending meetings locally and over in Tifton. We attended several Mitchell County Extension production meetings hosted by our local agent, Brian Hayes, that featured UGA Extension specialists. We also attended the Georgia Peanut Farm Show, the Georgia Corn Short Course and the Georgia Cotton Conference, all in Tifton. At the end of the month, we attended the Georgia Ag Forecast conference in Bainbridge. These meetings provide a wealth of info for growers and for us.

During January, the Park received 4.84 inches rain over 7 rainy days scattered over the month. With the Park receiving 9.73 inches of rain in December, we continue to be quite wet. (We've received 1.46 inches already in February). The high temps in January ranged from a balmy 80F to a chilly 46F, with lows ranging from 67F down to 27F. Our long-term averages for January show 62F high, 39F low, and 4.57 inches of rain over 8 rainy days. So, we were fairly average in January.

Because of wet field conditions, we've been limited in what we can do in our fields. We were able to get fertilizer spread on Dr. Vellidis' plots under our "Newton" lateral. This gives a nitrogen boost to the rye cover crop growing there. We also took advantage of moist soil conditions to (manually) remove the shallow SDI drip tape from our "Front-4 North" field. I had the shallow and deep tape installed back in 2010 but needs have changed to overhead sprinkler irrigation only. We'll leave the deep tape (12 inch) in the soil and let mother nature or deep tillage take it out over time.

We were pleased to again host a group of high school students from The Westminster Schools of Atlanta. As part of teacher David McMahan's Discovery program, the students again spent several weeks exploring the ACF 'water wars' issues in great detail. While in SW Georgia, the students were able to engage with us as well as with Glenn and Casey Cox. We gave them a tour of SIRP and covered several research and extension topics.

I made a presentation before the Georgia Corn Commission to go over results from my 2018 project. This was the 3rd and final year on my project comparing conventional and drought tolerant hybrids irrigated under full and deficit conditions with overhead and SDI drip irrigation.

I was pleased to be invited to present at both of Alabama Extension's Irrigation Water Management Strategies workshops held in Decatur and Dothan, AL on consecutive days. My topics were SDI drip studies as well as Variable Rate Irrigation (one of my favorite topics). Alabama has funding initiatives that will spur new irrigation.

Finally, I had the privilege of attending a reception honoring Dr. Craig Kvien as he prepares to retire from UGA/CAES after a long and impactful career. Dr. Kvien was instrumental in the creation of both the NESPAL facility and the Future Farmstead on the Tifton Campus. He also led the Precision Ag Team for many years and was the person pushing many of us at UGA/CAES to dive into Variable Rate Irrigation.



Calvin Perry

At the Park



Top: Mandy and helper removing shallow SDI drip tape from our Front 4 – North field.

Bottom: BJ installing a replacement RH module in our Davis Instruments weather station.



At the Park



Above and below: Mandy irrigating rye cover crop after fertilizer spread.
Her first 'solo' irrigation!



At the Park



Above and below: Spreading fertilizer on rye cover crop in Dr. Vellidis' plots in Newton Lateral.



At the Park



Above: Cale, BJ and Calvin presenting to Westminster/ATL students.
Below: The Westminster/ATL students pose at the Stripling Park sign.



Events

Past events

January 8-10	Beltwide Cotton Conf. (New Orleans)
January 15	Westminster Schools student tour
January 16	Disease Mgmt. Update (Mitchell Ag Ctr.)
January 17	Ga Peanut Conf. (Tifton)
January 22-23	Auburn Irrigation Conferences
January 24	Corn Short Course (Tifton)
January 28	Peanut Production Update (Mitchell Ag Ctr)
January 30	Ga Cotton Conf. (Tifton)
January 31	Ag Forecast - Bainbridge

Upcoming events

February 1	Ag Forecast - Tifton
February 5	Pecan Production Update (Mitchell Ag Ctr)
February 7	Young Farmers mtg.
February 19	Young Farmers mtg.
February 26	Cotton & Market Update (Mitchell Ag Ctr)
February 28	Young Farmers mtg.
June 11 - 13	4H2O Camp
July 18	Field Day

In the News

[Conservation through Innovation: Dynamic Variable Rate Irrigation](#)

[Grassroots Support for Georgia Agriculture](#)

[Who Owns the Water?](#)

[Georgia — and other states — have rural prosperity on their minds. Now how to get it done?](#)

[Disconnected: Broadband access lags in rural Georgia](#)

[WATER-CONSERVATION PROJECT SEEKS TO IMPROVE IRRIGATION EFFICIENCY IN NEBRASKA](#)

[New Opportunities for Soil Moisture Monitoring](#)

[Soil Scientist Works to Improve Variable Rate Irrigation](#)

[Sens. Perdue, Isakson introduce disaster relief package](#)

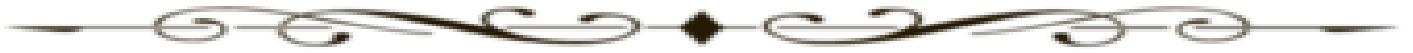
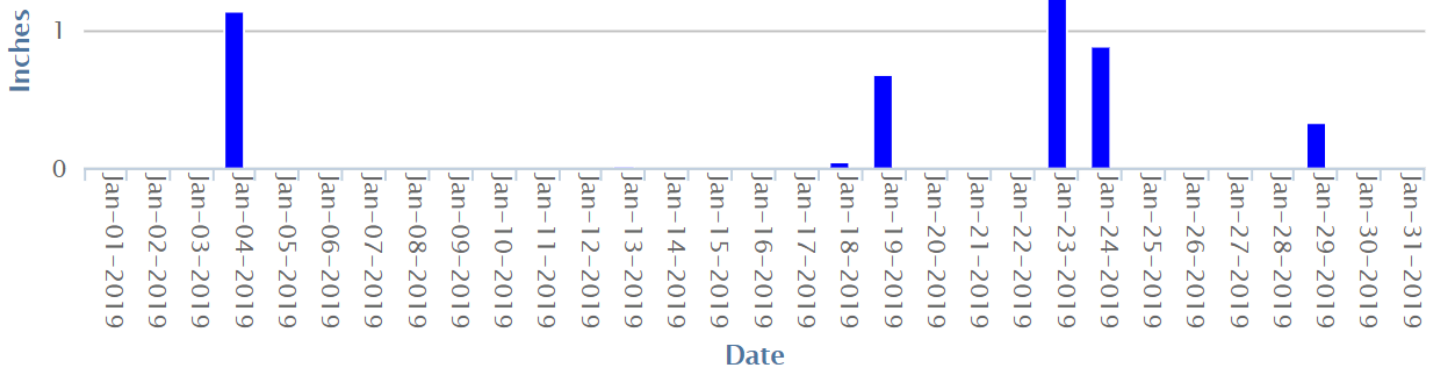
[Row Crops to Artisan Oils - One Farmer's Story of Successfully Diversifying](#)

Video:

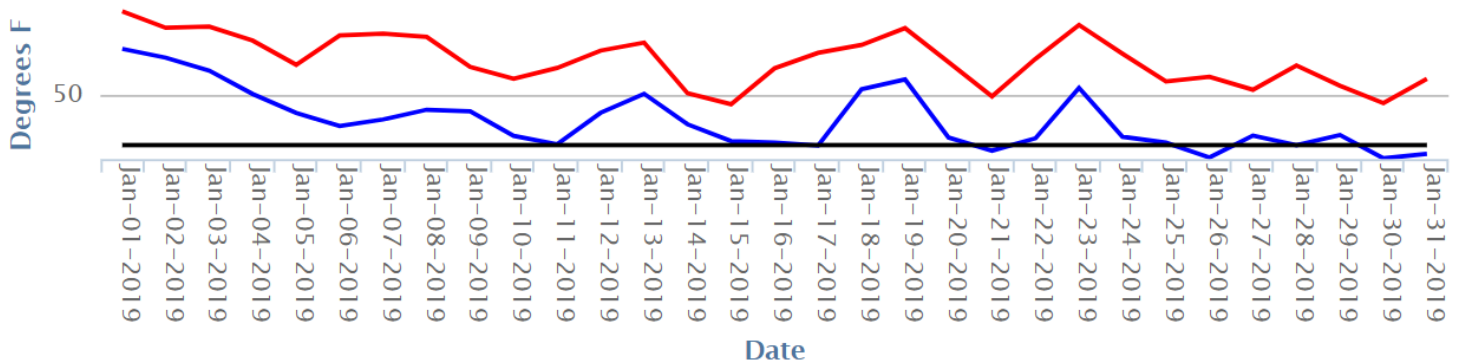
[AFBF President Duvall Shares Thoughts on Current Issues Facing Agriculture](#)

SIRP Weather

Daily Cumulative Rainfall



Maximum Temperature, Minimum Temperature



— Maximum Air Temperature — Minimum Air Temperature — Freezing Line

For January, SIRP had 4.84 inches of rainfall, compared to 9.73 inches in December.

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

Contact Information

CM Stripling Irrigation Research Park
8207 Highway 37 West
Camilla, GA 31730
(229) 522-3623

Calvin Perry (Superintendent): perrycd@uga.edu
Candace Gray (Admin. Associate): sirp@uga.edu



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA
College of Agricultural &
Environmental Sciences

Trivia:

What ag product is used in the Statue of Liberty?