



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-CW003208**Released:** August 11, 2008 , after 4 pm**Week Ending:** August 10, 2008**Cooperating Agencies:**Clemson University
SC State Climatology Office
Farm Service Agency

GENERAL

South Carolina continued to maintain hot dry weather with scattered thunderstorms. Many crops needing rain were missed by the precipitation or higher than average temperatures have been drying out soils not long after the rains have fallen. Average soil moisture ratings were 39% very short, 32% short, and 29% adequate. There was a statewide average of 6.28 days that were suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

CORN harvest had begun and yields were low as expected and acreage was being cut for forage. Conditions were 48% very poor, 23% poor, 20% fair, and 9% good. **COTTON** growers had to apply controls for stink bugs and occasional larvae pest. Conditions were 10% very poor, 18% poor, 39% fair, 32% good, and 1% excellent. Rain in some areas had helped **PEANUTS**. Conditions were 4% very poor, 7% poor, 37% fair, 48% good, and 4% excellent. **SOYBEAN** growers were applying controls for stink bugs and larvae pests. Conditions were 11% very poor, 24% poor, 42% fair, 20% good, and 3% excellent. **SWEET POTATOES** were 10% very poor, 15% poor, 40% fair, and 35% good. **TOBACCO** were 0% very poor, 4% poor, 44% fair, 50% good, and 2% excellent.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

HAY was in short supply in several areas. Furthermore, some areas of the palmetto state had stopped hay cuttings under current conditions. Some **LIVESTOCK** producers were reducing their herds that remain under stress due to the summer heat. **PASTURES** with days of blistering temperatures and no rain had caused a decline in condition. **PEACH** conditions increased this week. Three-quarters of the crop had been harvested.

Crop Progress for Week Ending August 10, 2008

Crop and Stage	2008	2007	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage		2008	2007	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent			Percent	Percent	Percent
Cantaloup, Harvested	94	98	99	Sorghum, Turned Color		40	58	62
Corn, Doughed	98	98	97	Sorghum, Matured		4	22	23
Corn, Matured	74	63	61	Soybeans, Bloomed		77	73	73
Corn, Harvested	5	5	6	Soybeans, Pods Set		43	36	35
Cotton, Squared	100	97	98	Soybeans, Turned Color		0	1	1
Cotton, Bolls Set	78	62	69	Tobacco, Topped		99	100	100
Hay, Other Hay, Harvested	80	91	90	Tobacco, Harvested		38	53	59
Peaches, Harvested	75	74	74	Tomatoes, Fresh, Harvested		99	100	100
Peanuts, Pegged	99	94	96	Watermelons, Harvested		91	92	95
Sorghum, Headed	70	86	92					

Condition for Week Ending August 10, 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	5	75	20	0	Peaches	0	7	32	61	0
Corn	48	23	20	9	0	Peanuts	4	7	37	48	4
Cotton	10	18	39	32	1	Sorghum	34	21	29	16	0
Hay	29	19	39	13	0	Soybeans	11	24	42	20	3
Livestock	4	18	44	34	0	Sweet Potatoes	10	15	40	35	0
Pasture	24	26	30	20	0	Tobacco	0	4	44	50	2

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending August 10, 2008

Afternoon high temperatures climbed to their highest level since the second week of June. 100-degree heat was observed Tuesday through Thursday from the Foothills to the southern coast. Hunts Bridge, located near Travelers Rest, recorded a 104 degree maximum temperature on Wednesday. A cold front overspread the state during the day on Thursday colliding with the mid-summer airmass and causing violent, hail-producing clusters of thunderstorms. Cloud tops above Jasper and Beaufort counties reached 65 thousand feet. The Beaufort Marine Corps Air Station measured winds gusting to 69 mph at 4:14 p.m. Funnel clouds were observed at both Ridgeland and Ladson. A very noticeable absence of heat and humidity was evident Friday and through most of the weekend. Sunrise temperatures on Saturday cooled into the upper 50's and middle 60's. An area of light showers formed overnight Saturday across central counties giving way to mostly sunny conditions on Sunday. The state average temperature for the period was two degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 105 degrees at Columbia USC on August 6. The lowest official temperature reported was 56 degrees at Cheraw on the morning of August 9. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 3.98 inches at McEntire ANG AP ending at 7:00 a.m. on August 8. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.4 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth average soil temperature: Columbia 84 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	0.04	21.32	-10.7
Columbia	1.77	23.66	-7.9
Orangeburg	0.97	23.66	-7.9
Charlotte, NC	0.00	21.39	-5.6
Augusta, GA	0.12	22.10	-6.8
Florence	0.44	26.07	0.0
N Myrtle Beach	0.16	28.81	2.2
Charleston	0.09	22.02	-9.6
Savannah, GA	1.57	25.36	-5.9

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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