



THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Colleges of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences & Family and Consumer Sciences

Seminole Crop News

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[Cicadas and Turkeys](#)

The Cicadas have been singing their song. You can find their old skins all around as they come out of the soil where they've been feeding on tree roots for almost a year, we have the annual ones here, not the periodical cicadas they have up further north. I had never seen them just emerged, but Judy Barber showed me this one that still has the wings coming out and it's green still, not the dark coloration we usually see.



Wild Turkeys



I don't know why they were crossing Joel Poole road this week, but I know they like to eat insects. Maybe they will provide us some biological control of caterpillars in nearby crops.
Aug 19

Cotton Variable

Cotton is variable across the county with most irrigated looking good. Bolls opening now are fluffing well and looking good with the recent sunny weather. Some early planted dry land cotton has bolls opening at the base of the plant and then there was a dry hot period of time when cotton almost bloomed out the top. Now some cotton like this below has a split crop and we'll have to decide whether to wait on the top crop.





As a contrast to the previous photo, this cotton was grown where it got more rain all along and is well fruited and tall. With a few more rains it should produce well.



Something else that grows well with a little moisture and fertilizer is Palmer amaranth. Here's Travis Braswell with a good sized escape.

17 Aug

Soybean Weed Control

Soybeans planted after corn harvest need to grow fast and without much competition. So when you think most of the volunteer corn is up, and there's always a good bit that comes up, it's good to spray a grass herbicide. David Hall says the late soybean crop will help control pigweeds in the field that he would have needed to deal with anyway due to the long growing season we have here after corn harvest.



UGA Extension Weed Scientist Eric Prostko and farmer David Hall discuss the best options for soybean weed control here. There is a good stand of soybeans and we'll soon be able to see them well when the corn dies back. There was also a flush of small broadleaf weeds coming up so a broadleaf herbicide with some residual will be used to control them.

[Weather Good and Bad Outlook News](#)

Here we have some comments about weather conditions from Dr. Mark Boudreau, UGA Biological & Agricultural Engineering.

Hot and dry conditions continue across the state, but sporadic rainfall here and there through July and early August have offered some drought relief and improved crops. Much of this comes from pop-up thunderstorms and so things vary from one locality to another. However, south Georgia remains in a state of extreme drought overall as of August 11, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor (<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>).

A summary for July conditions is available from the state climatologist's office at http://climate.engr.uga.edu/climsum/jul_11_summ.html.

As for the future, I have good news and bad news.

The good news is that the 3-month outlook from the Climate Prediction Center is for a reasonable chance for above-normal rainfall as shown below (available at <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>).

The U.S. Drought Monitor accordingly expects some improvement in the drought situation.

The bad news is that we may be in store for another La Nina winter, which means warmer- and drier-than-normal conditions. It's what we had last winter, and though we have moved from La Nina to neutral conditions since spring, NOAA is saying there's a 50-50 chance that the Pacific will move back into a La Nina state. Overall La Nina years happen 25% of the time, but they often come in pairs and conditions seem to be pointing in the direction of a repeat for 2011-2012. You can find the latest discussion at http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/enso_advisory/ensodisc.html.



Weather has played a big part in cotton growth this year. Here's Alex Johnson of the Reynoldsville area, where it has rained pretty well. This area has some of the best dry land cotton.

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