



# South Carolina

## Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University  
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**Issue:** SC-CW003909  
**Released:** September 28, 2009 , after 4 pm  
**Week Ending:** September 27, 2009  
**Cooperating Agencies:**  
Clemson University  
SC State Climatology Office  
Farm Service Agency



### GENERAL

Several eastern counties and a few counties in the Upstate received substantial amounts of rain this past week. Heavy rains in Oconee County caused localized flooding. A number of counties in the central portion of the State continue to report dry conditions that stress yield potential for cotton, soybeans, and peanuts. South Carolina's soil moisture levels were reported 21% very short, 30% short, 47% adequate, and 2% surplus. There was a statewide average of 5.5 days suitable for field work.

### FIELD CROPS

**CORN** harvest neared completion. Ninety-five percent of the crop had been harvested at week's end. Seventy-six percent of **COTTON** bolls had opened. A small number of cotton producers had begun harvesting their crop; whereas, cotton harvest will likely begin soon for others. Cotton conditions were reported 2% poor, 55% fair, 42% good, and 1% excellent. Nearly all **SOYBEAN** pods had set this past week. Thirty-one percent of the crop's leaves had turned color and 10% had leaves drop. Three percent of the State's soybeans were mature. Conditions were reported at 2% very poor, 7% poor, 44% fair, 44% good, and 3% excellent. Eighteen percent of **PEANUTS** had been harvested. Peanut conditions were 3% poor, 50% fair, 45% good, and 2% excellent. The **TOBACCO** harvest had completed for the year. Eighty-four percent of tobacco stalks were destroyed. **WINTER WHEAT** farmers had just begun planting their crop for the season.

### OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

**LIVESTOCK** conditions continued to show signs of improvement and were reported at 1% very poor, 2% poor, 29% fair, 66% good, and 2% excellent. Twenty-one percent of **WINTER GRAZINGS** were planted, which continues to lag behind historical averages. **PASTURES** conditions were reported 4% very poor, 17% poor, 38% fair, 39% good, and 2% excellent.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending September 27, 2009

Crop and Stage	2009	2008	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2009	2008	5-Yr Avg
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, Harvested	95	93	93	Soybeans, Leaves Dropped	10	10	9
Cotton, Bolls Opened	76	69	73	Soybeans, Mature	3	3	3
Cotton, Harvested	3	1	5	Tobacco, Harvested	100	99	99
Peanuts, Harvested	18	17	18	Tobacco, Stalks Destroyed	92	86	80
Soybeans, Pods Set	98	99	97	Winter Grazings, Planted	21	29	28
Soybeans, Turned Color	31	22	28	Winter Wheat, Planted	6	3	4

### Condition for Week Ending September 27, 2009

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	0	2	55	42	1	Peanuts	0	3	50	45	2
Livestock	1	2	29	66	2	Soybeans	2	7	44	44	3
Pasture	4	17	38	39	2						

## South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending September 27, 2009

Flooding rains fell within Oconee County through Monday morning. Both Long Creek and Walhalla reported roadway closures and detours. The Walhalla Hatchery (Jocassee) measured an event total of 17.50 inches of rain during the six-day stretch. Lake Jocassee's September 19 stage of 80.5 feet rose over nine feet by September 23. Afternoon sunshine returned Tuesday for saturated, high elevation counties. At the same time, parts of Horry County were being soaked by rains accompanying an onshore-moving tropical wave. The Crabtree Swamp gage near Conway measured 2.29 inches. Although the official start of autumn began Tuesday afternoon, the 90-degree heat ignored the calendar. Isolated, short duration showers fell over eastern South Carolina Wednesday and Thursday. Hot, humid conditions were observed on Friday ahead of a southward moving cold front. Walterboro, Bamberg, Bishopville, Barnwell and McEntire AP all recorded 94 degrees. Localized thunderstorms brought heavy rains again to the mountains and foothills. Gaffney received 3.01 inches. Pageland's Friday high temperature of 88 degrees was tempered by Saturday's cloudy skies and northeast winds resulting in only a 68 degree high temperature. Scattered rains, some with thunder, fell Saturday evening and into early Sunday morning. Mostly sunny, breezy conditions were observed during Sunday's daylight hours. The state average temperature for the period was five degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 96 degrees at Camden on September 25. The lowest official temperature reported was 55 degrees at Caesars Head on September 27. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 8.38 inches at Walhalla ending at 7:00 a.m. on September 21. The state average rainfall for the period was 1.6 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 77 degrees, Charleston 80 degrees.

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

### Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2009	Deviation from Average
Greer	3.52	33.23	-5.1
Anderson	2.48	35.39	-0.1
Columbia	1.61	34.60	-4.2
Orangeburg	0.88	31.73	-7.0
Charlotte, NC	0.45	32.47	-0.5
Augusta, GA	0.92	30.90	-4.3
Florence	0.82	27.52	-7.9
N Myrtle Beach	2.56	27.73	-7.9
Charleston	0.48	40.95	-1.1
Savannah, GA	0.41	44.69	3.8

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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