



South Carolina

Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University

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(800) 424-9406 · FAX (803) 765-5310 · www.nass.usda.gov/sc**Issue:** SC-CW002708**Released:** July 7, 2008, after 4 pm**Week Ending:** July 6, 2008**Cooperating Agencies:**Clemson University
SC State Climatology Office
Farm Service Agency

GENERAL

Much of South Carolina received measurable amounts of rainfall for the first time in several weeks. There were several exceptions though, along coastal areas, and the Upstate, which was sorely in need of moisture. It is hard to believe, but as dry as it was last year, many of our northern counties are even drier this year. State average soil moisture ratings for the week were still very critical being reported at 37% very short, 39% short, and 24% adequate. There was a statewide average of 6.1 days that were suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

The rains that fell over the weekend came too late for most of the state's **CORN** crop. Current moisture may be enough to help some late planted fields. Conditions were little changed, and were reported as 46% very poor, 25% poor, 24% fair, and 5% good. **COTTON** continued to square, but has also fallen behind due to the dry weather. Rains did help improve conditions to 10% very poor, 20% poor, 47% fair, 22% good, and 1% excellent. **OAT** harvest was completed. Rain continued to help improve **PEANUT** conditions. More precipitation is needed to help maintain yield potential. Conditions were 9% very poor, 19% poor, 43% fair, and 29% good. **SOYBEANS** were in need of the thunderstorms, but could still stand additional showers. Conditions were 20% very poor, 30% poor, 36% fair, 13% good, and 1% excellent. This year's **SWEET POTATOES** are planted. Conditions were still mostly fair. **TOBACCO**, like the other crops, was glad to see some rain. A bountiful crop of **WINTER WHEAT** was just about all cut.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions improved only slightly. Just like last year, some Upstate **PASTURES** have already gone dormant from lack of moisture. Pasture grazing in other parts of the state should increase, but periodic showers are needed for continued improvement. Conditions were 33% very poor, 35% poor, 23% fair, and 9% good. **PEACH** conditions were similar to the week before. Peach harvest continued to progress. **VEGETABLE** harvests were still ongoing. There have not been significant reports of insect or disease damage thus far this year. Rains over the past few days have helped perk up some crops, but more moisture is needed to sustain later harvests.

Crop Progress for Week Ending July 6, 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
Cantaloup, Harvested	55	71	66	Sorghum, Headed		40	52	57
Corn, Silked	90	93	94	Sorghum, Turned Color		10	15	18
Corn, Doughed	30	40	46	Soybeans, Planted		98	99	98
Cotton, Squared	40	47	56	Soybeans, Emerged		86	94	94
Cotton, Bolls Set	4	1	6	Soybeans, Bloomed		3	7	9
Cucumbers, Fresh, Harvested	99	97	96	Sweet Potatoes, Planted		100	100	100
Hay, Other Hay, Harvested	35	34	39	Tobacco, Topped		40	45	65
Oats, Harvested	100	98	95	Tobacco, Harvested		2	1	4
Peaches, Harvested	41	38	35	Tomatoes, Fresh, Harvested		65	78	75
Peanuts, Pegged	40	46	47	Watermelons, Harvested		50	53	54
Snapbeans, Fresh, Harvested	90	83	87	Winter Wheat, Harvested		99	98	97
Sorghum, Planted	99	100	99					

Condition for Week Ending July 6, 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	20	3	60	17	0	Peanuts	9	19	43	29	0
Cantaloup	25	15	33	27	0	Snapbeans	30	40	30	0	0
Corn	46	25	24	5	0	Sorghum	29	12	55	4	0
Cotton	10	20	47	22	1	Soybeans	20	30	36	13	1
Cucumbers	43	19	38	0	0	Sweet Potatoes	20	4	56	20	0
Hay	24	34	30	12	0	Tobacco	10	25	45	19	1
Livestock	4	19	52	25	0	Tomatoes	18	12	26	44	0
Pasture	33	35	23	9	0	Watermelons	17	19	36	28	0
Peaches	13	8	26	50	3						

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending July 6, 2008

A body of cool, Canadian-origin air overspread the state on Monday. As June ended, the Greenville-Spartanburg's rainfall total of 0.13 inches was the least amount ever measured for the month. Bright blue skies were observed on both Tuesday and Wednesday with early morning low temperatures more like those in late September. At 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, Columbia AP recorded a relative humidity value of 17 percent. The dry air was replaced Thursday with more summer-like heat and humidity. Afternoon thunderstorm coverage increased Friday causing brief interruptions to the scheduled July 4th activities. Strong storms on Saturday produced golf ball-sized hail at Pawley's Island in Georgetown County. Another round of thunderstorms on Sunday left pockets of drenching rains across the Midlands to the Pee Dee. The state average temperature for the period was two degrees below normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 97 degrees at Saluda on July 3 and at Clinton and Darlington on July 4. The lowest official temperature reported was 51 degrees at Lake Bowen on the morning of July 2. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 3.40 inches at Calhoun Falls ending at 7:00 a.m. on July 6. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.9 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth average soil temperature: Columbia 81 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 85 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Weekly Total	Jan 1 Total	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.35	16.91	-10.0
Columbia	1.58	19.56	-5.8
Orangeburg	0.94	20.10	-5.3
Charlotte, NC	1.04	18.86	-3.8
Augusta, GA	1.25	19.03	-5.2
Florence	2.72	19.61	-2.8
N Myrtle Beach	0.02	29.90	-0.7
Charleston	1.94	18.90	-5.8
Savannah, GA	0.08	16.50	-7.6

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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