



USDA
National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

South Carolina

Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report



South Carolina Field Office
PO Box 1911
Columbia, SC 29202
(800) 424-9406
nass-sc@nass.usda.gov

South
Carolina
State
Climatology
Office



Week Ending October 1, 2006

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Media Contact: Rhonda Brandt, Director

GENERAL

Dry weather aided field work in South Carolina as farmers finished with the tobacco harvest. Although the dry weather was welcomed in the Pee Dee, it continued to stress crops in the Low Country as soil moisture supplies worsened for the southern region of the State. Harvesting activities continued for cotton and corn, as well as peanuts, sorghum, and sweetpotatoes. Some other farm activities for the week once again included defoliating cotton and scouting for insects in soybeans. There were 6.3 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was 5% very short, 32% short, and 63% adequate.

FIELD CROPS

CORN was at 96% harvested, equal to the 5-year average, but 1% behind a year ago. **COTTON** had 78% of its bolls opened and 6% harvested. **SOYBEANS**, at 99% pods set, were ahead of both the previous year and the 5-year average by one percent. Thirty-five percent of its leaves were turning, 10% of the leaves had dropped, and 4% had matured. **SWEET POTATOES** were at 25% harvested. **TOBACCO** harvest was completed with 88% of its stalks destroyed, ahead of the 5-year average by five percent. **WINTER GRAZINGS** were at 41% planted, while **WINTER WHEAT** was at 3% planted.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

APPLES were at 72% harvested, 12% ahead of last year and 9% above the 5-year average. **LIVESTOCK** and **PASTURE** conditions remained relatively steady from the previous week.

Crop Progress for Week Ending October 1, 2006

Crop and Stage	2006	2005	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2006	2005	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Apples, Harvested	72	60	63	Soybeans, Turning Color	35	39	38
Corn, Harvested	96	97	96	Soybeans, Leaves Dropped	10	12	14
Cotton, Bolls Opened	78	74	71	Soybeans, Mature	4	6	7
Cotton, Harvested	6	7	10	Sweetpotatoes, Harvested	25	29	36
Peanuts, Harvested	24	28	29	Tobacco, Harvested	100	100	100
Sorghum, Turned Color	99	99	99	Tobacco, Stalks Destroyed	88	83	83
Sorghum, Matured	84	78	82	Winter Grazings, Planted	41	25	32
Sorghum, Harvested	70	49	57	Winter Wheat, Planted	3	2	14
Soybeans, Pods Set	99	98	98				

Condition for Week Ending October 1, 2006

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Apples	0	0	50	25	25	Peanuts	1	3	38	51	7
Cotton	0	8	48	38	6	Soybeans	1	10	39	44	6
Livestock	0	1	27	67	5	Sweetpotatoes	0	0	44	56	0
Pasture	0	16	37	45	2						

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending October 1, 2006

The last week of September started under cloudy skies and trace amounts of rain from passing showers. High pressure parked across the area on Tuesday and Wednesday with cool 50-degree mornings and warm, dry afternoons. Southern counties received scattered rains early Thursday morning from a surface low pressure feature near the coast. A cold front dropped into the state during the afternoon helping to initiate isolated clusters of fast moving thundershowers. Most locations observed sunny, Fall-like weather through the weekend. Morning low temperatures on Saturday fell into the 40's and by Sunday afternoon temperatures had once again reached the 80's. For the period, the state average temperature was two degrees below normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 89 degrees at Edisto Beach State Park on October 1. The lowest official temperature reported was 39 degrees at Cheraw on the morning of September 30. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 0.72 inches at Pritchardville ending at 7:00 AM on September 28. The average statewide rainfall for the period was 0.1 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth average soil temperature: Columbia 75 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Myrtle Beach and Fripp Inlet were reported from 75 to 77 degrees.

Precipitation for Week Ending October 2, 2006

Location	Weekly Total	Jan 1 Total	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.08	29.30	-9.5
Columbia	0.02	31.50	-7.7
Orangeburg	0.01	30.11	-9.2
Charlotte, NC	0.00	31.95	-1.5
Augusta, GA	0.00	30.20	-5.6
Florence	0.41	36.60	0.7
Myrtle Beach	0.04	40.27	4.1
Charleston	0.17	40.41	-2.3
Savannah, GA	0.63	28.61	-12.8

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.