



# South Carolina Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University  
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**Week Ending:** July 27, 2008  
**Cooperating Agencies:**  
Clemson University  
SC State Climatology Office  
Farm Service Agency

## GENERAL

Scattered thunderstorms brought rainfall to most of South Carolina last week. However, there were areas spotted across the state that missed out on the precipitation. Average soil moisture ratings were 27% very short, 39% short, 33% adequate, and 1% surplus. There was a statewide average of 6.4 days that were suitable for field work.

## FIELD CROPS

**CORN** has been a bust for most early planted fields. The crop couldn't recover from the drought damage earlier. Harvest may begin this week in some Low Country counties with low expected yields. Conditions were 55% very poor, 22% poor, 18% fair, and 5% good. **COTTON** acreage that had rain last week has made a big difference. Fields that have not are declining in condition lacking sufficient soil moisture to maintain yield potential. Conditions were 10% very poor, 23% poor, 38% fair, 28% good, and 1% excellent. **PEANUTS** were still looking mostly good. Growers have been scouting for larvae and stinkbugs, but populations have been low enough not to require control applications for most. Conditions were 3% very poor, 7% poor, 34% fair, 54% good, and 2% excellent. **SOYBEAN** conditions vary from very poor to excellent depending on whether they have seen rain or not. There have been reports of fields that have had emergence issues. Conditions were 20% very poor, 23% poor, 34% fair, 22% good, and 1% excellent. **SWEET POTATOES** were 8% very poor, 14% poor, 48% fair, and 30% good. Rains have helped green up **TOBACCO**, but plants have been short in many places. Conditions were 4% poor, 47% fair, 45% good, and 4% excellent.

## OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

**LIVESTOCK** conditions were little changed. **PASTURES** were continuing to suffer, and will have to receive additional moisture to show significant improvement. **PEACHES** were still mostly good with 60% of the crop harvested. **VEGETABLE** harvest was complete for snapbeans, nearly complete for tomatoes, and winding down for cantaloupes, and watermelons.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending July 27, 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>
Cantaloup, Harvested	88	93	94	Sorghum, Headed	66	74	80
Corn, Silked	99	100	100	Sorghum, Turned Color	33	41	44
Corn, Doughed	71	86	87	Soybeans, Emerged	100	100	100
Corn, Matured	14	14	24	Soybeans, Bloomed	38	37	42
Cotton, Squared	88	87	88	Soybeans, Pods Set	9	12	15
Cotton, Bolls Set	43	24	39	Tobacco, Topped	93	96	98
Hay, Other Hay, Harvested	67	79	78	Tobacco, Harvested	27	28	33
Peaches, Harvested	60	62	62	Tomatoes, Fresh, Harvested	98	97	99
Peanuts, Pegged	89	83	87	Watermelons, Harvested	88	84	88
Snapbeans, Fresh, Harvested	100	99	99				

### Condition for Week Ending July 27, 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>
Apples	10	10	60	20	0	Peaches	0	7	32	59	2
Cantaloup	11	16	40	33	0	Peanuts	3	7	34	54	2
Corn	55	22	18	5	0	Sorghum	40	24	28	8	0
Cotton	10	23	38	28	1	Soybeans	20	23	34	22	1
Hay	22	32	39	7	0	Sweet Potatoes	8	14	48	30	0
Livestock	4	17	50	29	0	Tobacco	0	4	47	45	4
Pasture	29	25	31	15	0	Watermelons	8	22	28	42	0

## South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending July 27, 2008

The mercury climbed to the century mark on Monday and helped fuel strong storms during the late afternoon. National Weather Service observational equipment at Lake Murray recorded a wind gust of 61 mph at 2:50 p.m. High winds snapped trees within the city of Columbia and caused power disruptions. Barnwell measured 2.10 inches of rain. On Wednesday, a southeastward-moving frontal boundary became the lift mechanism for widespread afternoon thunderstorms from Batesburg to McClellanville and Myrtle Beach. Early morning temperatures on Thursday and Friday cooled into the 60's behind the front. A slow return to the hot and humid conditions took place over the weekend. A few upper air features provided passing showers, some with thunder, on Saturday. While much of the state on Sunday observed mostly sunny, mid-summer weather, an isolated storm over the Darlington AP produced a wind gust of 62 mph at 5:23 p.m. Nearing sunset Sunday, the upstate was baking under 97-degree, shade temperatures at both Greer and Hunts Bridge. The state average temperature for the period was one degree below normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 103 degrees at Camden on July 21. The lowest official temperature reported was 58 degrees at Table Rock on the morning of July 24. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 3.80 inches at Loris ending at 7:00 a.m. on July 24. The state average rainfall for the period was 1.1 inches.

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

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 86 degrees.

### Precipitation

Location	Weekly Total	Jan 1 Total	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.59	19.39	-10.7
Columbia	1.15	21.46	-7.6
Orangeburg	1.12	22.18	-6.9
Charlotte, NC	0.76	20.94	-4.3
Augusta, GA	1.58	20.80	-6.2
Florence	1.23	23.82	-2.2
N Myrtle Beach	2.03	27.60	3.4
Charleston	0.25	21.55	-7.3
Savannah, GA	2.70	21.94	-6.2

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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