



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
**South Carolina Crop Progress
and Condition Report**



Cooperating with the South Carolina Department of Agriculture
Southern Region, South Carolina Field Office · 208G Wholesale Lane · West Columbia, SC 29172 · (803) 734-2506
www.nass.usda.gov

April 14, 2014

Media Contact: Eddie Wells

GENERAL

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service's South Carolina Field Office, there were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, April 13th, 2014. Precipitation estimates for the State ranged from 0.26 inches of rain up to 2.85 inches. The State average temperature for the week was two degrees above the long-term average. Soil moisture ratings for topsoil were reported at 4% very short, 16% short, 76% adequate, and 4% surplus. Soil moisture ratings for subsoil were reported at 14% short, 84% adequate, and 2% surplus.

COUNTY AGENTS COMMENTS

“The last shot of rain fell on Monday in the form of a slow 0.5 inch rain but the wind blew and drying conditions improved greatly. Farmers were at it full force by the end of the week as corn plantings began. Temperatures up into the 80's had farmers scurrying to get tobacco land bedding complete so transplanting could begin in full force this week. I expect 80% of our tobacco farmers to start setting this week if weather permits. Although some corn has been planted, farmers intend to plant the crop at a rapid rate due to the prolonged winter. Most want to get corn plantings completed before tobacco transplanting begins. Wheat and all other small grains are looking good. The crop should begin heading soon but I have not seen any headed yet.”

Kyle Daniel, Georgetown County, District 30

“There were light showers Monday evening, but other than that there were great working conditions this week. The dryer, warm and sunny weather really helped the wheat, and most of it looks great. Tobacco plants are still being transplanted (set), and the ones that have been transplanted are still a little stunted from being moved out of the warmer greenhouses.”

William Hardee, Horry County, District 30

“Corn should be about 50% planted and tobacco transplants should be around 25% complete. Most producers started with the tobacco last week. Weather has been warmer and warmer nights will also help.”

Hilda Shelley, Horry County, District 30

“Spotted the first kudzu bug I'd seen this year on 4/12. Wheat has reached flag leaf and is coming on strong. Counted tillers on wheat that was treated with Nitrogen versus wheat hadn't had this last application of fertilizer and I found a 10-12 tiller difference in the two. Needless to say it has been wet but we dried up considerably fast the past few days”

Hannah Mikell, Clarendon County, District 50

“Good weather conditions and good soil moisture allowed farmers to plant corn at a steady pace. Some small, fresh market vegetable producers have planted some vegetables, and a few have indicated that they have germinated.”

Mark Nettles, Orangeburg County, District 50

“A welcomed rain of an inch and a half fell on the county on Monday evening which stalled field work for a day or two. Watermelon, cantaloupe and tomato planting have begun at a rapid pace. Corn planting has resumed at a rapid pace. Growers are preparing fields for planting of other crops. Fungicide treatments are being applied by air to wheat by some growers.”

Hugh Gray, Hampton County, District 80

Crop Progress for Week Ending April 13, 2014

| Crop and Stage | 2014 | 2013 | 5-Yr Avg | Crop and Stage | 2014 | 2013 | 5-Yr Avg |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Cantaloup, Planted | 5 | 26 | 44 | Rye, Headed | 22 | 32 | 41 |
| Corn, Planted | 35 | 51 | 68 | Snapbeans, Fresh, Planted | 2 | 31 | 43 |
| Corn, Emerged | 25 | 19 | 39 | Tomatoes, Fresh, Planted | 8 | 76 | 74 |
| Cucumbers, Fresh, Planted | 26 | 26 | 29 | Watermelons, Planted | 19 | 34 | 54 |
| Oats, Headed | 15 | 12 | 34 | Winter Wheat, Headed | 5 | 13 | 29 |

Condition for Week Ending April 13, 2014

| 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> |
| Livestock | 0 | 3 | 22 | 67 | 8 | Peaches | 16 | 20 | 55 | 9 | 0 |
| Oats | 0 | 1 | 16 | 65 | 18 | Rye | 0 | 2 | 24 | 74 | 0 |
| Pasture | 0 | 10 | 29 | 60 | 1 | Winter Wheat | 1 | 2 | 17 | 57 | 23 |

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending April 13, 2014

At 6:00 a.m. on Monday morning, both airports at Anderson and Greenville downtown reported heavy rain. Overnight rainfall measurements taken at 7:00 a.m. included 2.74 inches at Jocassee Dam, 2.38 inches at Caesars Head and 2.05 inches at Sandy Springs. Thundershowers formed over eastern counties during the evening hours. Multiday totals ending on Tuesday morning indicated that 3.52 inches of rain had fallen at Liberty and 3.37 inches at Walhalla. Elsewhere, 1.90 inches fell at Clarks Hill, Union received 1.56 inches and 1.15 inches was reported at Walterboro. Clearing skies and brisk northwest winds followed the spring rains on Wednesday. The thermometers at Table Rock and Little Mountain recorded a Wednesday afternoon high temperature of 70 degrees. On Thursday morning, Sandy Springs, Ninety Nine Islands and Cedar Creek all reported a chilling 34 degrees. Union noted a Thursday minimum of 36 degrees and the Columbia Metro AP and Conway AP both cooled to 41 degrees. Sunny conditions on Thursday afternoon helped Hartsville and Kingstree reach 79 degrees. On Friday, Andrews and Beaufort warmed to 81 degrees. Plentiful sunshine on Saturday sent the mercury to 82 degrees at Anderson, Sumter and Darlington. Sunday afternoon high temperatures moved to those more common for early May. McCormick, Clinton and Florence all reached 83 degrees. Sunday's sunset came with clouds increasing on the southwest horizon. The state average temperature for the seven-day period was two degrees above the long-term average.

The highest official temperature reported was 85 degrees at Columbia Metro AP on April 13. The lowest official temperature reported was 29 degrees at Jocassee on April 11. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 2.95 inches at Long Creek ending at 7:00 a.m. on April 8. The state average rainfall for the seven-day period was 1.5 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 66 degrees, Charleston 69 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near normal. Charleston Harbor reported a water temperature of 66 degrees and Springmaid Pier at Myrtle Beach reported a surf water temperature of 61 degrees.

Precipitation

| Location | Total for Week | Total for 2014 | Deviation from Average |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Anderson AP | 2.85 | 12.27 | -1.7 |
| Greer AP | 2.57 | 12.90 | -0.9 |
| Charlotte, NC AP | 1.75 | 13.15 | 1.1 |
| Columbia Metro AP | 0.70 | 10.95 | -1.1 |
| Orangeburg AP | 0.90 | 9.69 | -3.3 |
| Augusta, GA Bush AP | 1.23 | 10.01 | -3.4 |
| Florence AP | 0.89 | 11.16 | 0.5 |
| N Myrtle Beach AP | 0.26 | 9.12 | -3.3 |
| Charleston AP | 1.32 | 11.10 | -0.6 |
| Savannah, GA AP | 1.90 | 8.98 | -2.7 |

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.

USDA-NASS-SOUTHERN REGION
 SOUTH CAROLINA FIELD OFFICE
 208 G Wholesale Lane
 West Columbia, SC 29172
 Official Business

Address Service Requested