



South Carolina

Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University
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Clemson University
SC State Climatology Office
Farm Service Agency



GENERAL

South Carolina producers saw very little rainfall again this past week. Dry conditions have continued for nearly two weeks in several areas of the State. Warm, sunny weather allowed many producers to complete grain harvesting and get their last soybeans planted, however many crop conditions declined rapidly as moisture supplies declined. South Carolina's soil moisture ratings continued to decline and were 15% very short, 52% short, and 33% adequate. There was a statewide average of 6.5 days that were suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

Nearly all **CORN** had tasseled and 34% had continued to dough this past week. The lack of rain has put the corn crop under a great deal of stress and yields are likely to decline rapidly if rain does not arrive soon. Conditions fell significantly and were reported at 6% poor, 45% fair, 40% good and 9% excellent. **TOBACCO** continued to progress ahead of schedule for this time of year. Seventy-five percent of the crop had been topped and 10% had been harvested. Conditions declined for tobacco as well and were reported at 2% poor, 49% fair, 46% good, and 3% excellent. Sunny days helped growers to complete **WINTER WHEAT** and **OAT** harvesting for 2009. Forty-nine percent of **COTTON** had squared. Cotton conditions were reported at 48% fair, 51% good, and 1% excellent. Ninety-two percent of **SOYBEANS** had emerged; the crop continued to bloom at a somewhat delayed pace. Conditions were 55% fair and 45% good. Half of the **PEANUT** crop had pegged and conditions declined much like several of the other crops.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions were mostly unchanged from the previous week and were 2% poor, 24% fair, 73% good, and 1% excellent. **PASTURE** conditions fell significantly due to the lack of precipitation and were 11% poor, 43% fair, and 46% good. Growers harvested **CUCUMBERS** at a rapid pace this past week. **TOMATOES** harvested made significant gains as well. Conditions remained mostly good for the crop. **WATERMELON** and **CANTALOUPE** harvesting continued at a steady pace. Thirty-eight percent of **PEACHES** had been harvested. Conditions for the crop declined considerably and were reported 3% poor, 43% fair, and 54% good.

Crop Progress for Week Ending July 5, 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, Harvested	60	53	62	Snapbeans, Fresh, Harvested	88	89	86
Corn, Silked	99	88	93	Soybeans, Planted	99	98	98
Corn, Doughed	34	28	40	Soybeans, Emerged	92	85	92
Cotton, Squared	49	38	52	Soybeans, Bloomed	3	3	8
Cucumbers, Fresh, Harvested	97	98	96	Tobacco, Topped	75	38	57
Hay, Other Hay, Harvested	35	30	34	Tobacco, Harvested	10	2	3
Oats, Harvested	100	100	96	Tomatoes, Fresh, Harvested	75	63	70
Peaches, Harvested	38	40	36	Watermelons, Harvested	48	48	51
Peanuts, Pegged	50	38	46	Winter Wheat, Harvested	100	99	97

Condition for Week Ending July 5, 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	0	53	47	0	Peaches	0	3	43	54	0
Corn	0	6	45	40	9	Peanuts	0	1	53	45	1
Cotton	0	0	48	51	1	Snapbeans	0	0	40	60	0
Cucumbers	0	0	25	75	0	Soybeans	0	0	55	45	0
Hay	0	0	18	80	2	Tobacco	0	2	49	46	3
Livestock	0	2	24	73	1	Tomatoes	0	3	16	81	0
Pasture	0	11	43	46	0	Watermelons	0	0	33	67	0

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending July 5, 2009

The first of several boundaries of dry air passed southeastward through the State on Monday. At 6:00 p.m., Aiken was reporting a relative humidity value of just 14 percent while the Hilton Head Airport, ahead of the change, indicated a heat index value of 117 degrees. At 6:45 p.m., thunderstorms developed near Charleston producing a 51 mph wind at Joe Riley Stadium. At the end of June, Ft. Moultrie had received 9.97 inches of rain. Wilting heat would be observed through Thursday. At 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, the Columbia Airport was reporting 99 degrees, west winds gusting at 26 mph and a relative humidity value of 23 percent. Both Johnston and Walterboro peaked at 101 degrees. Camden's thermometer registered 99 degrees on Thursday. The Sandhill Experiment Station reported a 24-hour open pan evaporation water loss of 0.52 inches Wednesday and Thursday. Deep blue skies signaled the arrival of the week's second reinforcing boundary of cooler, drier air on Friday morning. Unusual low temperatures greeted early risers on July the Fourth, Saturday with many inland sites recording temperatures in the 50's and lower 60's. Clouds began increasing throughout the day on Sunday before late evening thunderstorms started to form over eastern and southern sections. The State average temperature for the period was near normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 102 degrees at Hilton Head AP on June 29. The lowest official temperature reported was 56 degrees at Walhalla and Chesnee on June 30 and at Cedar Creek and Pageland on July 4. The heaviest 24-hour rainfall reported was 1.85 inches at Orangeburg AP on July 5. The State average rainfall for the period was 0.2 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 83 degrees, Charleston 86 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near normal. Ocean water temperatures at the Edisto Buoy were reported at 82 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2009	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.01	24.73	-2.0
Columbia	0.07	19.37	-5.8
Orangeburg	1.85	24.38	-0.8
Charlotte, NC	0.20	24.65	2.1
Augusta, GA	0.72	22.32	-1.8
Florence	0.14	19.43	-2.9
N Myrtle Beach	0.14	16.89	-3.6
Charleston	0.09	22.28	-2.2
Savannah, GA	0.06	27.89	4.0

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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