



# South Carolina

## Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University  
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**Week Ending:** August 16, 2009  
**Cooperating Agencies:**  
Clemson University  
SC State Climatology Office  
Farm Service Agency



### GENERAL

Cooler temperatures and scattered showers were a welcome sight during the latter part of the week. Showers hampered field work but helped replenish soil moisture in parts of the State. South Carolina's soil moisture ratings were 10% very short, 39% short, 47% adequate, and 4% surplus. The days that were suitable for field work averaged 5.6 across the State.

### FIELD CROPS

**CORN** harvest was well underway with 14% of the crop reportedly harvested and another 80% of the crop matured. Conditions remained stable and were reported at 4% very poor, 14% poor, 43% fair, 34% good and 5% excellent. Seventy-nine percent of **COTTON** had set bolls but more rain was needed to improve crop condition and yield. Cotton conditions were reported at 3% poor, 49% fair, 47% good and 1% excellent. Nearly all **PEANUTS** had pegged as of last week and 95% of the crop was reportedly in Fair or better condition. Eighty-eight percent of the **SOYBEAN** crop had bloomed while 58% had reportedly set pods. Conditions were 1% very poor, 5% poor, 44% fair, 48% good and 2% excellent. Sixty-nine percent of the **TOBACCO** crop had been harvested and stalks were destroyed on 20% of the crop. Tobacco condition was reported at 2% poor, 28% fair, 60% good, and 10% excellent.

### OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

**LIVESTOCK** enjoyed cooler temperatures towards the end of the week. Livestock condition was reportedly 1% very poor, 2% poor, 33% fair, 59% good, and 5% excellent. **PASTURE** conditions stayed about the same at 4% very poor, 13% poor, 44% fair, 37% good and 2% excellent. **PEACH** harvest slowed down with 89% of crop harvested by last week. Conditions for last week were reported at 6% poor, 31% fair, and 63% good. **WATERMELON** harvest was winding down with 98% of the crop harvested.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending August 16, 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      | 93             | 97             | 99             | Peaches, Harvested        | 89             | 78             | 80             |
| Corn, Doughed             | 99             | 99             | 99             | Peanuts, Pegged           | 99             | 100            | 98             |
| Corn, Matured             | 80             | 84             | 79             | Soybeans, Bloomed         | 88             | 84             | 86             |
| Corn, Harvested           | 14             | 9              | 12             | Soybeans, Pods Set        | 58             | 52             | 50             |
| Cotton, Squared           | 99             | 100            | 99             | Tobacco, Harvested        | 69             | 48             | 64             |
| Cotton, Bolls Set         | 79             | 87             | 82             | Tobacco, Stalks Destroyed | 20             | 8              | 11             |
| Hay, Other Hay, Harvested | 100            | 85             | 91             | Watermelons, Harvested    | 98             | 94             | 96             |

### Condition for Week Ending August 16, 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      | 4              | 14             | 43             | 34             | 5              | Peaches  | 0              | 6              | 31             | 63             | 0              |
| Cotton    | 0              | 3              | 49             | 47             | 1              | Peanuts  | 0              | 5              | 40             | 54             | 1              |
| Hay       | 5              | 14             | 33             | 47             | 1              | Soybeans | 1              | 5              | 44             | 48             | 2              |
| Livestock | 1              | 2              | 33             | 59             | 5              | Tobacco  | 0              | 2              | 28             | 60             | 10             |
| Pasture   | 4              | 13             | 44             | 37             | 2              |          |                |                |                |                |                |

## South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending August 16, 2009

The season's highest temperatures were recorded on both Monday and Tuesday. Sandy Springs and Bamberg were two of the dozen or more sites reporting maximum temperatures of 100 degrees. The heat energy forced cloud tops to 60,000 feet and helped with Tuesday's formation of strong afternoon thunderstorms. The Santee National Wildlife Refuge at St. Pauls in Clarendon County measured 1.41 inches of rain during a convective storm. Chester's high temperature of 98 degrees on Tuesday was tempered by clouds and showers on Wednesday and resulted in a next day high of only 74 degrees. Large hail, the size of golf balls, pelted Burton in Beaufort County Wednesday afternoon at 2:50 p.m. Soaking rains fell across Lexington County on Thursday. Batesburg totaled 3.51 inches of rain from back to back storms Wednesday and Thursday while McEntire ANG Airport near Eastover measured 3.40 inches of rain Thursday through Saturday. Wet weather coverage for most of the week was concentrated over eastern and southern South Carolina with only isolated rainfalls over the Upstate. Moderating temperatures and increased cloudiness were observed through the weekend. Sunday evening thundershowers expanded into the Piedmont and Foothills with a few locations reporting much welcome, one-half to one-inch rains. The state average temperature for the period was one degree above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 102 degrees at USC Campus Columbia on August 10 and at McCormick on August 11. The lowest official temperature reported was 62 degrees at Chesnee on August 16. The heaviest 24-hour rainfall reported was 2.81 inches at Johnston ending at 7:00 a.m. on August 13. The state average rainfall for the period was 1.1 inches.

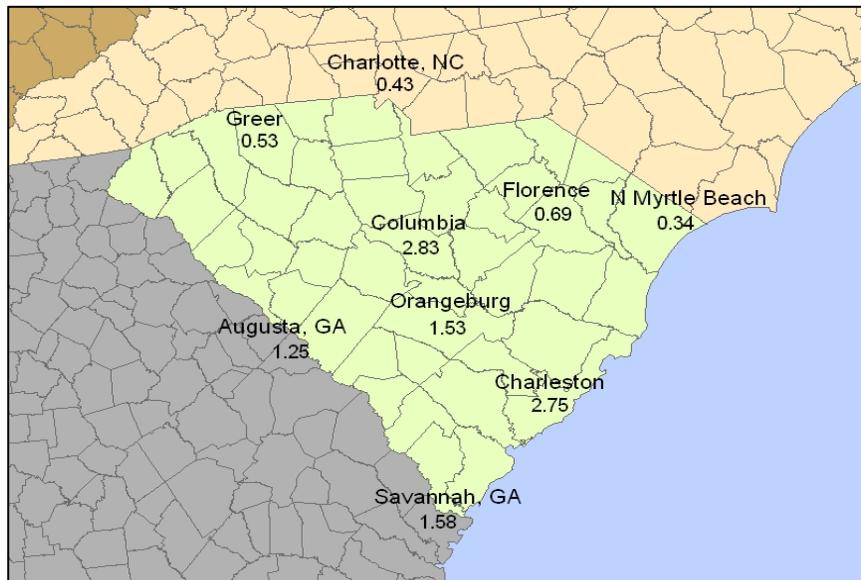
SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 81 degrees, Charleston 83 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near to below 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          | 0.53           | 27.18          | -5.6                   |
| Columbia       | 2.83           | 28.00          | -4.7                   |
| Orangeburg     | 1.53           | 29.56          | -3.1                   |
| Charlotte, NC  | 0.43           | 30.06          | 2.4                    |
| Augusta, GA    | 1.25           | 26.42          | -3.4                   |
| Florence       | 0.69           | 25.52          | -4.1                   |
| N Myrtle Beach | 0.34           | 23.84          | -3.9                   |
| Charleston     | 2.75           | 36.08          | 3.0                    |
| Savannah, GA   | 1.58           | 40.11          | 7.4                    |

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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