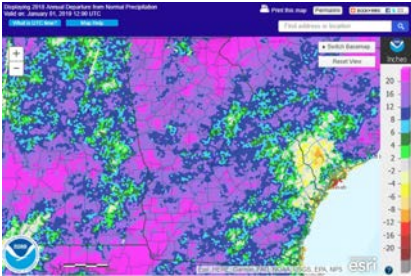


**Climate Outlook and  
Implications for the  
Hay Market**

**Pam Knox**  
Director, UGA Weather Network  
[pknox@uga.edu](mailto:pknox@uga.edu)  
706-310-3467

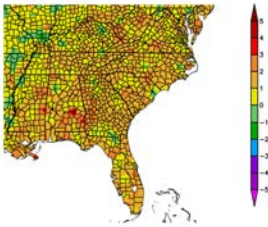
A Look Back at 2018-Precipitation



<http://water.weather.gov/precip/>

A Look Back at 2018-Temperature

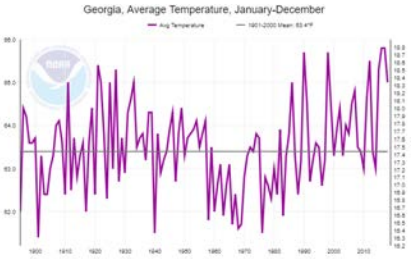
Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
1/1/2018 - 12/31/2018



Generated 1/20/2019 at HPRCC using provisional data. NGA Regional Climate Centers

<https://hprcc.unl.edu/maps.php?map=ACISClimateMaps>

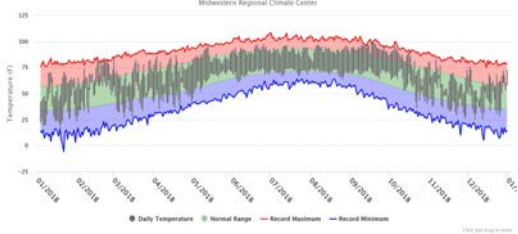
2018 was cooler than 2017 but still well above  
the long-term average



<https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag>


Macon in 2018

Daily Temperature Normals and Extremes for Macon Area (GA)  
Midwestern Regional Climate Center



<http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/Station/Monthly/StnNormsExtremesChart.jsp>

No long-term trend in Georgia's precipitation

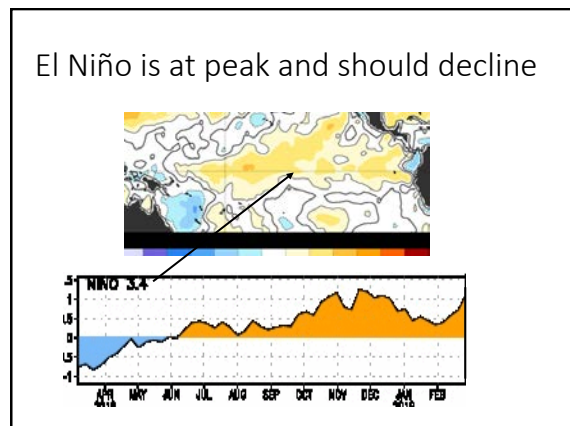
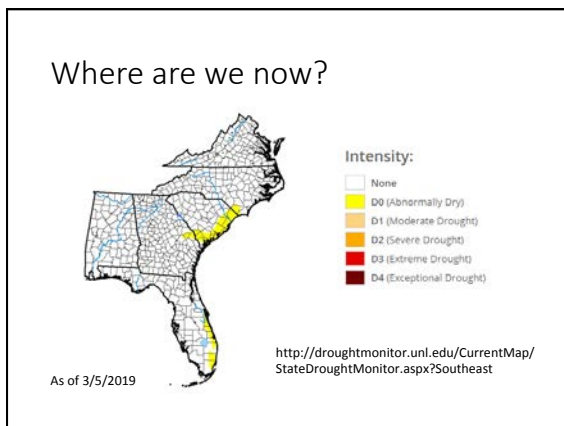
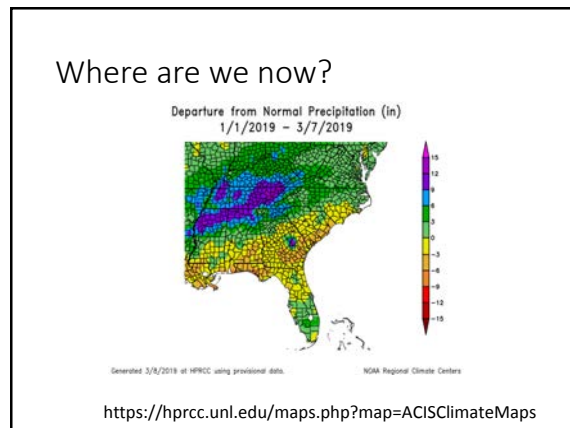
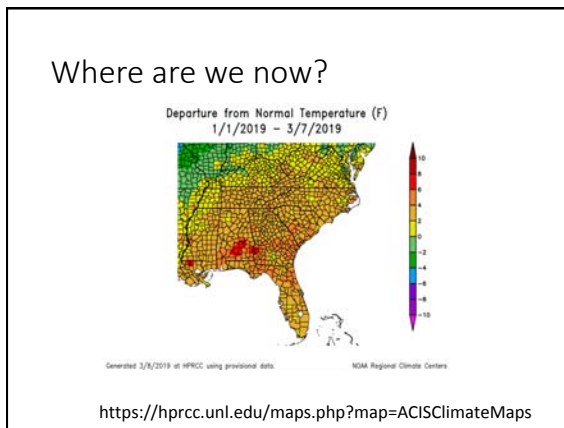
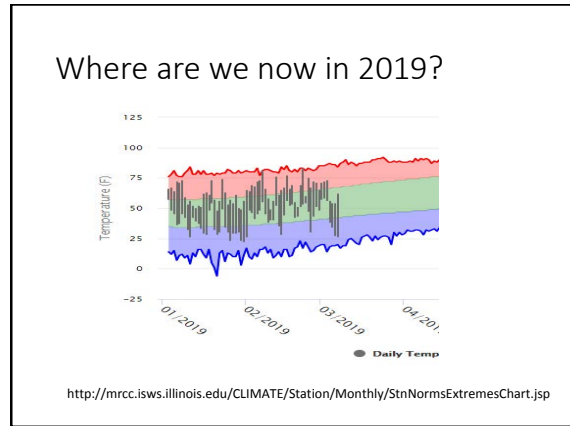
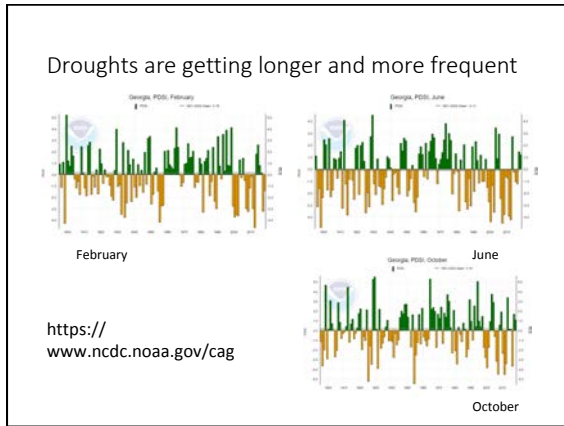


<https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag>



**2019 Baleage and Silage Short Course:**  
 Climate Outlook and Implications for the  
 Hay Market

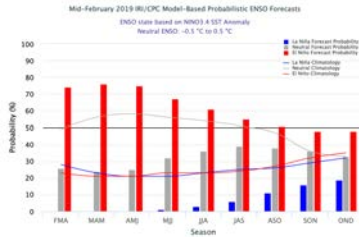
**Dr. Pam Knox**  
 UGA Extension Climatologist



**2019 Baleage and Silage Short Course:**  
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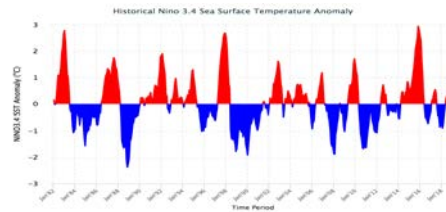
**Dr. Pam Knox**  
 UGA Extension Climatologist

El Niño is expected to continue into summer and possibly through next winter



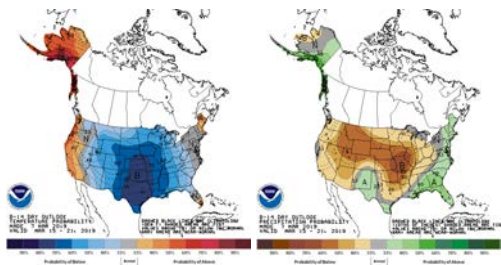
<https://iri.columbia.edu/our-expertise/climate/forecasts/enso/current-2/>

It is rare to have an El Niño two years in a row but not unprecedented



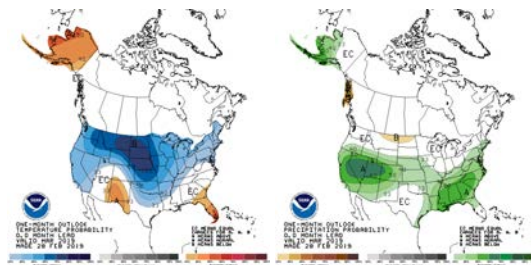
<https://iri.columbia.edu/our-expertise/climate/forecasts/enso/current-2/>

Outlook for days 8-14



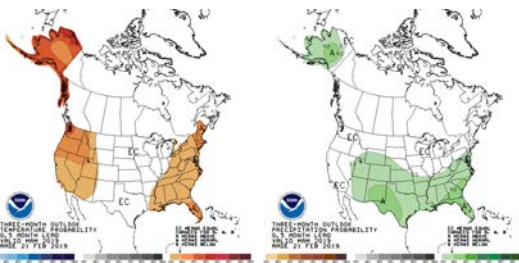
<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/>

Outlook for March 2019



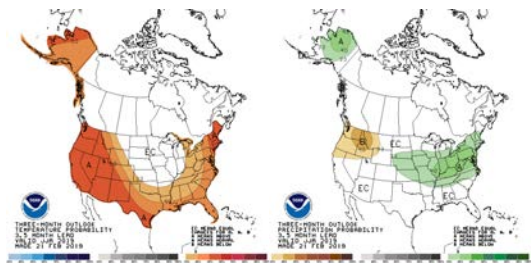
<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/30day/>

Outlook for March-May 2019



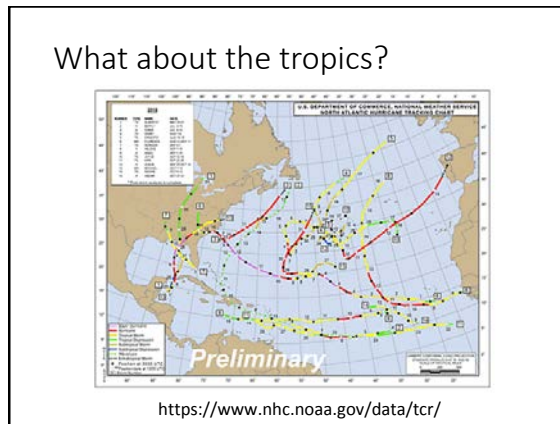
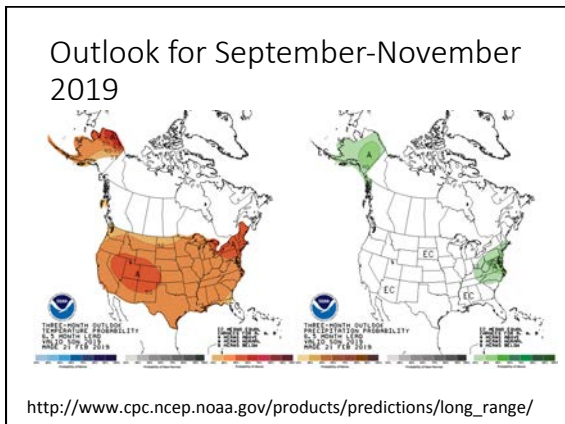
[http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long\\_range/](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/)

Outlook for June-August 2019



[http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long\\_range/](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/)





Forecast for 2019 Growing Season

- Wet conditions are expected to continue through spring
- The rest of March does not lean towards warmer or colder than normal conditions
- Drought is not likely to return this summer
- Atlantic tropical season will be less active due to El Niño, but we don't know where any storms will go

What it means for hay and forage

- Wet soils may make fieldwork difficult and drown out stands in low-lying areas
- Warmer than normal temperatures should help dry out pastures and hay fields
- Keep an eye on the tropics from June on to make sure you avoid big rain events for drying

Looking for volunteer rainfall observers

Check it out at  
<http://www.cocorahs.org>

Thank you!

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<https://site.extension.uga.edu/climate>

