



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

Warmer temperatures were observed for much of the State, however the recent rain trend continued for the first half of the week. Sunny, drier weather did not arrive until the weekend for most locations. Wet field conditions continue to be problematic for some farmers and have hindered planting, harvesting, and application of chemicals. South Carolina's soil moisture ratings were 5% short, 82% adequate, and 13% surplus. There was a statewide average of 4.8 days that were suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

Nearly the entire **CORN** crop had emerged and some fields of corn began to tassel. The excess moisture continued to be beneficial for corn conditions which were reported at 15% fair, 75% good, and 10% excellent. Some farmers were waiting for the weather to dry out before applying nitrogen to corn. **TOBACCO** conditions fell slightly but remained mostly good. **WINTER WHEAT** nearly completed turning color but rain caused harvesting to fall behind schedule. Some growers have reported pre-harvest sprouting because of excess moisture. **OATS** turning color also neared completion and harvesting was reported behind schedule with the five year average. **GRAIN HAY** harvested continued to progress well. Eighty-seven percent of the **COTTON** crop has been planted. Conditions ranged from very poor to excellent but were reported mostly good. **SOYBEAN** planting continued to fall behind the five year average. Thirty-two percent of soybeans were emerged. **PEANUT** planting was progressing well but remains slightly behind schedule.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions remained mostly good. **PASTURE** conditions fell slightly from the previous week and were reported at 1% poor, 24% fair, 71% good and 4% excellent. **CUCUMBERS** have started to be harvested but some growers are applying fungicides to prevent disease due to the frequent rain showers. **WATERMELON** planting was nearly complete for the year. **PEACH** harvesting continued at a steady pace and conditions were reported mostly good.

Crop Progress for Week Ending May 31, 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>
Cantaloup, Planted	97	98	98	Peaches, Harvested	6	8	7
Corn, Emerged	99	99	100	Peanuts, Planted	82	86	86
Corn, Silked	2	3	5	Snapbeans, Fresh, Harvested	5	7	5
Cotton, Planted	87	90	91	Soybeans, Planted	44	58	55
Cucumbers, Fresh, Planted	99	100	100	Soybeans, Emerged	32	38	30
Cucumbers, Fresh, Harvested	5	7	9	Watermelons, Planted	99	98	99
Hay, Grain Hay, Harvested	94	95	91	Winter Wheat, Turning Color	97	93	94
Oats, Turned Color	98	95	93	Winter Wheat, Ripe	45	55	56
Oats, Ripe	62	67	63	Winter Wheat, Harvested	1	10	9
Oats, Harvested	5	28	16				

Condition for Week Ending May 31, 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>
Cantaloup	0	5	38	57	0	Peaches	0	5	35	56	4
Corn	0	0	15	75	10	Peanuts	0	0	32	66	2
Cotton	1	3	33	60	3	Snapbeans	0	0	17	67	16
Cucumbers	0	0	29	71	0	Soybeans	0	0	14	83	3
Hay	0	3	24	66	7	Tobacco	0	1	31	62	6
Livestock	0	0	20	75	5	Tomatoes	0	0	12	66	22
Oats	0	0	18	80	2	Watermelons	0	1	28	60	11
Pasture	0	1	24	71	4	Winter Wheat	0	0	27	71	2

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending May 31, 2009

Drenching thunderstorms were reported within the State on Monday. At the Clemson University Blackville station, 0.55 inches of rain fell in 15 minutes and 2.44 inches of a 4.01 inch, 24-hour total fell in one hour. Roads in nearby Cordova were flooded and reported as impassable. A boundary of sea breeze-induced convection brought soaking rains on Tuesday to portions of eastern South Carolina. Afternoon high temperatures climbed into the upper 80's within the humid airmass. Light winds aloft allowed afternoon scattered thunderstorms to slowly drift northward with another round of intense rains on Thursday. The Anderson AP measured 2.23 inches of rain and thunderstorm winds gusted to 55 mph. A frontal boundary entered the state on Friday replacing the tropical air with noticeably drier, continental-sourced air. Loris measured 1.93 inches of rain in a pre-frontal thunderstorm Friday. On Saturday morning, a few of the high elevation sites reported low temperatures in the 50's. Mostly sunny, blue skies were observed over the weekend. Afternoon high temperatures rose to around 90 degrees. At month's end, Long Creek in Oconee County had received 12.33 inches of rain and Ridgeville in Dorchester County had received 8.63 inches. The state average temperature for the period was three degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 95 degrees at Lake Wateree, Camden, Manning, Bamberg and Givhans on May 31. The lowest official temperature reported was 54 degrees at Table Rock, Walhalla and Long Creek on May 30. The heaviest 24-hour rainfall reported was 4.15 inches at Long Creek ending at 7:00 a.m. on May 26. The state average rainfall for the period was 1.3 inches.

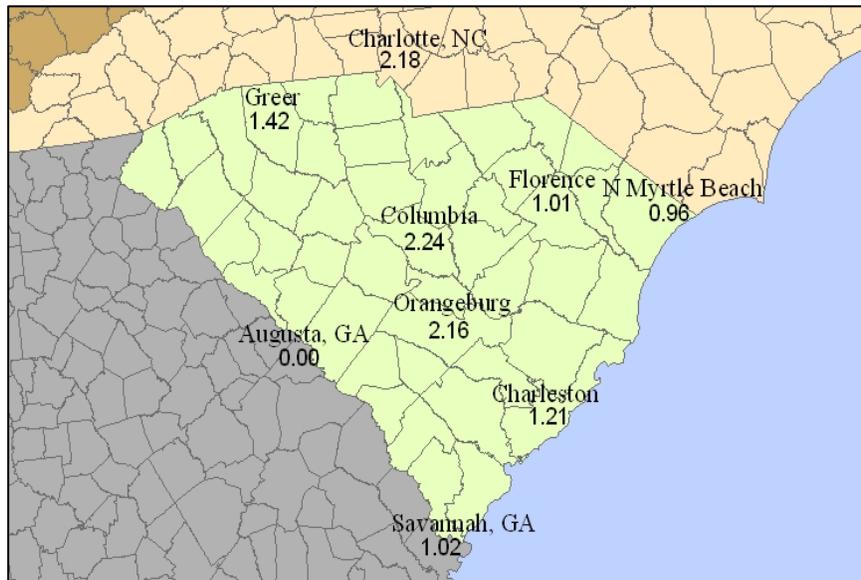
SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 77 degrees, Charleston 81 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were unavailable.

Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2009	Deviation from Average
Greer	1.42	21.43	-0.7
Columbia	2.24	15.69	-3.6
Orangeburg	2.16	19.37	0.1
Charlotte, NC	2.18	19.71	-1.2
Augusta, GA	0.00	17.82	-1.4
Florence	1.01	14.65	-2.6
N Myrtle Beach	0.96	12.36	-3.7
Charleston	1.21	17.15	-0.5
Savannah, GA	1.02	23.43	6.0

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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