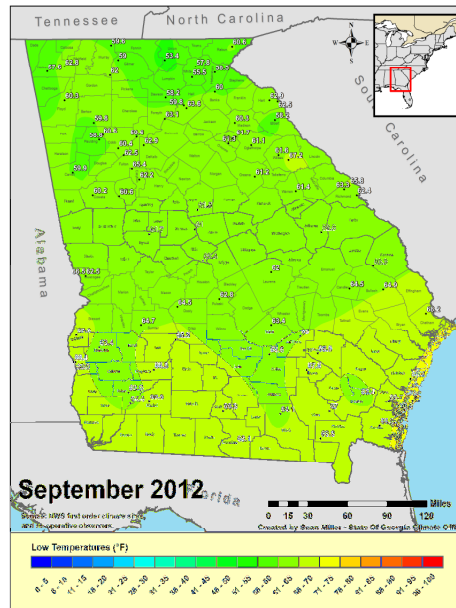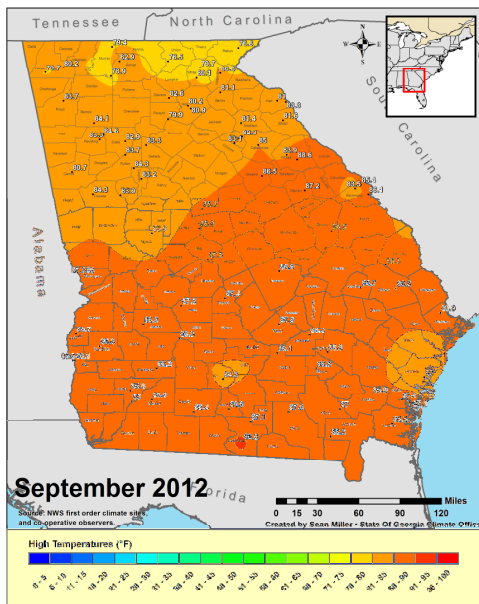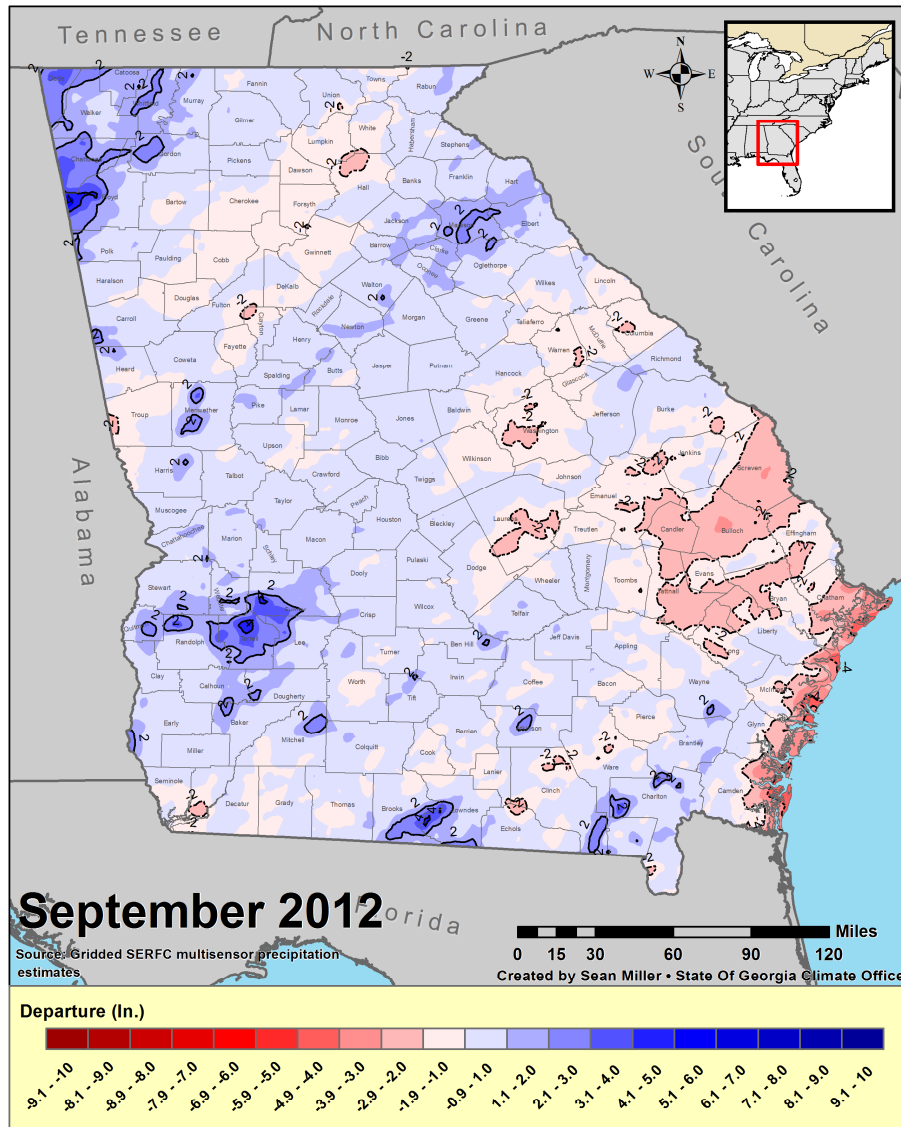# September 2012 Climate Summary - Georgia

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A persistent trough of low pressure over the northeast continued to be the dominant synoptic feature through much of the month of September. Temperatures remained near normal across much of the state. Although temperatures were near average in September, several cities are experiencing their warmest ever year-to-date. The entire state of Georgia ranks as the 6th warmest year on record (at 68.4°F) for the nine-month period of Jan.1st- Sept.30th, 2012. It also ranks 1st warmest year since 1932. Among the first order climate sites, Atlanta ranks 1st warmest year to date (+3.9°F), as well as Columbus (+3.1°F). Savannah, GA is experiencing its 5th warmest year-to-date, at +2.6°F, while Macon is +2.7°F above normal thus far. The average temperature departure among the selected first order sites and select co-op stations was +3.1°F.

Periods of moderate rainfall allowed areas in the extreme northwest and parts of southwest Georgia to receive over two inches of above normal rainfall for the month. Areas within the core of the drought saw brief periods of beneficial rainfall, allowing the spatial coverage of the severe to exceptional drought to decrease in parts of North and Central Georgia. Some portions, however, did not benefit as much, with Atlanta Hartsfield recording -3.1 inches for September. The cities of Alma and Brunswick in southeast Georgia also received below normal rainfall, at –1.45 and –2.9 inches, respectively. Plains, Georgia is experiencing its

1st driest year-to-date (at -15.41 inches below normal), which helps verify the D4 in Sumter County, where there is a sharp gradient of dryness.

The 90-day outlook from the Climate Prediction Center called for above normal temperatures and above normal precipitation due to a weak El Nino pattern expected. Although some improvement is forecasted for the long-term drought areas of Georgia, long-term precipitation deficits are not expected to be eliminated.

THREE-MONTH OUTLOOK
TEMPERATURE PROBABILITY
0.5 MONTH LEAD
VALID OND 2012
MADE 20 SEP 2012

EC MEANS EQUAL
CHANCES FOR A. N. B
A MEANS ABOVE
N MEANS NORMAL
B MEANS BELOW

THREE-MONTH OUTLOOK
PRECIPITATION PROBABILITY
0.5 MONTH LEAD
VALID OND 2012
MADE 20 SEP 2012

EC MEANS EQUAL
CHANCES FOR A. N. B
A MEANS ABOVE
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