



## South Carolina Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University

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**Week Ending:** May 18, 2008

**Cooperating Agencies:**

Clemson University

SC State Climatology Office

Farm Service Agency

### GENERAL

The state was drier this week in most areas with notable exceptions in two separate bands running from Allendale to Georgetown Counties, and from Kershaw to northern Marlboro Counties. Very high winds caused soils to dry out quickly, allowing farmers to get back into their fields sooner than expected. Windy conditions have caused wind burn on young plants in some fields. Soil moisture ratings for the week were 3% very short, 26% short, and 71% adequate. There was a statewide average of 6.0 days that were suitable for field work.

### FIELD CROPS

This year's **CORN** crop was all in the ground. The corn condition ranged from poor to excellent, but remained mostly good. A lot of **COTTON** was planted this past week. A heavy storm with hard packing rains hit the Lower Savannah River Area which may require the replanting of some cotton acres there. Approximately two-thirds of what has been planted was reported in good condition. **OATS** have just about completed heading. The crop was turning color, and was beginning to ripen. The crop still remained in mostly good condition. Farmers have been busy planting **PEANUTS**. Those that have been planted thus far were in mostly good condition. **SOYBEAN** planting was still ongoing. Like many of the other field crops, soybeans were also in mostly good condition. **SWEET POTATOES** were over one-third planted, and the crop was reported in fair condition. **TOBACCO** has been set in the fields for this year. Conditions for the young plants declined some from drying winds, but still were generally very good. **WINTER WHEAT** has finished heading, and was rapidly turning color. Heavy winds have hastened drydown.

### OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

**LIVESTOCK** conditions were little changed from the previous week remaining mostly good. **PASTURE** conditions were similar to last week as well, mostly ranging from fair to good. Most of the **GRAIN HAY** has been cut with 92% of conditions reported as fair and good. **PEACHES** were still looking very good. **VEGETABLE** planting has finished for snapbeans, and tomatoes. Hail hit a portion of Hampton County damaging some watermelons there. Conditions varied widely depending on the crop from poor to excellent.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending May 18, 2008

Crop and Stage	2008	2007	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2008	2007	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Cantaloup, Planted	93	94	95	Sorghum, Planted	64	72	64
Corn, Planted	100	100	98	Soybeans, Planted	27	23	26
Corn, Emerged	96	98	96	Soybeans, Emerged	11	7	4
Cotton, Planted	56	57	61	Sweet Potatoes, Planted	35	27	35
Cucumbers, Fresh, Planted	95	96	99	Tobacco, Transplanted	100	100	100
Hay, Grain Hay, Harvested	77	79	72	Tomatoes, Fresh, Planted	100	100	100
Oats, Headed	98	100	98	Watermelons, Planted	95	95	96
Oats, Turned Color	58	61	59	Winter Wheat, Headed	100	99	99
Oats, Ripe	14	20	12	Winter Wheat, Turning Color	55	46	61
Peanuts, Planted	49	44	57	Winter Wheat, Ripe	2	11	6
Snapbeans, Fresh, Planted	100	99	98				

### Condition for Week Ending May 18, 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	Peanuts	0	0	25	75	0
Cantaloup	0	5	41	41	13	Snapbeans	0	17	17	33	33
Corn	0	5	33	57	5	Sorghum	0	0	0	100	0
Cotton	0	0	31	66	3	Soybeans	0	7	33	57	3
Cucumbers	0	10	50	20	20	Sweet Potatoes	0	0	100	0	0
Hay	0	6	46	45	3	Tobacco	0	0	27	70	3
Livestock	0	4	39	54	3	Tomatoes	0	0	32	58	10
Oats	0	2	27	61	10	Watermelons	0	4	40	46	10
Pasture	0	8	41	50	1	Winter Wheat	0	5	30	55	10
Peaches	0	7	15	78	0						

## **South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending May 18, 2008**

Sunny, cool weather was observed on both Monday and Tuesday. Early morning minimum temperatures Tuesday were reported in the 40's. Southerly winds on Wednesday started a warming trend with afternoon high temperatures rising into the 80's. Isolated showers were reported Thursday and Friday. Walterboro measured 1.20 inches of rain. Conway and the Myrtle Beach AP warmed to 88 degrees on Friday afternoon. A weak boundary crossed the state early Saturday bringing cooler air but little in the way of wet weather. On Sunday at 3:53 p.m., drying west winds gusted to 37 mph at the Florence AP. Later in the day, parts of the Upstate and northern Midlands received scattered, light rains. The state average temperature for the period was three degrees below normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 90 degrees at Jamestown on May 16. The lowest official temperature reported was 40 degrees at Lake Bowen and Cedar Creek on the morning of May 13. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 2.45 inches at Andrews ending at 7:00 a.m. on May 12. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.2 inches.

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

**RIVERS AND SURF:** South Carolina river stages were near to below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 75 degrees.

### **Precipitation**

Location	Weekly Total	Jan 1 Total	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.33	15.70	-4.4
Columbia	0.05	14.83	-2.9
Orangeburg	0.27	14.63	-3.1
Charlotte, NC	0.46	13.81	-3.2
Augusta, GA	0.02	15.97	-1.8
Florence	0.09	15.47	-0.2
N Myrtle Beach	0.00	15.04	0.4
Charleston	0.47	12.99	-2.8
Savannah, GA	0.09	12.62	-3.1

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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