



USDA
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Service



South Carolina

Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report



South
Carolina
State
Climatology
Office



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

Week Ending November 18, 2007

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Media Contact: Rhonda Brandt, Director

GENERAL

Scattered rainfall last week did little to alleviate South Carolina's drought. Portions of the Low Country did not have any rain, and have not had any measurable rain in over three weeks. Many farm ponds are very low, and smaller stream beds have no flowing water. The one day of drizzle did nothing to help soil moisture. Average moisture ratings declined to 53% very short, 41% short, and 6% adequate. There were 6.6 days suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

Sunny weather for most of the week has the **COTTON** harvest nearly completed in many counties. Overall yields are the worst since the 2002 drought. **OAT** planting continues, but remains behind normal due to the lack of soil moisture. The condition of oats was mostly fair. **PEANUT** harvest is done for this year. **SOYBEAN** harvest was at a rapid pace last week, being delayed by only a day in areas that received rain. Yields along the coast have varied widely depending on how much moisture each field has been able to get throughout the season. Inland production has generally been very poor. The condition of the crop was again little changed from the previous week at 26% very poor, 22% poor, 45% fair, and 7% good. **SWEET POTATO** harvest is just about complete. Attractive **WINTER WHEAT** prices are causing some farmers to seed in dry soils in hopes that rain will soon fall to emerge the crop. Others are still waiting for a good rain before they plant any more small grains. The condition of the winter wheat was 22% very poor, 6% poor, 67% fair, and 5% good.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Many **LIVESTOCK** producers were having to scramble to find additional hay. Livestock conditions were 4% very poor, 23% poor, 40% fair, and 33% good. **PASTURE** conditions are such that there has been very little fall grazing. Conditions were 30% very poor, 36% poor, 29% fair, and 5% good. The State's small **APPLE** harvest has been picked. The condition of **WINTER GRAZINGS** was 18% very poor, 11% poor, 59% fair, and 12% good.

Crop Progress for Week Ending November 18, 2007

Crop and Stage	2007	2006	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2007	2006	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Apples, Harvested	100	100	100	Soybeans, Mature	88	95	89
Cotton, Harvested	91	69	68	Soybeans, Harvested	42	46	47
Oats, Planted	58	69	75	Sweet Potatoes, Harvested	97	99	97
Oats, Emerged	31	58	61	Winter Grazings, Planted	71	89	88
Peanuts, Harvested	100	98	98	Winter Grazings, Emerged	40	78	76
Sorghum, Harvested	99	100	99	Winter Wheat, Planted	35	42	49
Soybeans, Turned Color	100	100	100	Winter Wheat, Emerged	15	28	37
Soybeans, Leaves Dropped	99	99	97				

Condition for Week Ending November 18, 2007

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Livestock	4	23	40	33	0	Soybeans	26	22	45	7	0
Oats	21	8	65	6	0	Winter Grazings	18	11	59	12	0
Pasture	30	36	29	5	0	Winter Wheat	22	6	67	5	0

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending November 18, 2007

A warming trend took place Monday through midweek with many locations reporting afternoon high temperatures around 80 degrees. During the evening and overnight hours Wednesday, several areas of rain passed eastward in response to a cold front. Calhoun Falls in Abbeville County received 0.68 inches of welcomed rainfall. Central sections measured amounts around one quarter of an inch while counties towards the coast hardly saw a drop. Strong northwesterly winds forced freezing air into South Carolina Thursday afternoon. Winds at Florence AP gusted to 39 mph. Morning low temperatures on both Friday and Saturday fell into the middle 20's across much of the state. A quick rebound was observed Sunday with mostly sunny skies and mild afternoon temperatures climbing from the 50's up to near 70 degrees. Late Sunday evening a few light showers were observed over southern counties. The state average temperature for the period was near normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 84 degrees at Allendale on November 14. The lowest official temperature reported was 20 degrees at Pelion on the morning of November 17. The heaviest 24-hour rainfall reported was 0.80 inches at Caesars Head ending at 7:00 a.m. November 15. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.1 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth average soil temperature: Columbia 59 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were below normal. Ocean water temperatures at S Capers Island were reported at 62 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Weekly Total	Jan 1 Total	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.24	25.28	-19.6
Columbia	0.37	25.60	-18.1
Orangeburg	0.01	32.76	-10.9
Charlotte, NC	0.21	24.11	-14.9
Augusta, GA	0.01	25.97	-14.4
Florence	0.02	30.65	-9.6
N Myrtle Beach	0.09	30.21	-10.8
Charleston	0.00	37.63	-9.6
Savannah, GA	0.00	40.47	-5.3

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.

USDA-NASS
SOUTH CAROLINA FIELD OFFICE
P.O BOX 1911, Columbia, SC 29202-1911
Official Business

Address Service Requested