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Seminole Crop News

Aerial Applicator Fly-In a Success

March 28, 2014

On Thursday, UGA Extension had an educational event for aerial applicators at the Donalsonville airport and 8 area pilots participated in the training. There was classroom training and also they could fly their planes over a test area to analyze their spray pattern, their droplet sizes and gallons applied. Dr. Glen Raines, UGA Extension Engineer, was here to do the analysis and help get everything just right. They put water and blue dye in their tanks and flew over a cotton string and water sensitive strips. Then Dr. Raines analyzed the data to give recommendations.

Thanks to Patch Price, Georgia's senior (I won't say oldest) active Ag Pilot, and Seminole Aviation for hosting the event and providing lunch for the group.





I was often checking air speed as they flew over the test area at 12 to 20 feet high. The speeds ranged from 85 to 139 miles per hour.



Here Dr. Raines is showing the results of the string test with Pilots Patch Price and Wayne Womble.



Dr. Raines and Pilot Wayne Womble discuss his new spray nozzle setup and how to improve it.



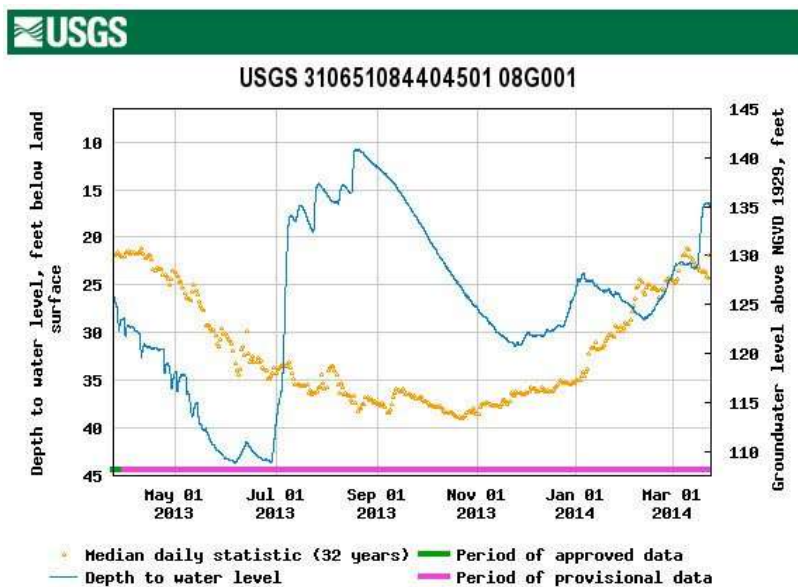
Water and Weather Info and Outlook

March 28, 2014

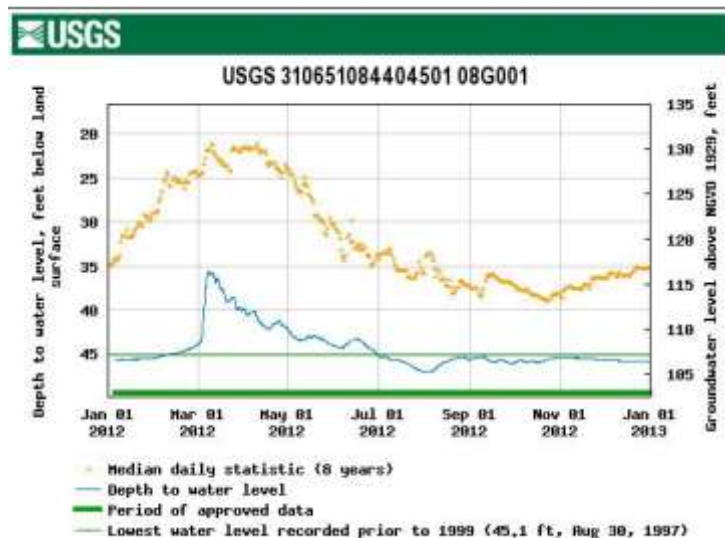
I gave a talk this week to our Young Farmers group concerning water and weather info and outlook. I have my slide show on youtube that you can watch below. I have links to most of the sites mentioned on my blog, that's what the first few slides are showing.

Here are some of the highlights.

The Floridan Aquifer here is in good shape. Here's water levels in the test well above Brinson Georgia in Miller county. This shows from this week and a year back in time. The blue line is our levels, The orange triangles are the long term average. So since July 2013 we are in good shape.



Here's what 2012 looked like with our aquifer levels, we were below average for sure.



We see that so far in 2014 we are having normal rainfall and it looks like we are forecast for this to continue.



Rainfall Calculator

Choose weather station - Donalsonville ▾

From: Jan ▾ 1 ▾ 2014 ▾

To: Mar ▾ 23 ▾ 2014 ▾

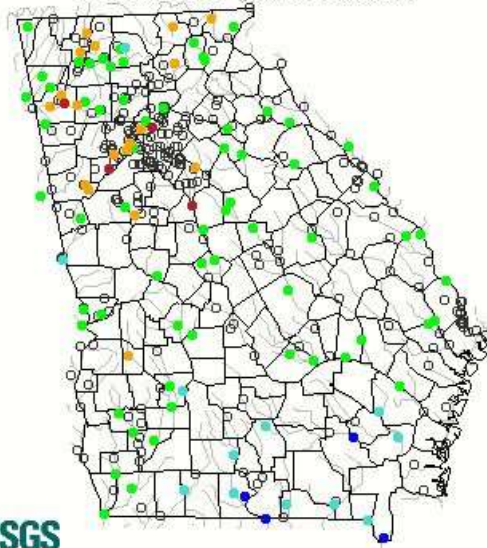
From Jan-1	To Mar-23	Total Precipitation [in]	Number of Rainy Days
2014	2014	13.04	38
2013	2013	N/A	N/A
2012	2012	14.19	31
2011	2011	11.06	26
1961	1990	14.20	N/A
1971	2000	15.64	N/A

You see that surface water in Georgia is in pretty good shape right now.

Daily Streamflow Conditions

Select a site to retrieve data and station informati

Monday, March 24, 2014 11:00ET

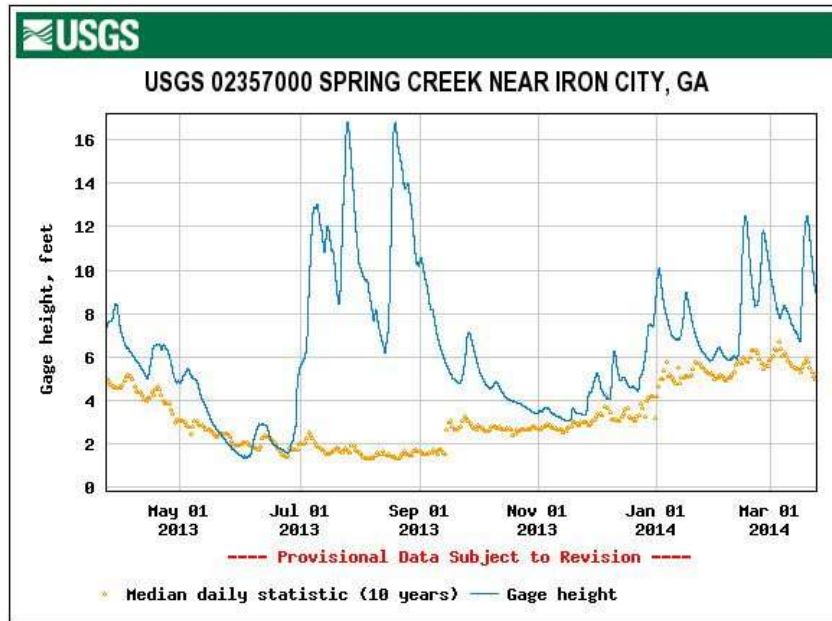


Explanation

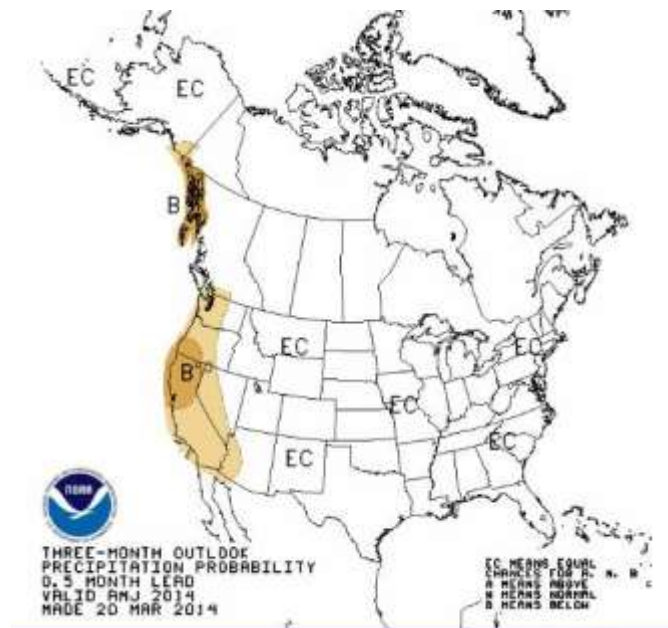
- High
- > 90th percentile
- 76th - 90th percentile
- 25th - 75th percentile
- 10th - 24th percentile
- < 10th percentile
- Low
- Not ranked

The colored dots on this map depict conditions as a percentile, which is a period of record for the current data stations with at least 30 years of record. The **gray circles** indicate other stations ranked in percentiles either because they have less than 30 years of record or because they measure parameters other than streamflow, for example, measure stage only.

Here's our own Spring Creek levels for the past year.



Our long term outlook is for normal rain, whatever normal is? What is normal?



Month old Corn

March 28, 2014

We now have some field corn that has celebrated a month of age today. I took some photos of it yesterday. It is growing with some challenges due to cool temperatures causing yellowing and slower growth and sand blasting.

Stands look pretty good so far, but we are having to deal with crusting soils in between the rains. We need to wet the crust in most cases to soften it to get all our plants up evenly. We are getting some sub surface unfurling and loss of plants due to the hard crust.



Here's some sandblasting that occurred with the high winds this week.



Soil crusting has been a problem, hurting us in some cases.



A light irrigation does a lot of good for this problem.



Question of the Week – Hognose Snake

March 28, 2014

Last week I had a snake photo and it was a Hognose snake aka Spreading Adder. They are pretty common here and cause no real harm to people. They like to eat frogs and toads, and do kind of look like a cobra when disturbed and hiss and flatten their necks. They will also play dead and flip over comically. This one had cloudy eyes apparently due to being close to shedding the old skin.

I had many correct answers and you can look in the comments question under the post last week to see some good information.



Here's this week's question. What is this?



Later,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rome Ethridge". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed on a light blue rectangular background.

Rome

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