

## Georgia Commodity Commission for Soybeans—2022 Summary Report

Project Title: Support of UGA Georgia Weather Network, 2022

Principal Investigator: Pam Knox, 706-5427186, pknox@uga.edu

Total Budget for 2022: \$5,000

The UGA Georgia weather network provides weather information to growers in the State of Georgia from a network of 89 automated weather stations distributed across the state. Weather data gathered and disseminated by the Georgia Weather network, as well as information derived from that data such as drought severity, provide a critically needed resource to soybean producers in the state of Georgia. The weather and climate information generated by the weather network provides the data for the underlying tools and calculators that have been developed to assist soybean producers in Georgia, including growing degree day calculators and current solar radiation data.

The UGA weather network continues to be maintained at a high level of functionality and overall the weather network continues to provide high quality weather information in a timely manner. Each station is visited at 6 week intervals to ensure quality of siting and accuracy in measurement of weather variables. In 2022, we added a new station in Grey and replaced the station in Byromville, which was destroyed by a tornado in early April.

In 2022 all network communications equipment were completely upgraded to new cell modems to ensure the continuous transmission of data in the transition to 4G cell service.

All the data is currently collected and maintained in text files. A database which will be used to store and manipulate all the data has been created and is waiting for a new website to be migrated to our cloud server. It will remove the need for text files and allow additional calculators such as a solar radiation accumulation tool to be developed. We will switch over to the database in 2023 due to continuing issues with hiring a website programmer. We were unable to hire a web programmer in 2022 due to lack of interest in our position but are planning to contract the work out in 2023. This should allow us to do more climatological studies as well as provide us with quicker access to the database for queries by producers.