



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

Scattered thunderstorms continued once again for another week across the state. Many areas that had been missing out on the precipitation were more fortunate this time around. However, higher than average temperatures have been drying out soils not long after the rains have fallen. Average soil moisture ratings were 24% very short, 45% short, and 31% adequate. There was a statewide average of 6.1 days that were suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

There are more reports of **CORN** acreage being cut for silage, because of the lack of yield potential. Some growers were finding considerable presence of smut in their fields. Conditions were 49% very poor, 26% poor, 19% fair, and 6% good. **COTTON** farmers were scouting for pests, but many have not applied any significant control applications yet. Conditions changed little from last week and were 12% very poor, 21% poor, 35% fair, 31% good, and 1% excellent. Likewise, **PEANUT** producers were still scouting for larvae and stink bugs. Conditions were 8% very poor, 3% poor, 37% fair, 50% good, and 2% excellent. **SOYBEANS** continue to improve where rainfall has fallen. Conversely, areas short of moisture have gone the other way in part due to the increased demand from the heat. Conditions were 14% very poor, 28% poor, 41% fair, and 17% good. **SWEET POTATOES** were 10% very poor, 15% poor, 40% fair, and 35% good. **TOBACCO** looks okay, but is not a bumper crop by any means. Conditions were 8% very poor, 7% poor, 46% fair, 35% good, and 4% excellent.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

HAY is in short supply in several Upstate areas. **LIVESTOCK** remain under stress due to the summer heat. **PASTURES** will continue to need more rain with the high temperatures. **PEACH** conditions declined as more producers were realizing damage suffered from earlier cold, and hail. Over two-thirds of the crop has been harvested. Later **VEGETABLE** crops have experienced some pollination problems.

Crop Progress for Week Ending August 3, 2008

Crop and Stage	2008	2007	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2008	2007	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Cantaloup, Harvested	91	96	97	Sorghum, Headed	70	78	87
Corn, Silked	100	100	100	Sorghum, Turned Color	40	49	54
Corn, Doughed	83	95	95	Sorghum, Matured	4	11	15
Corn, Matured	26	36	43	Soybeans, Bloomed	58	52	59
Corn, Harvested	2	1	3	Soybeans, Pods Set	22	22	24
Cotton, Squared	96	94	95	Tobacco, Topped	99	99	100
Cotton, Bolls Set	58	37	53	Tobacco, Harvested	38	40	47
Hay, Other Hay, Harvested	74	88	87	Tomatoes, Fresh, Harvested	99	99	99
Peaches, Harvested	68	68	68	Watermelons, Harvested	91	89	92
Peanuts, Pegged	95	91	92				

Condition for Week Ending August 3, 2008

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Apples	15	10	55	20	0	Peaches	3	11	39	47	0
Corn	49	26	19	6	0	Peanuts	8	3	37	50	2
Cotton	12	21	35	31	1	Sorghum	28	34	25	13	0
Hay	27	37	31	5	0	Soybeans	14	28	41	17	0
Livestock	2	23	45	30	0	Sweet Potatoes	10	15	40	35	0
Pasture	25	29	31	15	0	Tobacco	8	7	46	35	4

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending August 3, 2008

Heat driven afternoon and evening scattered thunderstorms were observed all week. Tuesday's storms produced 1.75-inch diameter hail in Dorchester County and near 3-inch rainfalls in the West Ashley area of Charleston. Jamestown recorded 100 degrees on Wednesday. July 2008 ended with Edisto Beach measuring 12.64 inches of rain while Clemson AP measured only 1.48 inches. During the day on Thursday, a southeastward moving boundary caused heavy rains at Kiawah Island. Additional, and localized flooding rains (an unofficial 4.70 inches) fell on Seabrook Island Friday. At 6:59 p.m. Saturday, the Greer NWS recorded a wind gust of 64 mph and golf ball-sized hail fell on parts of Greenville County. The same complex of storms produced damaging high winds and hail over Darlington County. Night time skies were filled with lightning bolts. Near 100-degree high temperature readings were reported Saturday from the foothills to the coast. Sunday's weather included increasing humidity all across the state and continuing rain storms for those counties bordering the beaches. The state average temperature for the period was two degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 101 degrees at Saluda on August 2. The lowest official temperature reported was 63 degrees at Table Rock on the morning of July 29. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 2.08 inches at Darlington ending at 7:00 a.m. on August 3. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.9 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth average soil temperature: Columbia 84 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 87 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Weekly Total	Jan 1 Total	Deviation from Average
Greer	1.89	21.28	-9.8
Columbia	0.43	21.89	-8.4
Orangeburg	0.51	22.69	-7.6
Charlotte, NC	0.45	21.39	-4.7
Augusta, GA	1.18	21.98	-5.9
Florence	1.81	25.63	-1.7
N Myrtle Beach	1.05	28.65	3.2
Charleston	0.38	21.93	-8.4
Savannah, GA	1.85	23.79	-5.9

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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