



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

Issue: SC-CW004109
Released: October 13, 2009 , after 4 pm
Week Ending: October 11, 2009
Cooperating Agencies:
Clemson University
SC State Climatology Office
Farm Service Agency



GENERAL

Several South Carolina locations received much needed rain this past week which helped to ease dry soils and improve crop conditions. Soil moisture levels progressed substantially and were reported 6% very short, 20% short, and 74% adequate. With wet weather, there was a statewide average of 5.5 days suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

The **CORN** harvest was nearly complete by week's end. Eighty-nine percent of **COTTON** bolls had opened which coincided with the five year average. Fifteen percent of cotton had been harvested. Cotton conditions were mostly unchanged from the previous week and were reported at 5% poor, 49% fair, 45% good, and 1% excellent. Seventy percent of **SOYBEANS** turned color and 32% had dropped leaves, both remaining well ahead of historical indications. Nineteen percent of soybeans were mature and 5% of the crop had been harvested. Conditions showed signs of improvement and were reported 1% very poor, 7% poor, 40% fair, 47% good, and 5% excellent. Albeit, some reporters indicated that half of the soybean crop benefitted from the recent precipitation, but it may be too late for the other half to receive any benefits from rain. Half of the **PEANUT** crop had been harvested, but some dug peanuts are sitting in wet fields waiting to dry out. Peanut conditions also improved and were reported 4% poor, 38% fair, 52% good, and 6% excellent. Nearly all **TOBACCO** stalks have been destroyed. **WINTER WHEAT** continued to be planted and some crops are just beginning to emerge. Likewise, 10% of **OATS** were in the ground and 2% had emerged.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions improved and were reported at 1% very poor, 2% poor, 24% fair, 71% good and 2% excellent. **WINTER GRAZINGS** made substantial gains this past week with 54% reported as planted and 20% emerged. **PASTURE** conditions improved with rain and were reported 3% very poor, 8% poor, 41% fair, 46% good, and 2% excellent.

Crop Progress for Week Ending October 11, 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>
Corn, Harvested	99	99	99	Soybeans, Mature	19	8	11
Cotton, Bolls Opened	89	88	89	Soybeans, Harvested	5	2	2
Cotton, Harvested	15	12	20	Tobacco, Stalks Destroyed	99	96	94
Oats, Planted	10	14	11	Winter Grazings, Planted	54	48	44
Oats, Emerged	2	1	4	Winter Grazings, Emerged	20	14	13
Peanuts, Harvested	50	42	43	Winter Wheat, Planted	12	8	13
Soybeans, Turned Color	70	51	57	Winter Wheat, Emerged	2	1	3
Soybeans, Leaves Dropped	32	19	23				

Condition for Week Ending October 11, 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>
Cotton	0	5	49	45	1	Peanuts	0	4	38	52	6
Livestock	1	2	24	71	2	Soybeans	1	7	40	47	5
Pasture	3	8	41	46	2						

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending October 11, 2009

Steady rains, passing west to east, fell during the early morning hours on Monday and into the afternoon. The event produced 1.31 inches of rain at Laurens, 1.84 inches at Sandhill, 1.88 inches at Gallivants Ferry, 1.60 inches at Cades and 1.08 inches at Beaufort. High temperatures for Monday peaked in the upper 50's and low 60's. The week's second round of wet weather arrived before sunrise Wednesday morning with occasional thunder. Sandy Springs received 1.26 inches of rain as the cells raced eastward at near 60 mph. Brisk west winds helped clear skies Wednesday afternoon and pushed the thermometer well back into the 80's. The surface cold front arrived overnight with Thursday morning minimum temperatures cooling into the lower 50's. The undecided nature of seasonal change was once again evident Friday with afternoon heat and high humidity. Georgetown and Bamberg both recorded maximum temperatures of 91 degrees. The week's second cold front approached on Saturday with thunderstorms developing during the day over southern and eastern locations. One of the heaviest rainfalls occurred at Holly Hill with a measurement of 0.94 inches. The week ended with overcast and cooler conditions. The state average temperature for the period was 4 degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 92 degrees at Andrews on October 9. The lowest official temperature reported was 43 degrees at Chesnee on October 8. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 1.71 inches at Columbia Owens AP on October 5. The state average rainfall for the period was 1.1 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 72 degrees, Charleston 77 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	1.13	34.53	-5.6
Anderson	1.60	37.25	0.2
Columbia	2.03	36.66	-3.6
Orangeburg	0.79	32.54	-7.7
Charlotte, NC	0.63	33.14	-1.5
Augusta, GA	0.66	31.60	-5.2
Florence	1.25	28.77	-8.1
N Myrtle Beach	0.81	28.54	-8.9
Charleston	0.97	41.95	-2.0
Savannah, GA	1.55	46.24	3.7

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