



South Carolina Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University

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Week Ending: July 13, 2008

Cooperating Agencies:

Clemson University
SC State Climatology Office
Farm Service Agency

GENERAL

This past week, South Carolina received the most rainfall it has seen since early April. Precipitation totals varied across the state, but most areas received an inch or more of rain. Upstate counties saw the first significant amount of rain in several weeks. A streak running from southern Greenville, Laurens, and portions of Newberry county was the largest section shorted by this past week's showers. Average soil moisture ratings improved to 24% very short, 30% short, 45% adequate, and 1% surplus. There was a statewide average of 6.0 days that were suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

It is too late for most **CORN**, but continued rain will help late planted fields yield a fair crop. Conditions were not greatly changed, and were reported as 48% very poor, 20% poor, 24% fair, 7% good, and 1% excellent. With the increased moisture, **COTTON** should see improvement. Development was beginning to increase with some plants putting on new growth. Growers were scouting for larvae pests. Conditions were 12% very poor, 21% poor, 39% fair, 27% good, and 1% excellent. Overall, **PEANUT** conditions continued to see improvement. Conditions were 11% very poor, 15% poor, 28% fair, 39% good, and 7% excellent. **SOYBEANS** may have been saved this past week, but it was so dry that we are going to still ask for more rain. Conditions were 21% very poor, 24% poor, 34% fair, 20% good, and 1% excellent. **SWEET POTATOES** were 20% very poor, 5% poor, 40% fair, and 35% good. **TOBACCO** should see increased leaf size and weight. Eleven percent of the crop has been harvested thus far. **WINTER WHEAT** harvest was complete.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Scattered storms have brought temporary relief to **LIVESTOCK**, but general follow up rains are needed to help reduce the stress caused by the drought, and short hay stocks. **PASTURES** were showing improvement. Upstate pastures will need more than one week of rain to help the situation there. **PEACH** conditions improved slightly. The peach harvest was ongoing. **VEGETABLE** harvests were winding down for cucumbers, snap beans, and tomatoes.

Crop Progress for Week Ending July 13, 2008

| Crop and Stage | 2008 | | | Crop and Stage | | | 2008 | | | 2007 | | | 5-Yr Avg | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------|--|
| | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | |
| Cantaloup, Harvested | 72 | 82 | 80 | Sorghum, Headed | | | 49 | | 61 | | 66 | | | | |
| Corn, Silked | 95 | 98 | 97 | Sorghum, Turned Color | | | 17 | | 23 | | 26 | | | | |
| Corn, Doughed | 50 | 59 | 62 | Soybeans, Planted | | | 100 | | 100 | | 100 | | | | |
| Cotton, Squared | 58 | 61 | 70 | Soybeans, Emerged | | | 91 | | 98 | | 98 | | | | |
| Cotton, Bolls Set | 12 | 7 | 14 | Soybeans, Bloomed | | | 11 | | 13 | | 17 | | | | |
| Cucumbers, Fresh, Harvested | 100 | 99 | 98 | Soybeans, Pods Set | | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | | | |
| Hay, Other Hay, Harvested | 49 | 56 | 53 | Tobacco, Topped | | | 62 | | 66 | | 81 | | | | |
| Peaches, Harvested | 46 | 50 | 46 | Tobacco, Harvested | | | 11 | | 7 | | 11 | | | | |
| Peanuts, Pegged | 59 | 60 | 62 | Tomatoes, Fresh, Harvested | | | 80 | | 87 | | 87 | | | | |
| Snapbeans, Fresh, Harvested | 95 | 93 | 95 | Watermelons, Harvested | | | 66 | | 66 | | 68 | | | | |
| Sorghum, Planted | 100 | 100 | 100 | Winter Wheat, Harvested | | | 100 | | 100 | | 99 | | | | |

Condition for Week Ending July 13, 2008

| Crop | Very Poor | | | | | Poor | | | | | Fair | | | | | Good | | | | | Excellent | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|--|--|--|--|
| | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | | | | | |
| Apples | 30 | 5 | 55 | 10 | 0 | Peaches | | 3 | 15 | 26 | 55 | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | |
| Cantaloup | 29 | 8 | 32 | 31 | 0 | Peanuts | | 11 | 15 | 28 | 39 | | | | | | | | | 7 | | | | | |
| Corn | 48 | 20 | 24 | 7 | 1 | Sorghum | | 39 | 19 | 35 | 7 | | | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | |
| Cotton | 12 | 21 | 39 | 27 | 1 | Soybeans | | 21 | 24 | 34 | 20 | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | |
| Hay | 21 | 39 | 35 | 5 | 0 | Sweet Potatoes | | 20 | 5 | 40 | 35 | | | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | |
| Livestock | 6 | 18 | 48 | 28 | 0 | Tobacco | | 14 | 12 | 44 | 27 | | | | | | | | | 3 | | | | | |
| Pasture | 28 | 31 | 24 | 17 | 0 | Watermelons | | 19 | 18 | 30 | 33 | | | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | |

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending July 13, 2008

Thunderstorm cloudbursts were widespread during the week. Flooding was reported on Fripp Island Monday morning. A violent storm cell and high winds on Tuesday caused property damage in Anderson. Wednesday's storms at McEntire ANG AP near Eastover produced a rainfall rate of 2.71 inches in 46 minutes. Between July 5 and July 11, Effingham in Florence County measured 9.19 inches of rain. Although scattered rainfalls were observed over the state's highest elevations, most of the wet weather coverage was concentrated from the Piedmont to the coast. A southeastward moving boundary on Friday set off more thunderstorms before exiting the state on Saturday. Saturday morning temperatures fell into the 60's across inland sites with the brief replacement of drier air over the steamy conditions. The week's second frontal boundary began affecting the Upstate on Sunday with scattered thundershowers. The state average temperature for the period was one degree below normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 97 degrees at Beaufort MCAS on July 10. The lowest official temperature reported was 62 degrees at Lake Bowen on the morning of July 7 and at Cheraw on July 9 and 12. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 4.67 inches at Cheraw ending at 7:00 a.m. on July 7. The state average rainfall for the period was 1.6 inches.

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

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near to below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 86 degrees.

Precipitation

| Location | Weekly Total | Jan 1 Total | Deviation from Average |
|----------------|--------------|-------------|------------------------|
| Greer | 1.89 | 18.80 | -9.1 |
| Columbia | 0.75 | 20.31 | -6.3 |
| Orangeburg | 0.62 | 20.72 | -5.9 |
| Charlotte, NC | 1.32 | 20.18 | -3.4 |
| Augusta, GA | 0.19 | 19.22 | -5.9 |
| Florence | 2.75 | 22.36 | -1.3 |
| N Myrtle Beach | 4.11 | 24.01 | 2.2 |
| Charleston | 1.35 | 20.25 | -5.8 |
| Savannah, GA | 1.37 | 17.87 | -7.5 |

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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