



South Carolina Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University
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Cooperating Agencies:
Clemson University
SC State Climatology Office
Farm Service Agency

GENERAL

Fields were still wet from the previous week's storms on Monday, but breezy, dry winds enabled harvesting to resume shortly thereafter. There were several heavy frosts reported in rural areas across the state. The record breaking low temperatures caused some freeze damage to fall vegetables, and some small grains. The state's soil moisture ratings were 5% very short, 29% short, 65% adequate, and 1% surplus. There was a statewide average of 6.1 days that were suitable for field work during the week.

FIELD CROPS

COTTON harvest continues to look good. Some producers were finished picking, but were still waiting on modules to be ginned. Conditions were 3% very poor, 9% poor, 46% fair, 35% good, and 7% excellent. **OATS** conditions were down, but still were being reported in mainly good condition. A very high yielding **PEANUT** crop has all been dug for this year. **SORGHUM** harvest was nearly complete. Wet fields stalled most **SOYBEAN** harvesting operations early in the week, but once work began again, it continued uninterrupted. Conditions were 13% very poor, 18% poor, 32% fair, 32% good, and 5% excellent. There was some freeze damage to **WINTER WHEAT**. Conditions were 4% poor, 39% fair, 56% good, and 1% excellent.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions were 5% poor, 49% fair, 42% good, and 4% excellent. **PASTURE** conditions deteriorated from the prior week due to the cold, dry weather. Conditions were reported at 1% very poor, 17% poor, 57% fair, and 25% good. **WINTER GRAZINGS** conditions declined, but were still in mostly good condition.

Crop Progress for Week Ending November 23, 2008

Crop and Stage	2008	2007	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2008	2007	5-Yr Avg
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cotton, Harvested	80	96	82	Soybeans, Mature	95	94	95
Oats, Planted	86	69	79	Soybeans, Harvested	55	56	60
Oats, Emerged	67	44	62	Winter Grazings, Planted	95	75	90
Peanuts, Harvested	100	100	100	Winter Grazings, Emerged	81	52	76
Sorghum, Harvested	98	100	100	Winter Wheat, Planted	46	46	53
Soybeans, Leaves Dropped	100	100	99	Winter Wheat, Emerged	24	18	36

Condition for Week Ending November 23, 2008

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cotton	3	9	46	35	7	Soybeans	13	18	32	32	5
Livestock	0	5	49	42	4	Winter Grazings	0	4	44	51	1
Oats	0	4	39	55	2	Winter Wheat	0	4	39	56	1
Pasture	1	17	57	25	0						

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending November 23, 2008

The week was cold and dry. A series of bracing, Arctic-origin fronts sent the mercury to the lowest values since January 2008. There were public reports of snow flurries Tuesday in both Horry and Marion counties. On Wednesday morning, the minimum temperature dropped to 15 degrees at Lake Bowen and the maximum temperature at Longcreek only warmed to 39 degrees. A brief push of mild air spread into the northwest corner of the Upstate Thursday ahead of the week's second cold front. By midday Friday, north winds, gusting to 35 mph at Charleston, forced freezing air southward through South Carolina. A statewide freeze was observed Saturday morning. Edisto Beach reported 32 degrees. The Columbia AP set a date record 19 degree temperature. Most locations on Saturday recorded high temperatures in the 40's. Light winds and plentiful sunshine allowed temperatures Sunday afternoon to recover into the middle and upper 50's. The state average temperature for the period was thirteen degrees below normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 69 degrees at Walhalla on November 20. The lowest official temperature reported was 11 degrees at Cheraw on the morning of November 22. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.0 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth average soil temperature: Columbia 53 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 58 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Weekly Total	Jan 1 Total	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.00	32.13	-13.4
Columbia	0.00	38.09	-6.1
Orangeburg	0.00	39.71	-4.5
Charlotte, NC	0.00	37.35	-2.2
Augusta, GA	0.00	36.54	-4.3
Florence	0.00	47.17	6.5
N Myrtle Beach	0.00	46.44	4.9
Charleston	0.00	45.15	-2.5
Savannah, GA	0.00	44.53	-2.5

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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