



USDA
National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

South Carolina

Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report



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South
Carolina
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Office



Week Ending August 19, 2007

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GENERAL

A third week with days of temperatures exceeding 100 degrees coupled with little or no precipitation has led to rapidly deteriorating crop and livestock conditions for our State. Rain is desperately needed soon if decent yields can in any way be expected from many field crops. Irrigation ponds in some areas have become nearly exhausted. Soil moisture ratings were very dry averaging 63% very short, 31% short, and 6% adequate. Statewide, for the second week in a row, there was an average of 6.6 days that were suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

CORN harvest was ongoing with yields less than what had been hoped, but not terrible for most people. It was fortunate that most of the corn crop had been made before it had gotten as hot and dry as it has now. The conditions for the week were 11% very poor, 24% poor, 41% fair, 21% good, and 3% excellent. **COTTON** leaves, blooms, squares, and bolls were dropping in some fields due to the heat and drought. Conditions declined to 14% very poor, 24% poor, 41% fair, 20% good, and 1% excellent. It was an important time for **PEANUTS** as pods were filling, but the crop was under significant stress due to a lack of soil moisture. Conditions were 4% very poor, 10% poor, 55% fair, 30% good, and 1% excellent. **SOYBEANS** were still rust free in South Carolina, and with the current dry weather situation, pod and stem diseases have not been a factor on unirrigated fields. Conditions were 17% very poor, 23% poor, 44% fair, and 16% good. The **TOBACCO** harvest continued. Conditions were 3% very poor, 15% poor, 40% fair, 39% good, and 3% excellent.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

HAY is pretty much done for the year. The crop was very short in areas, and **LIVESTOCK** producers have had to put their cattle on hay early, because of **PASTURE** conditions that have hardly been good at all. With the short supply, hay prices have been very high, and cattlemen have taken their low weight stock to market ahead of intentions. A small late variety **PEACH** crop was still being harvested. **APPLE** harvest has begun with poor yields. The crop was in very poor to fair condition.

Crop Progress for Week Ending August 19, 2007

Crop and Stage	2007	2006	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2007	2006	5-Yr Avg
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Apples, Harvested	5	4	6	Sorghum, Headed	97	98	97
Cantaloup, Harvested	100	100	100	Sorghum, Turned Color	72	72	73
Corn, Doughed	99	99	99	Sorghum, Matured	37	40	37
Corn, Matured	87	84	86	Sorghum, Harvested	9	14	9
Corn, Harvested	13	21	24	Soybeans, Bloomed	91	90	86
Cotton, Squared	99	99	99	Soybeans, Pods Set	50	51	51
Cotton, Bolls Set	82	86	86	Soybeans, Turned Color	3	5	5
Cotton, Bolls Opened	4	5	9	Tobacco, Harvested	65	72	73
Hay, Other Hay, Harvested	96	95	93	Tobacco, Stalks Destroyed	15	15	17
Peaches, Harvested	80	86	84	Watermelons, Harvested	96	98	98
Peanuts, Pegged	100	100	98				

Condition for Week Ending August 19, 2007

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Apples	42	35	23	0	0	Peanuts	4	10	55	30	1
Corn	11	24	41	21	3	Sorghum	4	32	35	28	1
Cotton	14	24	41	20	1	Soybeans	17	23	44	16	0
Livestock	6	13	64	17	0	Sweetpotatoes	8	24	68	0	0
Pasture	26	41	31	2	0	Tobacco	3	15	40	39	3

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending August 19, 2007

It was another week of sweltering summer heat across South Carolina. Daily afternoon high temperatures were observed in the upper 90's to lower 100's. A few isolated thundershowers formed just inland along a seabreeze front Tuesday with light amounts of rainfall. On Wednesday morning, McEntire AP near Eastover reported dense fog with visibilities of zero. Severe weather came Friday afternoon on a southward moving boundary of slightly cooler air. Violent thunderstorms with golf ball-sized hail pelted portions of Aiken, Lexington, Calhoun, and Orangeburg counties. There was a public report of a tornado at Singleton near St. Matthews. The only noticeable effects from the weekend's airmass change were morning temperatures cooling to near normal and a shift in the drying surface winds. The state average temperature for the period was seven degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 106 degrees at Johnston on August 15. The lowest official temperature reported was 61 degrees at Lake Bowen on the morning of August 19. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 1.37 inches at Summerville ending at 7:00 a.m. on August 16. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.1 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth average soil temperature: Columbia 87 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were below normal. Ocean water temperatures at S Capers Island were reported at 87 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Weekly Total	Jan 1 Total	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.00	20.52	-12.7
Columbia	0.36	20.51	-12.7
Orangeburg	0.03	26.52	-6.7
Charlotte, NC	0.00	19.89	-8.2
Augusta, GA	0.57	22.11	-8.2
Florence	0.29	24.06	-6.1
N Myrtle Beach	0.00	19.08	-9.2
Charleston	0.17	20.80	-13.0
Savannah, GA	0.01	26.67	-6.8

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.

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