



The University of Georgia

# C.M. STRIPLING

## Irrigation Research Park



Stripling Irrigation Research Park  
May 2009 Event and Activity Update

### *Rainfall at SIRP:*

Since April 1, the weather station at SIRP has recorded 2.29 inches of rainfall. As most of you know, we were beginning to need some moisture in the root zone of our corn and wheat. Remember, for information from one of UGA's automated weather stations near you, go to [www.georgiaweather.net](http://www.georgiaweather.net).

### *Field Activities:*

Field activities in field corn, sweet corn, winter wheat, tomatoes and bell pepper are in full swing. Research protocols for these studies require SIRP staff to apply fertilizer, herbicides, fungicides, insecticides, etc. in proper amounts at the proper time. SIRP is also responsible for the irrigation of all of these crops.

**Dr. Juan Carlos-Diaz**, Assistant Professor of Horticulture, recently put in a watermelon study in the SIRP drip field. This study involves drip irrigating plots with different amounts and later measuring yield and quality.

### *Building Addition:*

We signed off on the punch list for completing the building renovations on April 7th. We are pleased with the final product, especially considering our limited budget for this renovation. We do have the contractor coming back to adjust a door or two. Jay Hathorn and Rad Yager have moved into their new offices and are happy with the new accommodations. We are hoping our contact in Tifton will be able to locate some furnishings via federal excess property (surplus).

### *New Hire:*

We are in the process of hiring a summer employee / intern to assist with field work, data collection, etc. Funding for this position is coming from grants (corn and cotton) received from two of our researchers. This illustrates how grant funding has become critical in recent years.

*Web Site:*

Be sure to check out SIRP's NEW web domain at [www.striplingpark.org](http://www.striplingpark.org). It is the same website, but with an easier to remember name to access it. We are continuing to update the material on the site and have plans to make it more useful to our clientele.

*Upcoming Events/Meetings:*

May 22<sup>nd</sup> – NRCS senior GA staff, to learn about new and emerging irrigation water management technology.

June 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4H2O Summer Education Program with FlintRiverquarium, Jones Center, and Mitchell Co. 4-H.

June 30<sup>th</sup> – SIRP Field Day (9-12 w/ lunch), Advisory Committee meeting 2pm.

July 23<sup>rd</sup> – Institute for Georgia Environmental Leadership (IGEL) session.