



College of Agricultural &
Environmental Sciences

Stripling Irrigation Research Park
November 2010 Event and Activity Update

Recent Activities at the Park:

- Oct 12 – Georgia state-level NRCS engineering tour
- Oct 19 – Sunbelt Expo, Calvin meets with Rep. Jack Kingston at Valley Irrigation booth
- Oct 20 – Sunbelt Expo, Calvin interviewed for GrowingGeorgia video
- Oct 25 – Georgia Agri-Leaders tour
- Oct 27 – Georgia Conservancy legislative tour

Recent Visitors:

- Oct 7 – David Reckford (Flint River Basin Partnership)
- Oct 7 – Schuster's Cash film crew (for SGRITA marketing film)

Field Activities:

Peanuts and cotton were harvested at SIRP over several days in October. The peanut plots were harvested with our VERY old Lilliston 1500 peanut combine (see photo below). Special thanks to Charles Stripling for allowing us to rob parts off of his family's VERY old Lilliston combine to keep our's functioning. We harvested non-data rows with a newer Lilliston peanut combine that was donated to SIRP earlier this year.

Cotton harvest has ended for about half of SIRP's plots. We have picked with our 'new' 1993 John Deere 9930 2-row picker fitted with a new bagging attachment built for us by Snipes Equipment Fabrication of Sale City. With only minor tweaking, the bagger has worked very well. Also, the picker itself has performed very well with only minor repairs. This is a plus for our researchers (a bagger picker on-site) and for SIRP (don't have to pay custom picker). Prices for our cotton ginned thus far with Funston Gin have been excellent. We'll have more on yield and grades for both crops in a later newsletter.

We are now on the look-out for a **2-row KMC peanut combine** in pretty good shape that a generous farmer would be willing to donate to SIRP/UGA. KMC has been willing to help UGA by refurbishing the combines Dr. Beasley has found, including putting on a bagging attachment.

Weather Happenings at SIRP:

It's pretty darn dry out there. The total amount of rainfall received at SIRP during October (according to our 'official' rain gage) was **0.89** inches. This compares to 1.35 inches in September, 5.89 inches in August, 3.75 inches in July, and 3.36 inches in June. As of today, SIRP has received only 37.34 inches of rainfall. As always, for information from one of UGA's automated weather stations near you, go to www.georgiaweather.net.

Water on Television:

The GPB documentary on the GA-FL-AL water wars - '**Chattahoochee - From Water War to Water Vision**' was a pretty good film. There was a segment during the film that featured variable-rate irrigation and farmer Steve Singletary. Stripling Park provided some background material for the film. I suspect it will be aired again and would be worth watching.

Upcoming Events:

- Nov 3 – Southeast Region NRCS Technical Workshop tour
- Nov 9-11 – Cotton Inc Crop Management Seminars and Precision Ag Workshop (Memphis)
- Nov 16 – SW District County Agent Training on ag water conservation
- Nov 18 – Researcher Appreciation Lunch (invitation only)
- Nov 23 – Calvin speaks to Colquitt Co. Young Farmers
- Nov 25-26 – Thanksgiving holidays – SIRP closed
- Nov 30 – Meeting with Dot Harris (GA NRCS)

Trivia:

In one glass of water, there are about 8,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 (8 septillion water molecules).

Photos of Recent Activities:



Picking peanut plots in Dr. Faircloth's test area.



Harvesting cotton test plots. Chance and Matt are operating the bagging attachment.