



South Carolina

Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University

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SC State Climatology Office
Farm Service Agency

GENERAL

Although most of South Carolina received rainfall again this past week, totals in many areas were below average for the period. Scattered frost occurring mid-week did not cause any significant crop damage. The majority of the State's crops were in fair to good condition. Warm weather and breezy winds quickly removed moisture by week's end. Soil moisture was 10% very short, 33% short, 56% adequate, and 1% surplus. There was a statewide average of 6.1 days that were suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

CORN planting is nearly complete for 2008. The condition of the crop was mostly good. **OATS** are now turning color. The crop remains in mostly good condition. **PEANUT** planting has begun. Most of the state had some rain, allowing **SOYBEAN** planting to continue. Planting should pick up this week if the forecast remains accurate. Most of the **TOBACCO** crop has been set in the ground. Present conditions are looking very good right now. **WINTER WHEAT** was also turning color. Farmers were still spraying fields. There are Hessian fly problems in certain fields that are causing the wheat to lodge which could result in yield loss.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions ranged from poor to excellent with most producers reporting their animals as being fair to good. **PASTURE** growth is still increasing. Conditions improved somewhat from the previous week with the rainfall. Producers were continuing to bale **GRAIN HAY**. Conditions are vastly improved from last year. **PEACH** conditions improved slightly from last week. **VEGETABLE** planting is beginning to wind down. Conditions of the crops vary widely depending on how much rain they have been able to receive.

Crop Progress for Week Ending May 4, 2008

Crop and Stage	2008	2007	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage			2008	2007	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Cantaloup, Planted	87	86	86	Snapbeans, Fresh, Planted	89	87	89		
Corn, Planted	97	99	95	Sorghum, Planted	44	53	44		
Corn, Emerged	83	89	84	Soybeans, Planted	7	7	9		
Cotton, Planted	10	10	18	Tobacco, Transplanted	93	87	93		
Cucumbers, Fresh, Planted	85	87	95	Tomatoes, Fresh, Planted	98	98	98		
Hay, Grain Hay, Harvested	45	50	40	Watermelons, Planted	89	86	89		
Oats, Headed	92	95	91	Winter Wheat, Headed	91	90	93		
Oats, Turned Color	16	23	20	Winter Wheat, Turning Color	5	10	15		
Peanuts, Planted	11	10	17						

Condition for Week Ending May 4, 2008

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	75	25	0	Peaches	0	6	15	79	0
Cantaloup	0	4	32	54	10	Snapbeans	0	10	25	50	15
Corn	0	1	37	60	2	Sorghum	0	0	0	97	3
Cucumbers	0	10	40	40	10	Tobacco	0	0	11	88	1
Hay	0	1	52	41	6	Tomatoes	0	0	41	49	10
Livestock	0	4	49	45	2	Watermelons	0	3	29	59	9
Oats	0	2	27	60	11	Winter Wheat	0	1	28	62	9
Pasture	0	9	54	34	3						

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending May 4, 2008

A body of cold air entered the state early Monday with isolated thundershowers. On Tuesday, Canadian high pressure settled over the area on gusting northwest winds. By sunrise Wednesday morning, a few locations observed minimum temperatures near freezing with patchy frost. The late cold snap was quickly followed by southerly winds and 80-degree afternoon temperatures for Friday. A frontal boundary passed eastward Saturday evening with spotty showers for the midlands and a few thunderstorms near the north coast. Mostly sunny weather was observed during the day on Sunday. The state average temperature for the period was three degrees below normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 89 degrees at Jamestown on May 4. The lowest official temperature reported was 32 degrees at Hunts Bridge on the morning of April 30. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 1.70 inches at McEntire ANG ending at 7:00 a.m. on April 28. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.5 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth average soil temperature: Columbia 69 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near to below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 70 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Weekly Total	Jan 1 Total	Deviation from Average
Greer	1.36	14.56	-3.5
Columbia	0.27	13.39	-3.0
Orangeburg	0.22	11.34	-5.1
Charlotte, NC	0.98	12.94	-2.4
Augusta, GA	0.14	14.42	-2.1
Florence	0.16	13.09	-1.2
N Myrtle Beach	0.31	13.49	0.1
Charleston	0.67	10.69	-3.6
Savannah, GA	0.22	11.44	-2.8

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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