



South Carolina



Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

South Carolina State Climatology Office



Week Ending August 20, 2006 (21) Released 4:00 P.M. August 21, 2006

GENERAL

As crops and livestock depleted sparse moisture supplies across the State, their respective conditions began to decline at week's end. Reporters indicated that farmers were carefully monitoring for larvae pests, stink bugs, and other unwanted infestations. The corn harvest was aided by the dry conditions, which allowed for 6.4 days suitable for field work. Soil moisture was 11% very short, 39% short, and 50% adequate. Surplus moisture was non-existent as the average statewide moisture was 0.3", which was helped largely by showers late Sunday in the Midlands.

FIELD CROPS

CORN was 99% doughed, 87% matured, and 23% harvested. **COTTON** remained at 99% squared, while 87% of its bolls set, and 5% of the bolls were opened. **SORGHUM** headed was 99%, with 73% turning color, 42% matured and 15% harvested. **SOYBEANS** were 91% bloomed, with 53% of the crop's pods set and 5% of the leaves turning. **TOBACCO** was at 73% harvested with 17% of its stalks destroyed.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

WATERMELONS were at 98% harvested, ahead of last year, but behind the 5-year average. The **PEACH** harvest was at 87%, ahead of both last year and the 5-year average.

LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES

LIVESTOCK conditions declined from the previous week. **PASTURE** conditions seemed to fare slightly better from a week ago, utilizing the precipitation from a week earlier.

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	Phase	5 Yr :			:Crop	Phase	5 Yr		
		2006	2005	Avg			2006	2005	Avg
--Percent--									
Apples	Harvested	5	6	8	:Sorghum	Turned Color	73	72	74
Corn	Doughed	99	100	99	:Sorghum	Matured	42	40	36
Corn	Matured	87	84	87	:Sorghum	Harvested	15	8	10
Corn	Harvested	23	19	25	:Soybeans	Bloomed	91	90	86
Cotton	Squared	99	99	99	:Soybeans	Pods Set	53	55	52
Cotton	Bolls Set	87	83	87	:Soybeans	Leaves Turned	5	5	6
Cotton	Bolls Opened	5	9	10	:Soybeans	Leaves Dropped	1	-	-
Other Hay	Harvested	95	93	91	:Tobacco	Harvested	73	76	74
Peaches	Harvested	87	83	85	:Tobacco	Destroyed	17	16	19
Sorghum	Headed	99	99	95	:Watermelons	Harvested	98	97	99

CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor				Excel-:				:Crop	Very Poor				Excel-			
	Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	lent	lent	lent	lent		Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	lent	lent	lent	
-- Percent --																	
Apples	0	0	50	50	0	:Peanuts	0	2	39	54	5						
Corn	7	10	45	31	7	:Sorghum	0	0	48	50	2						
Cotton	1	12	45	38	4	:Soybeans	5	17	40	35	3						
Livestock	0	3	38	56	3	:Sweetpotatoes	0	0	28	72	0						
Pastures	7	17	39	36	1	:Tobacco	0	1	35	55	9						

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NOTE: To have this report faxed or e-mailed to you, please contact us at:

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*The report is also available at the following website:
http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/South_Carolina/index.asp

**South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending August
20, 2006**

Early morning temperatures on Monday cooled into the 60's before beginning a warming trend with high temperatures peaking in the mid 90's on Wednesday. A tropical disturbance formed on a nearly stationary boundary offshore of South Carolina beaches Wednesday afternoon and began drifting southwestward. At 11:30 AM Thursday, the weak circulation was 70 miles east-southeast of Charleston. East winds of 23 mph, gusting to 29 mph, were observed at the Waterfront Park in Charleston. A few light showers brushed the coast. Bright blue skies, fair weather cumulus clouds and 80 degree warmth was observed across most of the state on Friday and Saturday. The heat and humidity returned Sunday ahead of strong thunderstorms at sunset for the Midlands. Lightning was described as continuous with localized downpours causing flooding in areas of poor drainage. A Climatology Office rain gage at Singleton in Calhoun County measured 2.95 inches of rain Sunday night. For the period, the state average temperature was one degree above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 96 degrees at Jamestown and Givhans on August 16. The lowest official temperature reported was 60 degrees at Cedar Creek on the morning of August 14. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 2.50 inches at Columbia Owens AP on August 20. The average statewide rainfall for the period was 0.3 inches.

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

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were below normal. Ocean water temperatures near Myrtle Beach and Fripp Inlet will average from 82 to 83 degrees.

	Precipitation		
	Weekly	Jan 1	Deviation
	Total	Total	From Avg
Greer	0.11	20.53	-12.8
Columbia	2.23	24.78	-8.6
Orangeburg	0.26	25.34	-8.0
Charlotte, NC	1.94	25.64	-2.5
Augusta, GA	1.45	24.47	-5.9
Florence	0.00	31.32	1.0
Myrtle Beach	0.02	25.66	-2.8
Charleston	0.15	28.62	-5.4
Savannah, GA	0.44	21.00	-12.7

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.