



South Carolina

Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University
1835 Assembly St., Suite 1008 · Columbia, SC 29201
(800) 424-9406 · FAX (803) 765-5310 · www.nass.usda.gov/sc

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Cooperating Agencies:
Clemson University
SC State Climatology Office
Farm Service Agency



GENERAL

South Carolina observed lower than average temperatures and a few scattered thunderstorms this past week. Localized thunderstorms provided precipitation and relieved drought pressure for some areas, but many farmers did not receive the rainfall that they were anticipating. Continuous dry conditions resulted in falling crop conditions for many growers. South Carolina's soil moisture ratings declined and were 13% very short, 42% short, and 45% adequate. There was a statewide average of 6.1 days that were suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

Three-quarters of the **CORN** crop had doughed and 11% had matured this past week. Corn was in desperate need of rain and the lack of sufficient rainfall continued to take its toll on the crop. Conditions were reported at 2% very poor, 12% poor, 43% fair, 40% good and 3% excellent. **TOBACCO** producers completed topping for the season; 30% of the crop had been harvested. Tobacco conditions were reported at 2% very poor, 4% poor, 34% fair, 49% good, and 11% excellent. Eighty-five percent of **COTTON** had squared and 20% had set bolls. Some cotton growers had reported stinkbugs in their fields. Growers in those areas will likely initiate control applications this coming week. Cotton conditions declined slightly and were reported at 1% poor, 49% fair, and 50% good. The entire **SOYBEAN** crop had emerged for 2009. Fifteen percent of the crop had bloomed and 3% had set pods. Like several other crops, conditions declined and were 1% very poor, 6% poor, 46% fair and 47% good. Eighty percent of **PEANUTS** had pegged and conditions for the crop were mostly unchanged from the previous week.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions declined and were 2% poor, 37% fair, 59% good, and 2% excellent. Without rain, **PASTURES** are very dry and turning brown in some areas of the State. Subsequently, conditions declined and were reported 2% very poor, 10% poor, 51% fair, 36% good, and 1% excellent. **CUCUMBER** harvesting had completed for the year. **TOMATO** harvesting is wrapping up. **WATERMELON** and **CANTALOUPE** harvesting continued at a steady pace. Sixty-five percent of the **PEACH** crop had been harvested. Conditions for the crop declined and were reported 5% poor, 33% fair, and 62% good.

Crop Progress for Week Ending July 19, 2009

Crop and Stage	2009	2008	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2009	2008	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Cantaloup, Harvested	78	82	86	Snapbeans, Fresh, Harvested	99	98	98
Corn, Doughed	75	60	73	Soybeans, Emerged	100	98	99
Corn, Matured	11	3	8	Soybeans, Bloomed	15	20	26
Cotton, Squared	85	77	80	Soybeans, Pods Set	3	4	7
Cotton, Bolls Set	20	27	26	Tobacco, Topped	100	85	91
Cucumbers, Fresh, Harvested	100	100	100	Tobacco, Harvested	30	15	19
Hay, Other Hay, Harvested	75	56	63	Tomatoes, Fresh, Harvested	94	92	92
Peaches, Harvested	65	54	54	Watermelons, Harvested	84	81	79
Peanuts, Pegged	80	73	73				

Condition for Week Ending July 19, 2009

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Cantaloup	0	4	58	33	5	Peaches	0	5	33	62	0
Corn	2	12	43	40	3	Peanuts	0	1	40	59	0
Cotton	0	1	49	50	0	Soybeans	1	6	46	47	0
Hay	4	12	43	40	1	Tobacco	2	4	34	49	11
Livestock	0	2	37	59	2	Watermelons	4	4	51	41	0
Pasture	2	10	51	36	1						

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending July 19, 2009

A weak cold front eased through the State on Monday, but not before localized thunderstorms produced flooding rains over the city of Georgetown. Table Rock cooled to 62 degrees on Tuesday morning. On Wednesday, the mercury reached 95 degrees at Camden. Thunderstorm coverage increased on Thursday with a 53 mph wind gust reported at Pineville and 1.77 inches of rain falling at Little Mountain. The week's second boundary of cooler, drier air rolled southeastward through the State on Friday evening. Golf ball-sized hailstones (1.75-inch diameter) fell over parts of Aiken and Kershaw counties in passing storms. The Myrtle Beach International Airport observed a refreshing change in the Saturday dewpoint temperature minimum of 64 degrees over the Friday maximum dewpoint temperature of a "steamy" 81 degrees. During the 24-hours from Saturday to Sunday morning, the Sandhill location measured an open pan evaporation water loss of 0.45 inches. Near record cold temperatures were reported across central and western counties on Sunday morning. Saluda, Little Mountain and Johnston all recorded a late September-like 58 degrees. Sunny, warm weather ended the week over much of inland South Carolina while lingering, high clouds remained at the coast. The State average temperature for the period was two degrees below normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 97 degrees at Columbia Metropolitan Airport and at Columbia Owens Airport on July 16. The lowest official temperature reported was 55 degrees at Long Creek on July 19. The heaviest 24-hour rainfall reported was 2.60 inches at Andrews ending at 7:00 a.m. on July 14. The State average rainfall for the period was 0.6 inches.

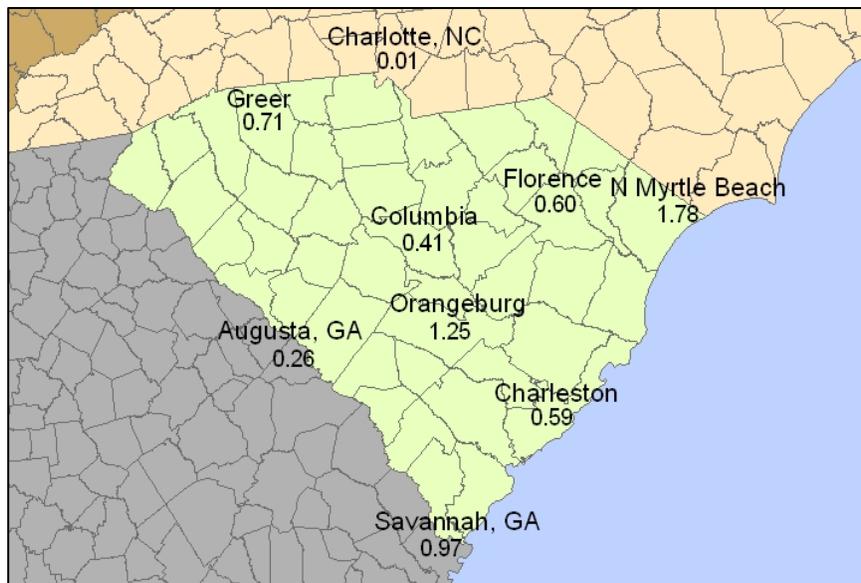
SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 81 degrees, Charleston 84 degrees.

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	0.71	25.82	-3.0
Columbia	0.41	20.44	-7.2
Orangeburg	1.25	27.47	-0.1
Charlotte, NC	0.01	26.48	2.2
Augusta, GA	0.26	23.45	-2.5
Florence	0.60	22.82	-1.8
N Myrtle Beach	1.78	19.72	-3.1
Charleston	0.59	27.56	0.3
Savannah, GA	0.97	30.67	4.1

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



USDA-NASS
 SOUTH CAROLINA FIELD OFFICE
 1835 Assembly St. Suite 1008
 Columbia, SC 29201-2449
 Official Business

Address Service Requested