

January 8, 2025

**Alabama:** December temperatures were slightly warmer than usual. Total rainfall for the month ranged from 0.6 inches in Henry County to 14.1 inches in Fayette County. The rainfall received throughout the month did slightly alleviate drought conditions for the state. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 81.1 percent of the state had abnormally dry conditions by month's end, compared to 99.3 percent at the month's beginning. Many producers were able to make good progress with planting and harvesting due to the dry conditions. Fall seeded crops and winter grasses were in good condition throughout the month, especially with the received rain at the end of the month. For some, winter grazing annuals were slightly delayed due to fall drought conditions. Hay was in high demand and hard to come by due to the drought experienced over the summer and fall coupled with armyworm damage. Strawberry producers were working to protect their crops due to concern of upcoming cold temperatures. Overall, pastures were in fair condition. Producers who previously planted winter forages, reported greener pastures. Most cattle producers were supplementing livestock with hay. Cattle conditions were reported to be mostly fair and suffered some considering the decline in pasture growth.