

Agricultural Crop Seasons - Alabama

The Program acknowledges that there are numerous information sources publicly available that contain general crop planting and harvest date information. These sources often provide conflicting crop season date statistics. In order to obtain crop season dates for the most commonly grown crops in Alabama, the Program reviewed data compiled and reported by the USDA and/or State-level departments of agriculture. The Program analyzed the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service data (similar to the data provided at www.nass.usda.gov) which reports survey information related to farmer activities, such as planting and harvesting of crops. Using this survey data, the Program identified the dates by year in which at least 50 to 60 percent of the state's crop acreage was planted and harvested for a specific crop ("Survey Date"). Using the Survey Date, the Program selected the beginning of the month closest to the Survey Date as the crop planting date, and the last day of the month closest to the Survey Date as the crop harvesting date.

Additional research indicated that the activities required to prepare the fields for planting typically takes 30-45 days. Therefore, the Program adjusted the crop planting date by one month to determine the crop season start date. For example, if the crop planting date developed above is April 1st, the Program uses March 1st as the start of the crop season ("USDA Crop Season"). The crop harvesting date developed above is considered the end of the USDA Crop Season.

The Program conducted additional research to ensure the reasonableness and accuracy of these USDA Crop Season dates. For example, the USDA's Field Crops Usual Planting and Harvesting Dates Report, issued in October 2010¹, contains the periods in which crops were planted and harvested over the preceding 20 years based upon historical crop progress data. The Program has observed that the USDA Crop Season dates are in line with the average date ranges in the Report, or has understood any variances that occurred in a given year.

When USDA National Agricultural Statistic Service data was not available for a specific crop the Program may identify USDA Crop Season Dates from another Gulf State as a proxy for the Claimant's crop season or information reported by individual states in a statistical publication. When available, the Program utilized the Alabama Annual Agricultural Statistics Bulletins² to identify the "Normal Crop Progress" dates for specific crops.

¹ <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/planting/planting-10-29-2010.pdf>

² [http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics by State/Alabama/Publications/Annual Statistical Bulletin/index.php](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics%20by%20State/Alabama/Publications/Annual%20Statistical%20Bulletin/index.php)

USDA Crop Season - Alabama

USDA Crop Seasons											
Alabama	2007		2008		2009		2010		2011		
Crop Type	Start Date	End Date	Start Date	End Date	Start Date	End Date	Start Date	End Date	Start Date	End Date	
Cotton	A	4/1/2007	10/31/2007	4/1/2008	10/31/2008	5/1/2009	11/30/2009	5/1/2010	10/31/2010	4/1/2011	10/31/2011
Peanuts	A	5/1/2007	10/31/2007	5/1/2008	10/31/2008	5/1/2009	10/31/2009	5/1/2010	10/31/2010	5/1/2011	10/31/2011
Corn	B	4/1/2007	8/31/2007	4/1/2008	8/31/2008	3/1/2009	8/31/2009	3/1/2010	8/31/2010	N/A	N/A
Hay, first Cutting	B	N/A	6/30/2007	N/A	5/31/2008	N/A	5/31/2009	N/A	5/31/2010	N/A	N/A
Peaches	B	N/A	5/31/2007	N/A	5/31/2008	N/A	5/31/2009	N/A	5/31/2010	N/A	N/A
Pecans	B	N/A	10/31/2007	N/A	10/31/2008	N/A	10/31/2009	N/A	10/31/2010	N/A	N/A
Soybeans	B	5/1/2007	10/31/2007	5/1/2008	10/31/2008	5/1/2009	10/31/2009	5/1/2010	10/31/2010	N/A	N/A
Spring Potatoes	B	1/1/2007	5/31/2007	1/1/2008	5/31/2008	1/1/2009	5/31/2009	1/1/2010	5/31/2010	N/A	N/A
Summer Potatoes	B	3/1/2007	7/31/2007	3/1/2008	7/31/2008	3/1/2009	7/31/2009	3/1/2010	7/31/2010	N/A	N/A
Sweet Potatoes (North)	B	5/1/2007	9/30/2007	5/1/2008	9/30/2008	5/1/2009	9/30/2009	5/1/2010	9/30/2010	N/A	N/A
Sweet Potatoes (South)	B	4/1/2007	8/31/2007	4/1/2008	8/31/2008	4/1/2009	8/31/2009	4/1/2010	8/31/2010	N/A	N/A
Wheat	B	10/1/2006	5/31/2007	10/1/2007	5/31/2008	10/1/2008	5/31/2009	10/1/2009	5/31/2010	10/1/2010	N/A

A - Crop Season dates were calculated based on the USDA Survey Data and are summarized on pages 3-12 (www.nass.usda.gov).

B - USDA Survey Data was not available. Program utilized "Normal Crop Progress" dates obtained from the "Alabama Agricultural Statistics Bulletin" issued for the following years: 2007 through 2011 (http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Alabama/Publications/Annual_Statistical_Bulletin/index.php)

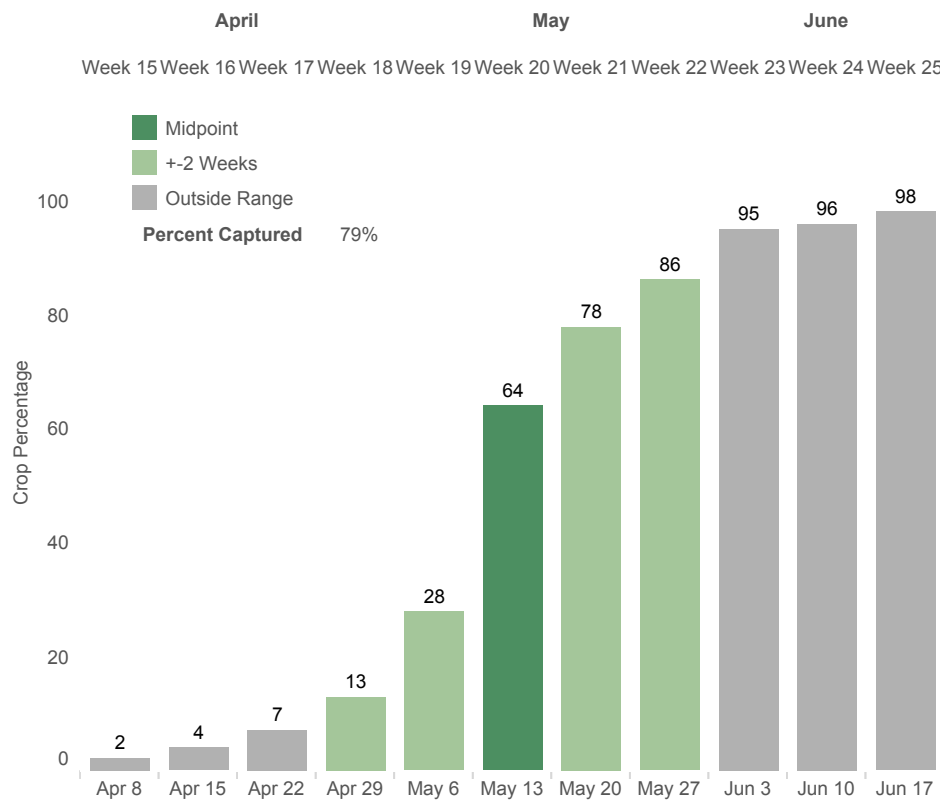
State Alabama
 Crop Cotton
 Year 2007

Deepwater Horizon Economic Claims Center (DHECC)

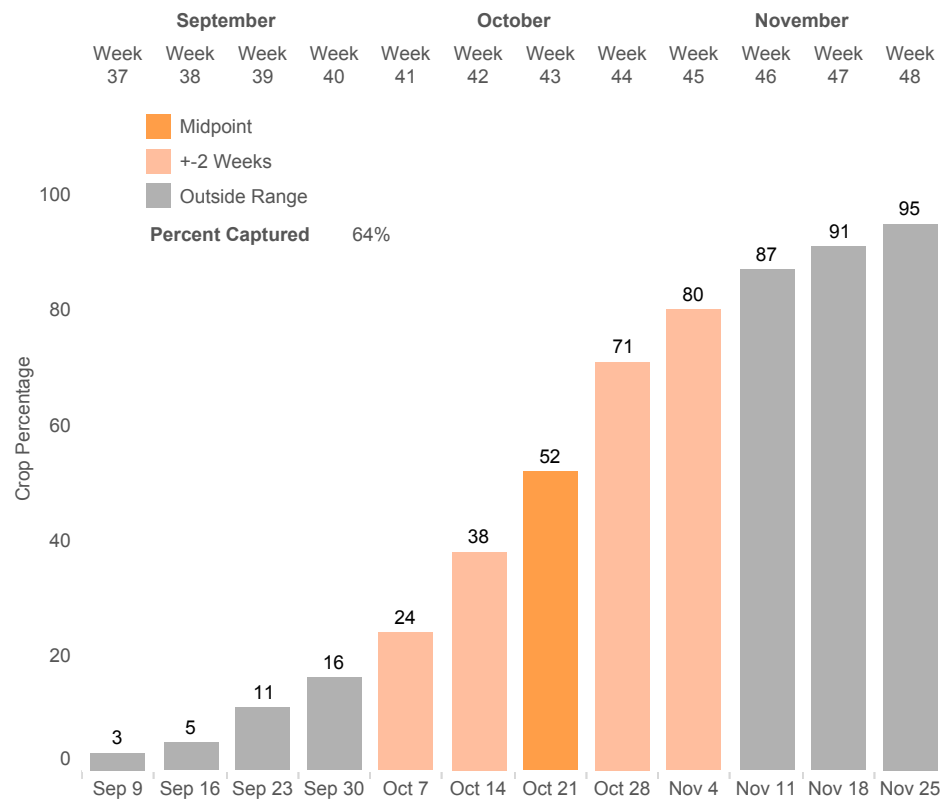
USDA Crop Planting & Harvesting Dates

Yearly Drilldown

Week of Planting



Week of Harvesting



Planting date as rounded per Policy 495: 5/1/2007
 Adjusted planting date to account for field preparation: 4/1/2007

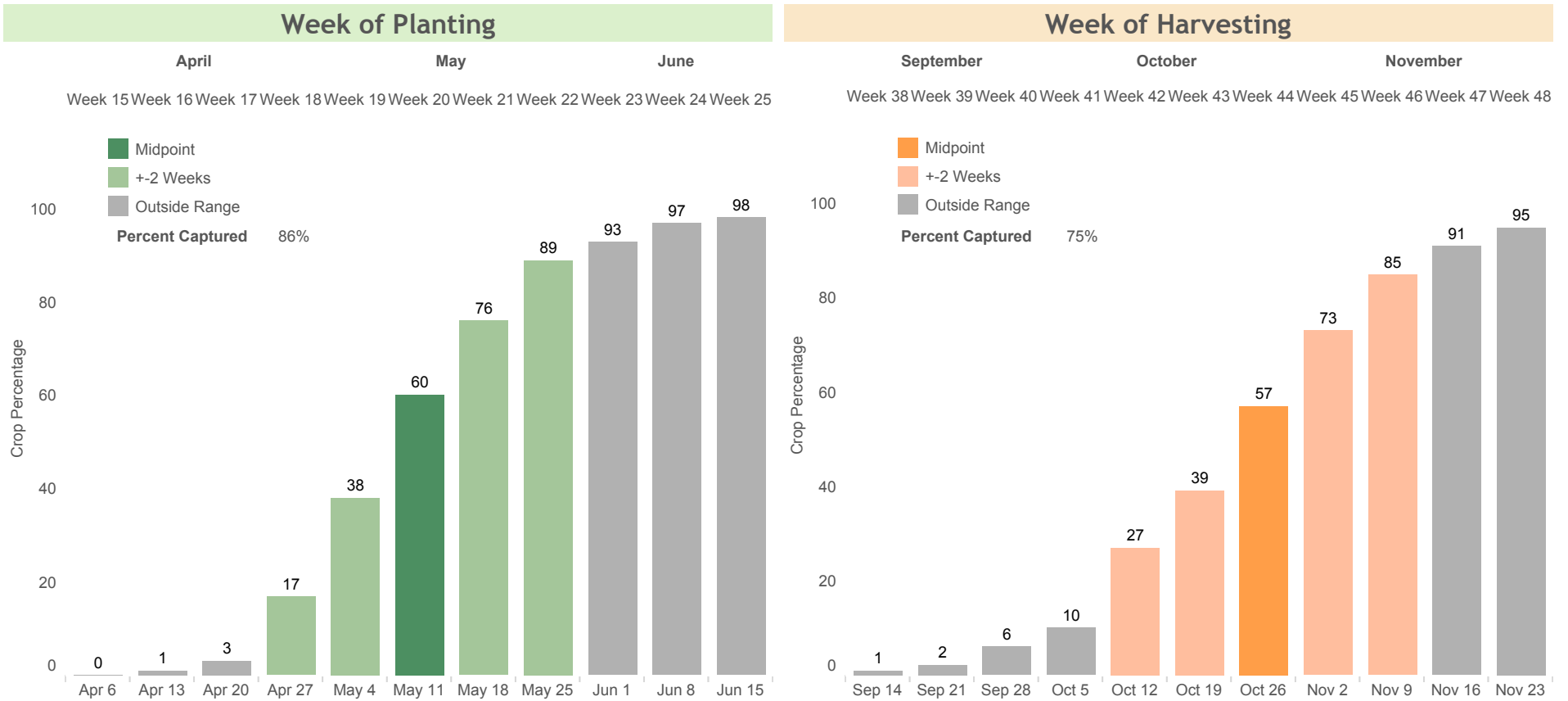
Harvest date as rounded per Policy 495: 10/31/2007

State Alabama
 Crop Cotton
 Year 2008

Deepwater Horizon Economic Claims Center (DHECC)

USDA Crop Planting & Harvesting Dates

Yearly Drilldown



Planting date as rounded per Policy 495: 5/1/2008
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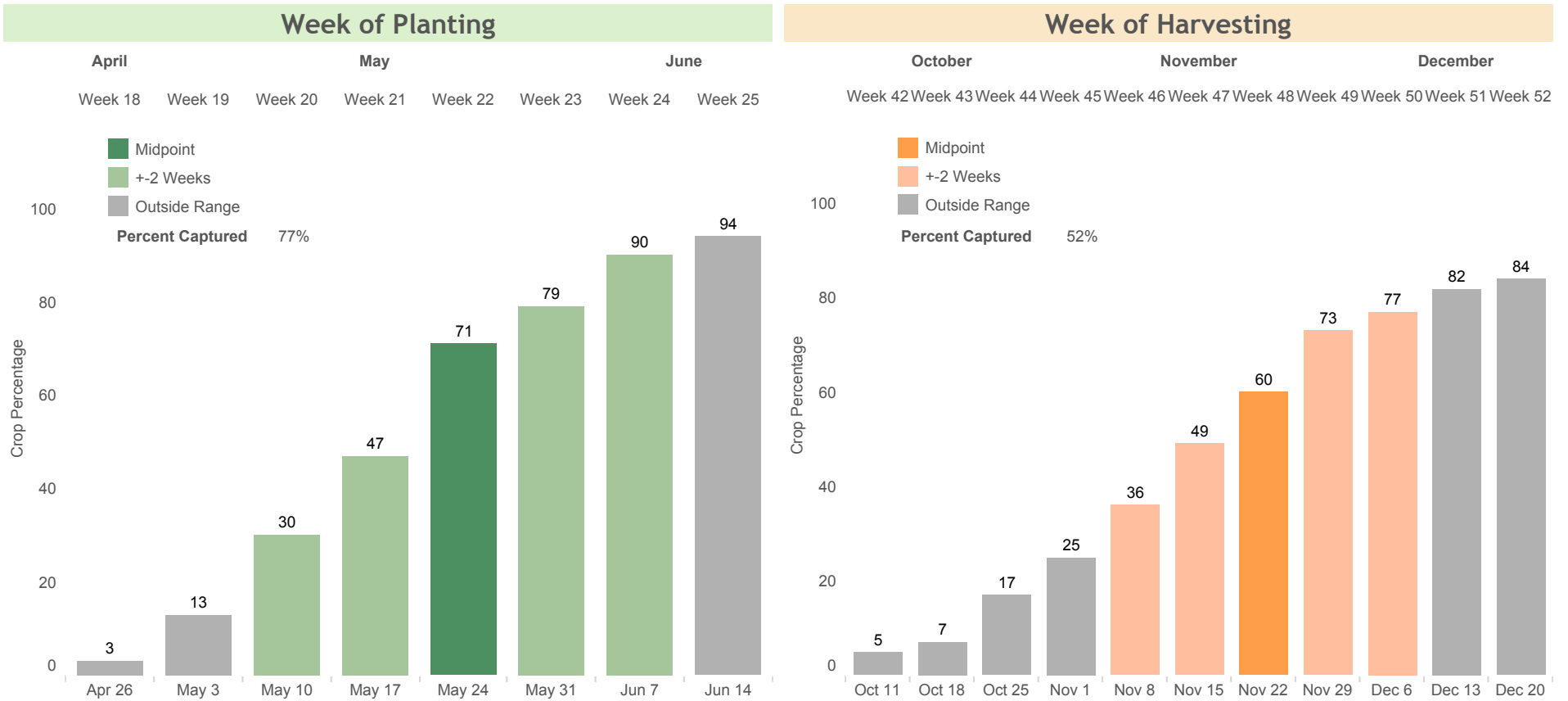
Harvest date as rounded per Policy 495: 10/31/2008

State Alabama
 Crop Cotton
 Year 2009

Deepwater Horizon Economic Claims Center (DHECC)

USDA Crop Planting & Harvesting Dates

Yearly Drilldown



Planting date as rounded per Policy 945: 6/1/2009
 Adjusted planting date to account for field preparation: 5/1/2009

Harvest date as rounded per Policy 495: 11/30/2009

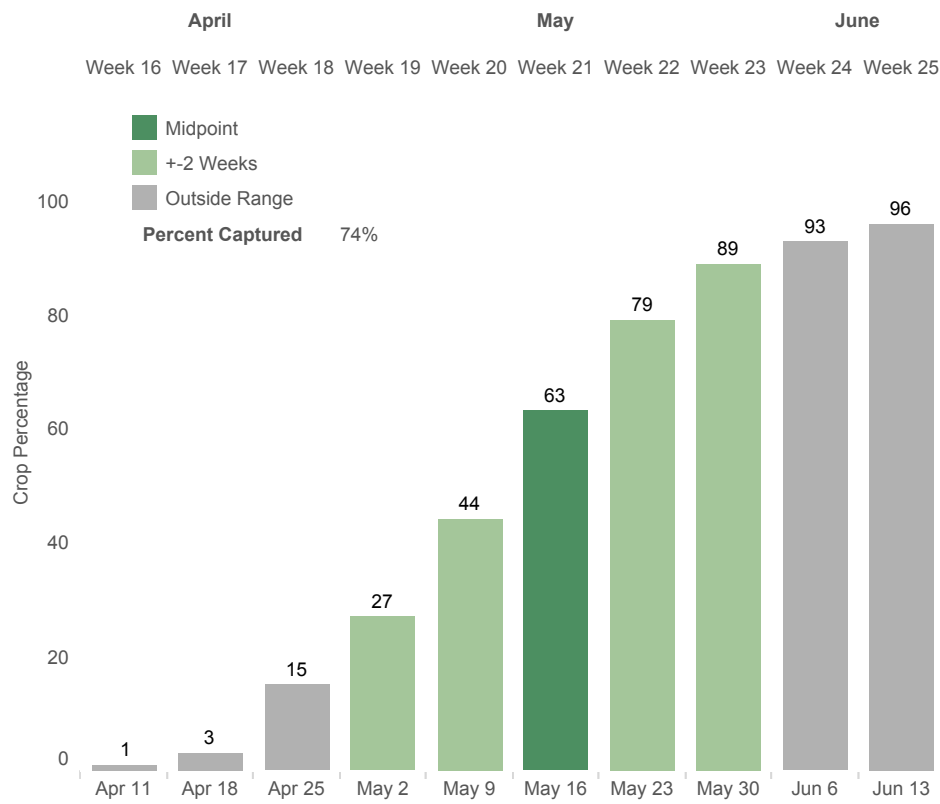
State Alabama
 Crop Cotton
 Year 2010

Deepwater Horizon Economic Claims Center (DHECC)

USDA Crop Planting & Harvesting Dates

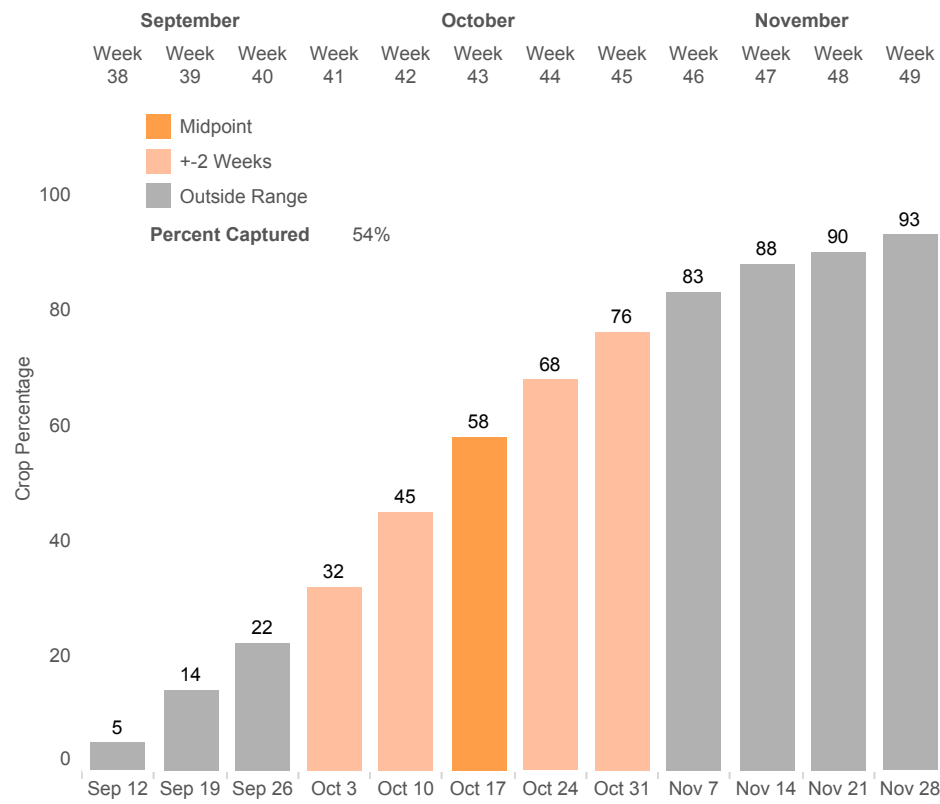
Yearly Drilldown

Week of Planting



Planting date as rounded per Policy 495: 6/1/2010
 Adjusted planting date to account for field preparation: 5/1/2010

Week of Harvesting



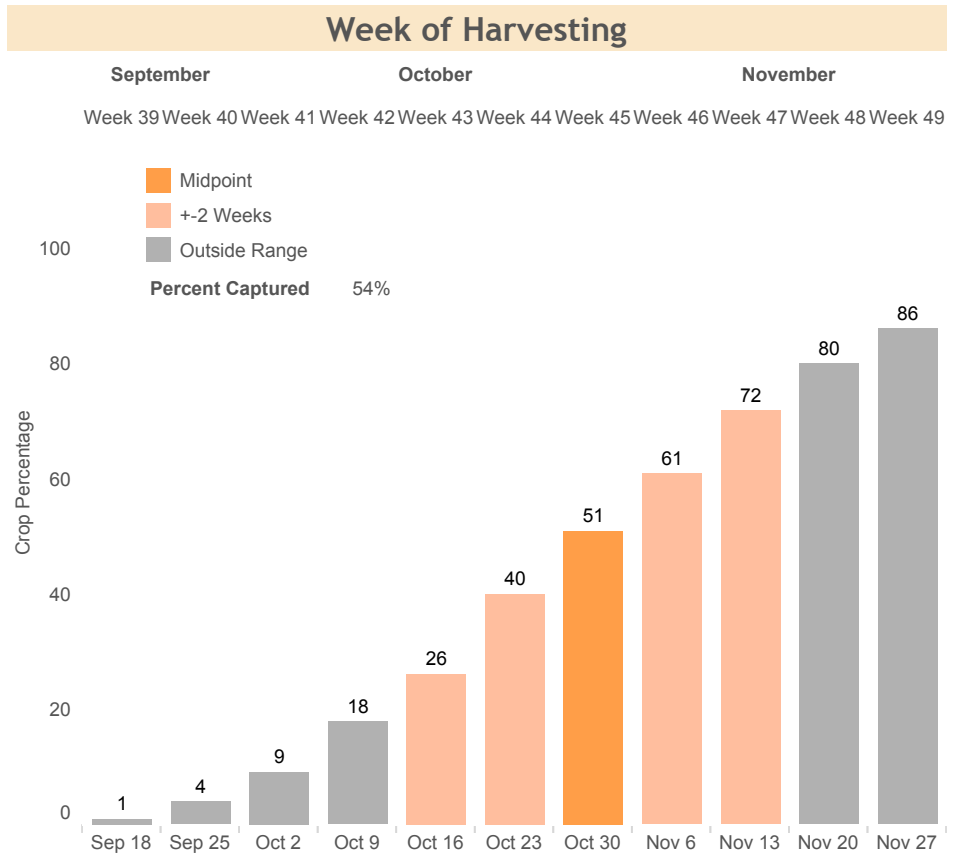
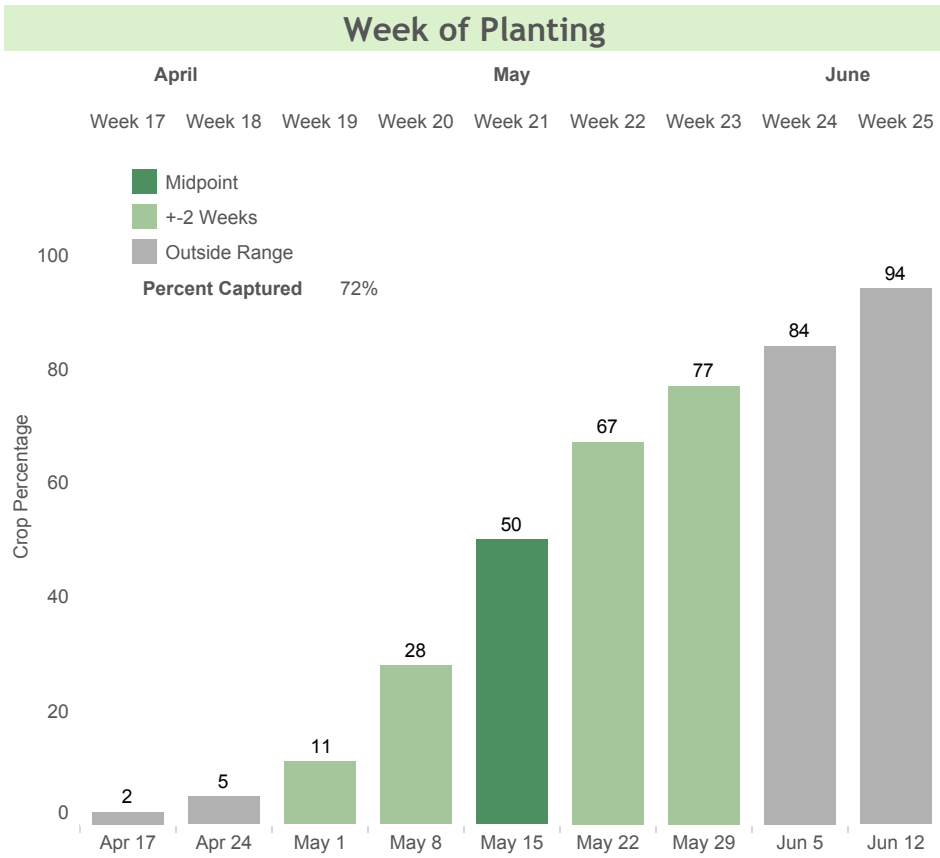
Harvest date as rounded per Policy 495: 10/31/2010

State Alabama
 Crop Cotton
 Year 2011

Deepwater Horizon Economic Claims Center (DHECC)

USDA Crop Planting & Harvesting Dates

Yearly Drilldown



Planting date as rounded per Policy 495: 5/1/2011
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Harvest date as rounded per Policy 495: 10/31/2011

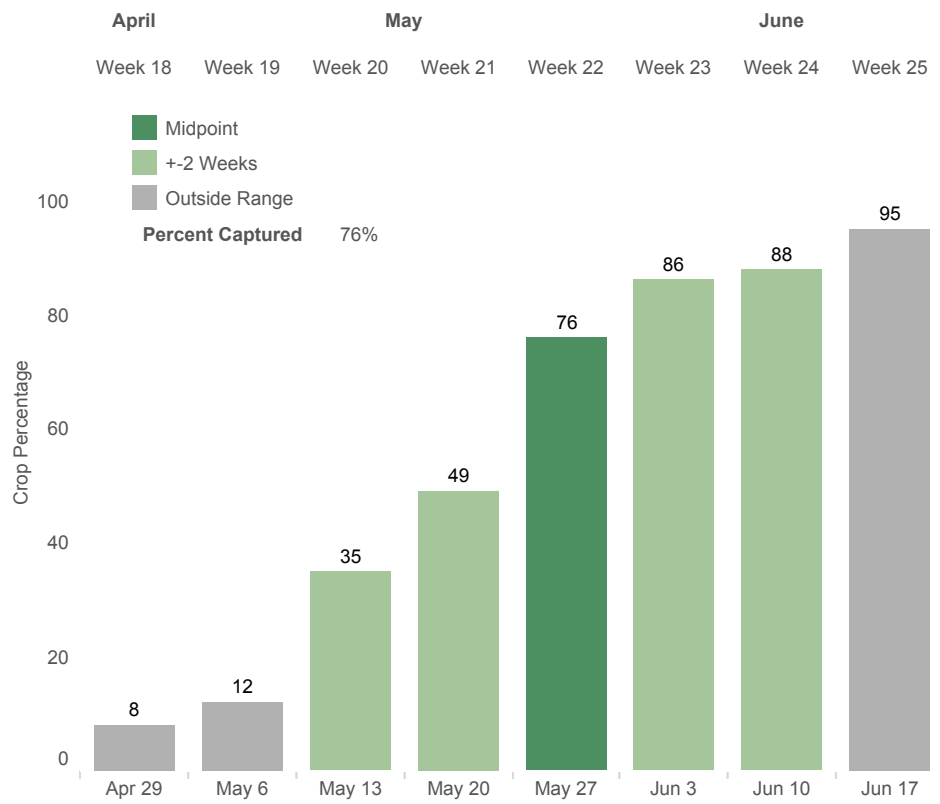
State Alabama
 Crop Peanuts
 Year 2007

Deepwater Horizon Economic Claims Center (DHECC)

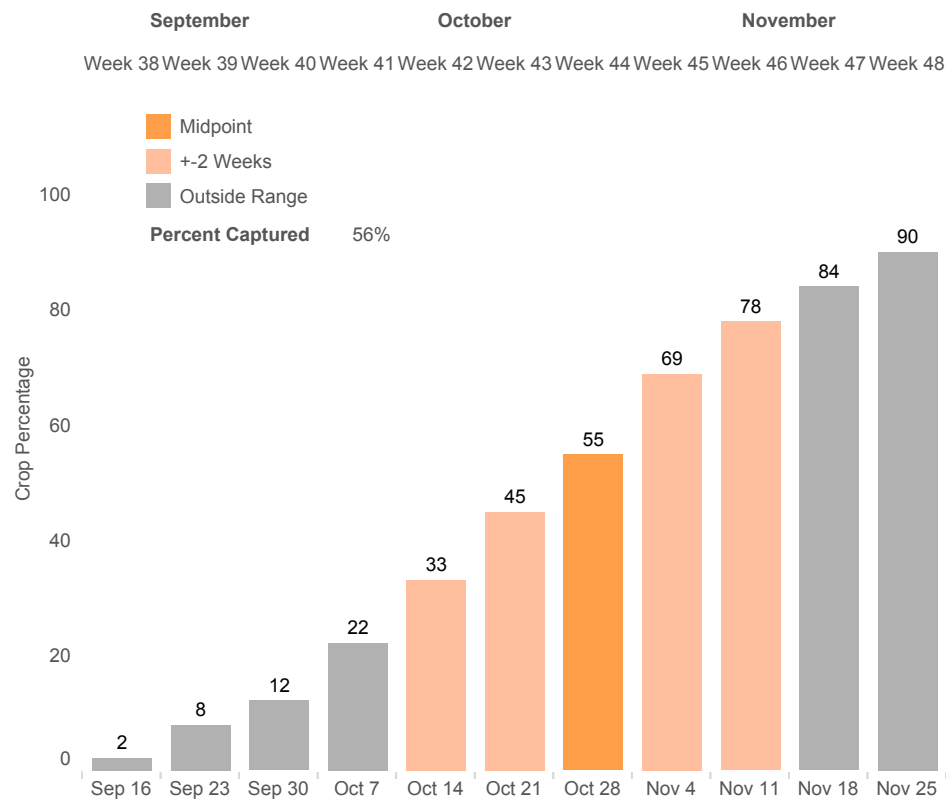
USDA Crop Planting & Harvesting Dates

Yearly Drilldown

Week of Planting



Week of Harvesting



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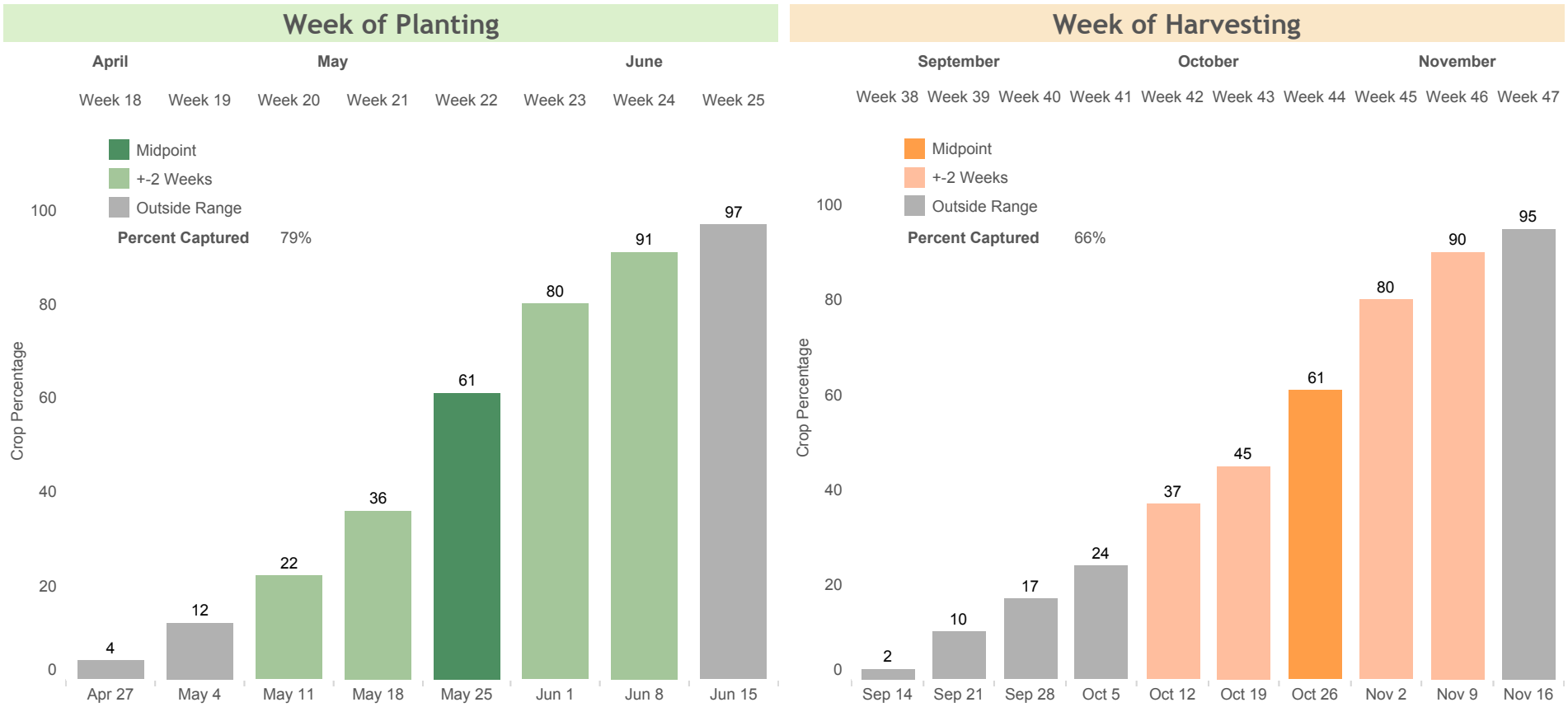
Harvest date as rounded per Policy 495: 10/31/2007

State Alabama
 Crop Peanuts
 Year 2008

Deepwater Horizon Economic Claims Center (DHECC)

USDA Crop Planting & Harvesting Dates

Yearly Drilldown



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Harvest date as rounded per Policy 495: 10/31/2008

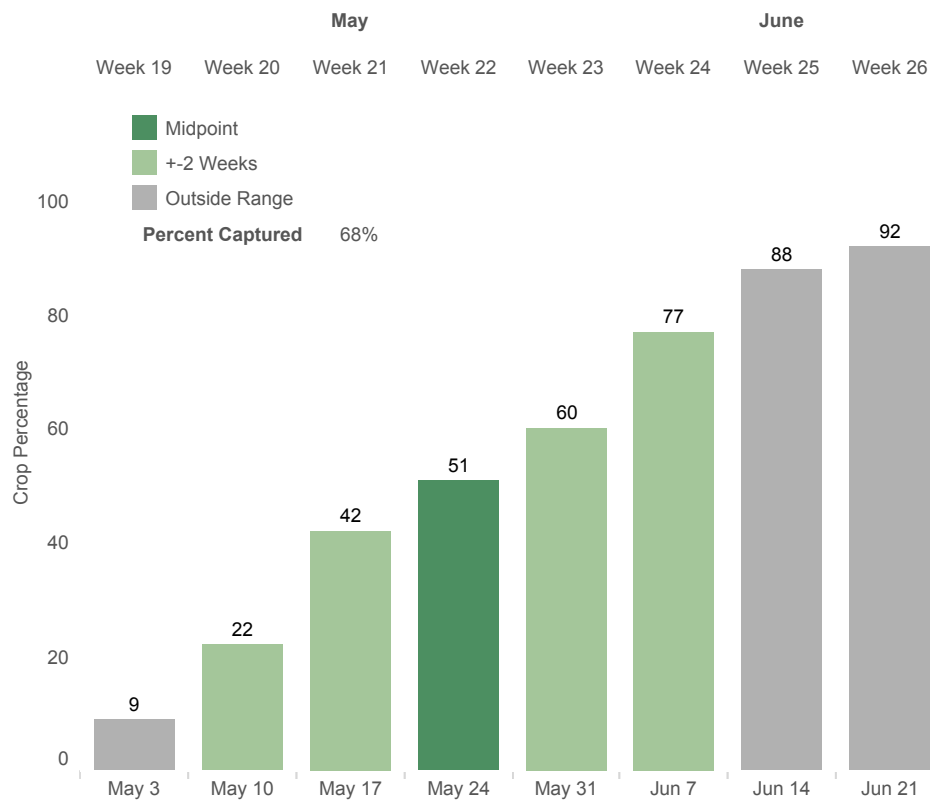
State Alabama
 Crop Peanuts
 Year 2009

Deepwater Horizon Economic Claims Center (DHECC)

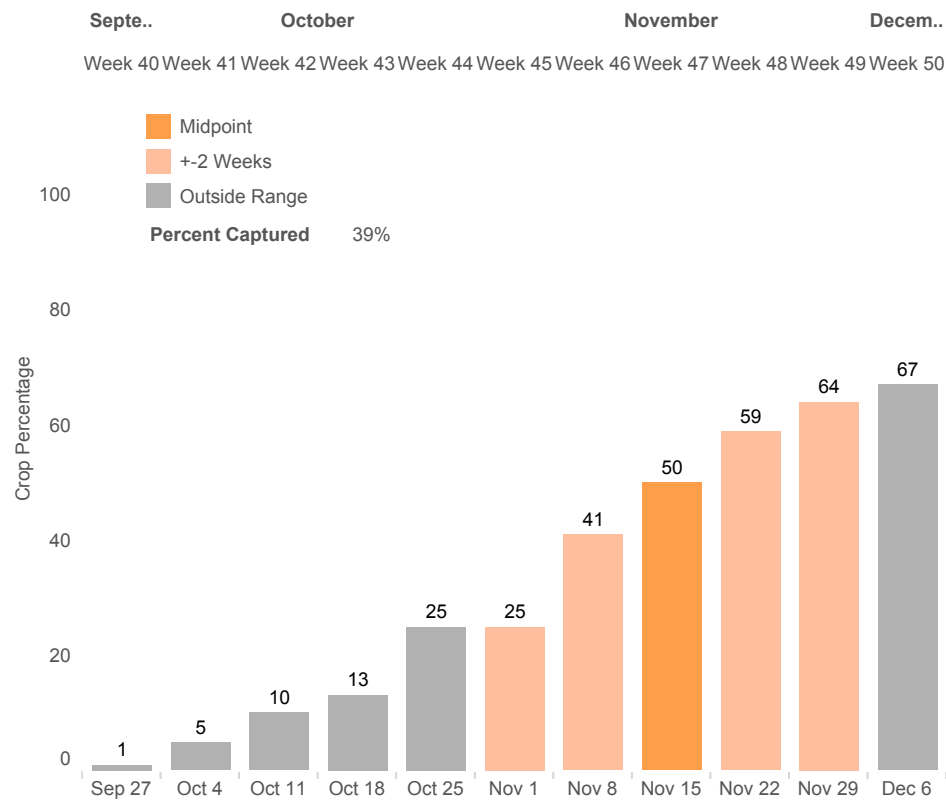
USDA Crop Planting & Harvesting Dates

Yearly Drilldown

Week of Planting



Week of Harvesting



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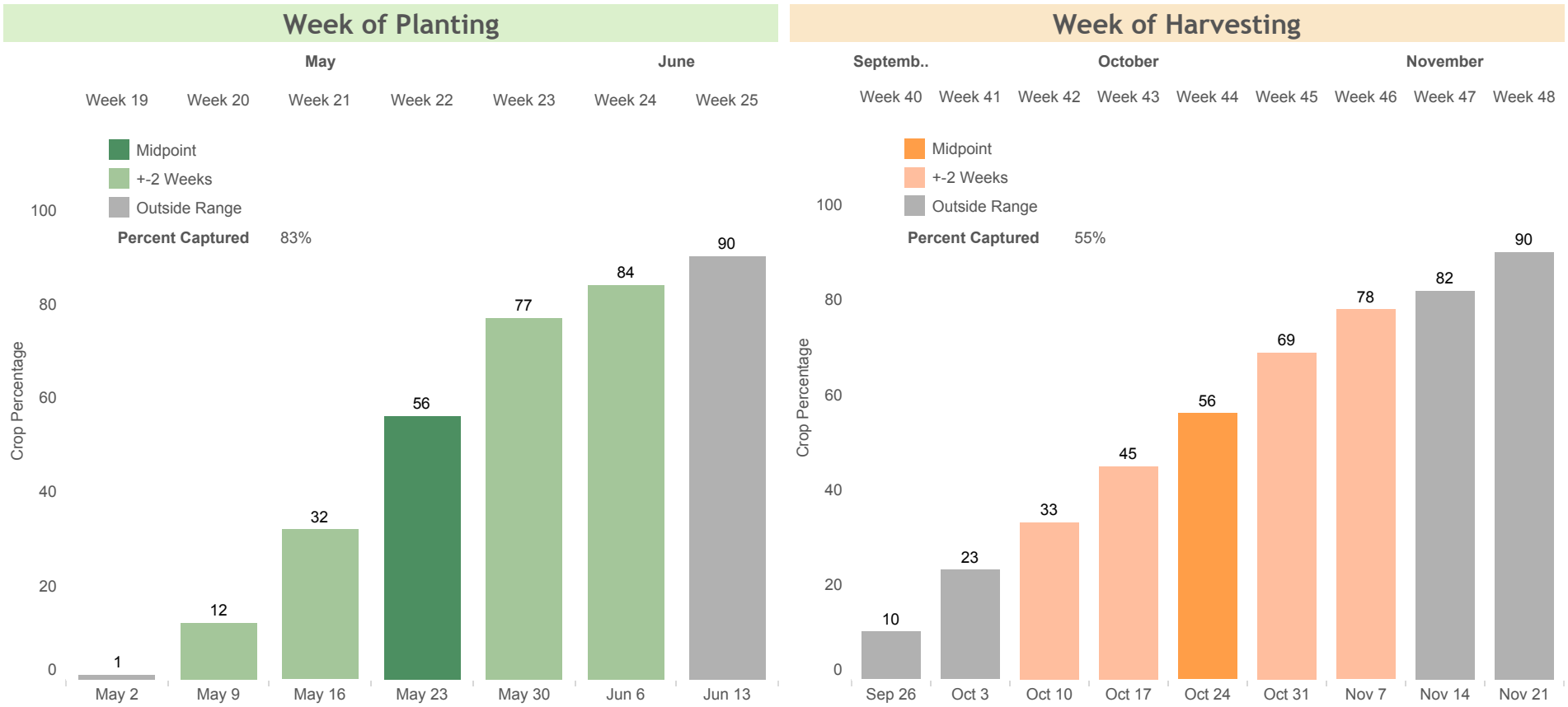
Harvest date as rounded per Policy 495: 10/31/2009

State Alabama
 Crop Peanuts
 Year 2010

Deepwater Horizon Economic Claims Center (DHECC)

USDA Crop Planting & Harvesting Dates

Yearly Drilldown



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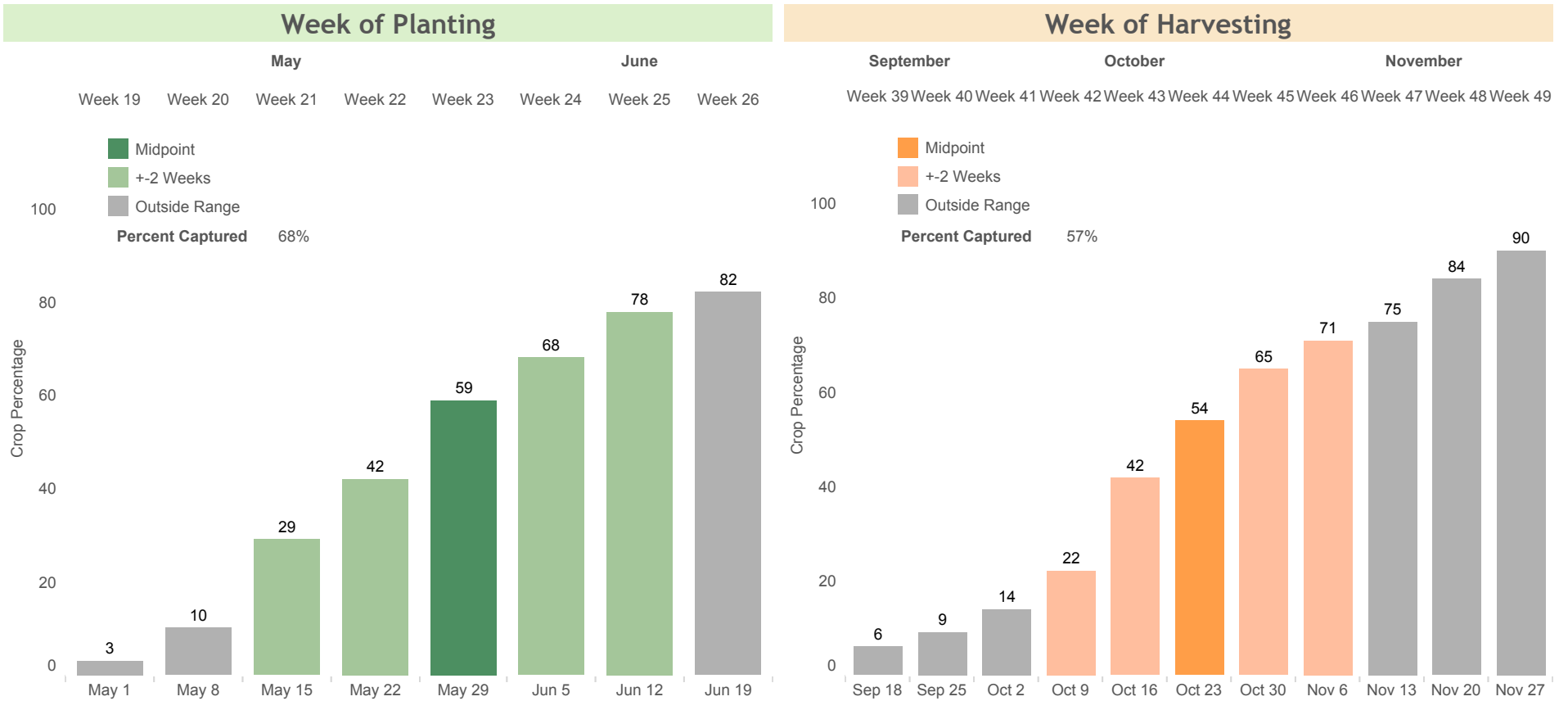
Harvest date as rounded per Policy 495: 10/31/2010

State Alabama
 Crop Peanuts
 Year 2011

Deepwater Horizon Economic Claims Center (DHECC)

USDA Crop Planting & Harvesting Dates

Yearly Drilldown



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Harvest date as rounded per Policy 495: 10/31/2011