



# Farm & Ranch Advisor

Jackson County Extension Agriculture Newsletter

Fall 2013

Volume 3 Number 2

## Cool Season Wheat & Forage Guides in this Issue

Inside this issue are two resources developed to aid with cool-season crop decisions. There is one, developed by Josh Thompson, to assist with wheat variety selection and general wheat production. The other is an overview of cool-season annual forage crops, developed by Doug Mayo, to help ranchers select the correct cool season annual forage that best fits their location and management, and the recommended varieties for the Panhandle. This unique format is different than the normal issue, to enable you to keep the information of interest for your operation.

## September Weather Summary

*Doug Mayo, County Extension Director*

September weather was a drastic change from the previous two months. Farmers were thankful to have a break from the daily rains. The dryer weather allowed for pesticide applications to beat back fungal diseases enhanced by all the wet weather, but for many fields, the fungal diseases had ramped up too far for complete control. For many ranches, this break was the first chance to harvest hay for the season. Reported hay yields have been high, but quality test results have been much lower than normal due to the maturity of the grass at harvest.

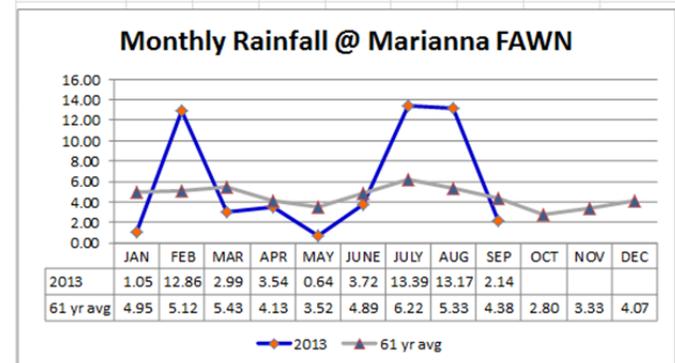
2013 may well be remembered as a year of feast or famine as it relates to rainfall. February, July, and August were heavy rainfall months; all other months, including September, were below average. Temperatures have remained very mild

when compared to previous years, due to so many overcast and rainy afternoons. There were only 12 days with high temperatures over 95 degrees in 2013, as compared to 29 in 2012, 81 in 2010, and 83 days over 95 degrees in 2010.

Month	Air Temp			Soil Temp			Rainfall Inches	Dev from 61 yr Avg
	High	Low	Avg	High	Low	Avg		
January	82	31	58	64	44	53	1.05	-3.90
February	77	27	55	61	42	52	12.86	7.74
March	83	29	55	66	42	53	2.99	-2.44
April	88	40	67	75	50	64	3.54	-0.59
May	94	44	73	90	57	73	0.64	-2.88
June	97	68	80	89	68	78	3.72	-1.17
July	96	69	78	84	67	75	13.39	7.17
August	96	66	79	89	68	77	13.17	7.84
September	96	58	78	86	66	76	2.14	-2.24
<b>2013</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>53.50</b>	<b>9.51</b>

Data: UF/IFAS Florida Automated Weather Network Marianna Station

Total days in 2013 <32° **7**      Total days in 2013 >95° **12**



The cumulative September rainfall (January through September) total of 53.5" recorded at the Marianna FAWN Station, is the highest total since 2005, when 53.6" fell, but only the 11th highest in the last 61 years. The combined rainfall of 26.6" that fell in July and August did set a record for the location, topping the previous two-month total of 21.2" in 2005. There were locations in Jackson, Bay, Washington, and Walton counties with much higher

totals for these two months. The 61-year historic average annual rainfall at the Marianna Research Station is 54"; so with three months still to come, 2013 will certainly be above average, but may not approach the record years with 70-80" of total annual rainfall. We will see what comes in the final three months of the year. In the end, 2013 may not set records for total annual rainfall, but it has certainly not been normal.

## **FDACS Precision Ag Cost Share Funds for Jackson Farms enrolled in BMP Program**

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) is offering a cost share program in Jackson County for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. The total funding amount available is \$100,000.00, with agricultural producers able to receive 75 percent of the cost, up to \$5,000.00, for the purchase of tools necessary to conserve water and protect water quality. Funds will be allocated on a first come, first served basis, with producers in the Jackson Blue Springs Basin having priority. The cost share program will be administered through the Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District.

For more information about the cost share program, please contact:

Carly Barnes, FDACS, 850-209-0123, or  
Carly.Barnes@FreshFromFlorida.com

Lola Allard, Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District 850-526-2610 extension 101, or  
la3jswcd@embarqmail.com

## **Upcoming Educational Programs & Events**

Complete listing of events and information available at <http://jackson.ifas.ufl.edu>



## **Panhandle Youth Expo October 22-24**

The Panhandle Youth Expo (county youth fair) will be held at the Jackson County Agriculture Center, located on Highway 90, west of Marianna, on October 22-24, 2013. 4-H and FFA youth will be exhibiting chickens, rabbits, hogs, cattle, plants,

baked goods, arts & crafts, sewing, etc. Come out and see the kids in action at the following events:

- Tuesday-Hog Show 3:00 PM
- Wednesday-Farm Judging 9:00 AM
- Wednesday-Goat Show 1:00 PM
- Wednesday-Beef Showmanship 2:00 PM
- Thursday-Breeding Beef Show 10:00 AM
- Thursday-Steer Show 1:00 PM
- Arts & Crafts exhibits open to public viewing

## **Florida State Beekeepers Conference & Field Day October 31-November 2**

The third annual UF/IFAS Beekeeping Field Day and Trade-show is proud to be part of the 2013 Florida State Beekeepers Association Meeting in Chipley FL. The Beekeepers Field Day will be held on Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, at the Washington County Agriculture Center. Participants will receive expert instruction, see live demonstrations, and have an opportunity for interaction with vendors and hundreds of other Florida beekeepers. Beekeepers with all levels of experience are encouraged to attend!

### **Topics at the Field Day include:**

- "Update on the Beekeeping Industry"
- "Splitting Beehives"
- "What's the Buzz about Honey?"
- "Products of the Hive"
- "Florida Honeybee Inspectors Question and Answer Session"
- Smoker Lighting Contest, Door Prizes, Lunch and more!

### **Registration:**

- \$ 15.00 per Person, \$ 10.00 for Each Additional Family Member (includes lunch)
- Call your local County Extension Office, 850-482-9620, to RSVP no later than October 25<sup>th</sup>.

## **Farm City Breakfast November 15**

The annual Chamber of Commerce's Farm City Breakfast will be held from 7:00 – 9:00 AM on Friday, November 15, at the Agriculture Conference Center, 2741 Pennsylvania Avenue, Marianna, FL. This breakfast is an annual celebration of the contribution of agriculture to the economy and tradition of Jackson County. Come see who will be

recognized for the following awards: Farm Family, Cattlemen of the Year, Corn, Hay, Tree, Cotton, and Peanut Farmers of the Year, Conservationist, and Ag Innovator. The successes of the local FFA and 4-H youth will also be highlighted. Once again, everyone who participates is invited to bring jars of peanut butter that will be donated to local food pantries.

### EQIP Sign Up Deadline November 15

The National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) provides cost share funding to farmers and ranchers who implement conservation measures on their farms. Although applications are accepted on a continuous basis, Florida NRCS has set a cut-off date of **Friday, November 15** for 2014 funding. (At press time the NRCS Office was still closed due to the Federal Government shutdown).

Two of the most popular programs offered are the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) and the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP). EQIP is available for financial and technical assistance with conservation practices for soil and water resources on farms, and WHIP assists landowners to enhance wildlife habitat on their property.

### Pesticide Applicator Training & Exam December 12

Need a Pesticide License for your farming operation? Come receive training and take the exam, all in the same day. Pesticide applicators needing to renew their licenses will also be able to receive one CORE and two Private Applicator CEU's. Cost is \$10 per person and includes lunch. RSVP with Extension Office by December 9<sup>th</sup>, at 850-482-9620, to reserve your spot.

Truly Yours,



Doug Mayo  
County Extension Director



Josh Thompson  
Regional Agronomy IPM Agent



Rob Trawick  
Horticulture Agent



## From the Bull Pen

### More Church Bulletin Bloopers

- The sermon this morning: Jesus Walks on Water. The sermon tonight: Searching for Jesus.
- Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a good chance to get rid of those things you don't want around the house anymore. Bring your husbands.
- Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
- Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10am. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B. S. is done.
- A bean supper will be held on Wednesday night in the Fellowship Hall. Music will follow.

### English is a Crazy Language

We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that:

- There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple.
- English muffins weren't invented in England, or French fries in France.
- Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.
- Boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.
- People recite at a play and play at a recital, and ship by truck and send cargo by ship.
- People have noses that run and feet that smell?
- How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?
- When the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.

Jackson County Extension  
 University of Florida  
 2741 Pennsylvania Ave., Suite 3  
 Marianna, FL 32448

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### Agriculture Calendar of Events

October	Event	Location
22-24	Panhandle Youth Expo	Jackson Ag Center Hwy 90
24	Jackson Co. Cattlemen's Assn. Banquet 6:00 PM	Jackson Ag Conference Center 2741 Penn Ave Marianna
November	Event	Location
2	Beekeepers Field Day	Washington Co. Ag Center
15	Jackson Co. Farm City Breakfast 7:00-9:00 AM	Jackson Ag Conference Center 2741 Penn Ave Marianna
15	Peanut Butter Challenge Donation Deadline	Jackson County Extension Office 2741 Penn Ave Marianna
15	Deadline for EQIP & WHIP	NRCS Office
December	Event	Location
11	GI-BMP (Fertilizer) & Pesticide Training	Jackson County Extension Office 2741 Penn Ave Marianna
12	Pesticide Applicators Training & Exam	Jackson County Extension Office 2741 Penn Ave Marianna

UF/IFAS Extension programs are open to all persons without regard to race, color, sex, age, disability, religion, or national origin. Persons with special needs should contact the Extension Office at least 5 working days prior to the event, to allow consideration to be given the request.

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**Jackson County Extension**

**850-482-9620**

web page: <http://jackson.ifas.ufl.edu>