



# South Carolina Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University  
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**Released:** August 10, 2009 , after 4 pm  
**Week Ending:** August 9, 2009  
**Cooperating Agencies:**  
Clemson University  
SC State Climatology Office  
Farm Service Agency



## GENERAL

Hot, humid weather prevailed across the State last week. Soil moisture levels fell dramatically with 59% of reported soil moisture levels classified as below adequate. South Carolina's soil moisture ratings were 16% very short, 43% short, 40% adequate, and 1% surplus. The days that were suitable for field work averaged 6.6 across the State.

## FIELD CROPS

Ninety-seven percent of the **CORN** crop had doughed and 60% had matured this past week. Conditions remained about the same and were reported at 3% very poor, 15% poor, 39% fair, 36% good and 7% excellent. Nearly all **COTTON** had squared and 72% had set bolls. Bollworms and armyworms joined stinkbugs on the list of problems for cotton growers. Cotton conditions were reported at 3% poor, 40% fair, 56% good and 1% excellent. Ninety-seven percent of **PEANUTS** had pegged as of last week, and 95% of the crop was reportedly in fair or better condition. The **SOYBEAN** crop progressed nicely last week. Seventy percent of the crop had bloomed while 38% had set pods. Conditions were 2% very poor, 6% poor, 44% fair, 47% good and 1% excellent. Fifty-five percent of the **TOBACCO** crop had been harvested while the remaining crops condition improved and was reported at 1% poor, 8% fair, 81% good, and 10% excellent.

## OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

**LIVESTOCK** conditions remained stable at 1% poor, 33% fair, 65% good, and 1% excellent. **PASTURE** conditions deteriorated with the hot dry weather last week. Conditions were reported as 2% very poor, 16% poor, 42% fair, 36% good and 4% excellent. Eighty-seven percent of the **PEACH** crop had been harvested. Conditions for last week were reported at 7% poor, 38% fair, and 55% good. **WATERMELON** harvest was winding down with 95% of the crop reportedly harvested.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending August 9, 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	91	94	97	Peaches, Harvested	87	74	73
Corn, Doughed	97	96	97	Peanuts, Pegged	97	98	96
Corn, Matured	60	67	61	Soybeans, Bloomed	70	74	75
Cotton, Squared	98	99	98	Soybeans, Pods Set	38	40	38
Cotton, Bolls Set	72	75	69	Tobacco, Harvested	55	38	53
Hay, Other Hay, Harvested	99	79	88	Watermelons, Harvested	95	91	93

### Condition for Week Ending August 9, 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>
Corn	3	15	39	36	7	Peaches	0	7	38	55	0
Cotton	0	3	40	56	1	Peanuts	0	5	32	62	1
Hay	3	14	44	39	0	Soybeans	2	6	44	47	1
Livestock	0	1	33	65	1	Tobacco	0	1	8	81	10
Pasture	2	16	42	36	4						

## South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending August 9, 2009

The state's highest elevations reported minimum temperatures in the lower 60's all week. Monday's interaction between the sea-breeze boundary and inland surface heating produced widely scattered thunderstorms over the counties bordering the coast. Anderson, Greenwood and Greer all recorded 96 degrees on Monday afternoon. Although Hunts Bridge received 1.21 inches of rain Tuesday it was one of the few sites in the Upstate reporting rainfall for the period. Weather observation instruments within the Savannah River Plant complex recorded a 73 mph wind gust during a storm Wednesday afternoon at around 5:00 p.m. Clarks Hill measured 1.60 inches of rain from Wednesday's event and nearby Johnston sweltered under a 98 degree high temperature. During the 24-hours ending at 7:00 a.m. Thursday morning, the Sandhill monitoring site reported an open pan evaporation water loss of 0.42 inches. Thursday's isolated downpour at McClellanville left 1.69 inches of rain in their gage. Lower humidity values accompanied rising air pressure over the weekend but did little to suppress the drying heat. Locations away from the immediate beaches recorded high temperatures on Sunday in the middle and upper 90's. The state average temperature for the period was two degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 100 degrees at Lake Wateree on August 9. The lowest official temperature reported was 58 degrees at Walhalla Hatchery (Jocassee) on August 6. The heaviest 24-hour rainfall reported was 1.85 inches at Charleston AP on August 4. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.3 inches.

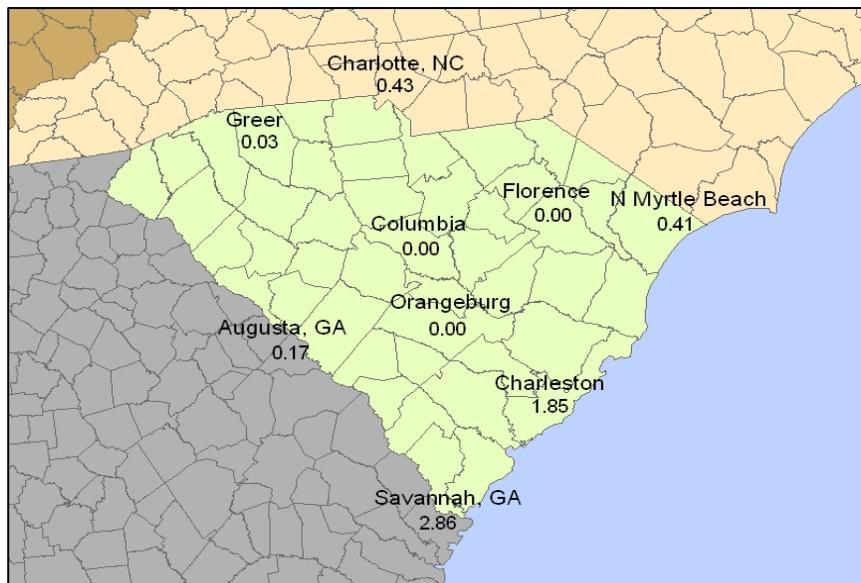
SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 84 degrees, Charleston 85 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near to below normal. Ocean water temperatures at the Edisto Buoy were reported at 83 degrees.

### Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2009	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.03	26.65	-5.2
Columbia	0.00	25.17	-6.2
Orangeburg	0.00	28.03	-3.3
Charlotte, NC	0.43	29.63	2.8
Augusta, GA	0.17	25.17	-3.6
Florence	0.00	24.83	-3.6
N Myrtle Beach	0.41	23.50	-3.0
Charleston	1.85	33.33	1.8
Savannah, GA	2.86	38.53	7.5

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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