



# South Carolina Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University  
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**Issue:** SC-CW001711  
**Released:** May 2, 2011 , after 4 pm  
**Week Ending:** May 1, 2011  
**Cooperating Agencies:**  
Clemson University  
SC State Climatology Office  
Farm Service Agency



## GENERAL

Warm temperatures on Monday brought showers early Tuesday to the State for the week ending May 1, 2011. Some areas saw storm cells with severe weather while the Midlands received very little precipitation in the form of “Sunshowers”, a phenomena when rain falls through sunshine. Late afternoon storms would continue through the week until Thursday. Another severe weather system passed through the state, producing an EF1 tornado near Fort Motte and another EF1 tornado near Sumter, both causing light property damage. Hail and intense localized rains swept through the northeastern part of the State as a result of this system, although very light crop damage or flooding was recorded. Cooler weather and sunny skies followed on Friday and Saturday, allowing farm operators to resume planting. Sunday ended the week with sunny, warm weather. The State average temperature for the period was six degrees above normal. Soil moisture levels were reported at 2% very short, 17% short, 74% adequate, and 7% surplus. The State average rainfall for the period was 0.4 inches. There was an average of 5.8 days suitable for field work.

## FIELD CROPS

Ninety-nine percent of **CORN** had been planted with 88% of the crop emerged, remaining ahead the five year average. Conditions were 19% fair, 68% good, and 13% excellent. **WINTER WHEAT** continued to head with 92% headed, maintaining position ahead of the five year average. Eleven percent of the crop had begun to turn color. Conditions were 13% fair, 74% good, and 13% excellent. Ninety-seven percent of **OATS** had headed and 18% had begun to turn color. Conditions were reported as 3% poor, 14% fair, 74% good, and 9% excellent. **TOBACCO** transplanting was almost completed at 96% transplanted. **COTTON** planting picked up rapidly with 20% of the crop planted. **PEANUT** and **SOYBEAN** planting did not get much attention this week with both at 7% planted.

## OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

**LIVESTOCK** conditions were 17% fair, 79% good, and 4% excellent. **PASTURES** were 4% poor, 23% fair, 71% good, and 2% excellent. **PEACH** conditions were 22% fair, 72% good, and 6% excellent. **SNAPBEANS** planted continued to lag behind the five-year average with only 65% planted. **TOMATO** planting has almost concluded with 98% of the crop planted, on pace with the five-year average. Seventy-eight percent of **CUCUMBERS** had been planted, still well behind the five-year average. Conditions were 60% fair, 22% good, and 18% excellent. **CANTALOUPE** planting rebounded ahead of the five-year average with 88% planted at the end of the week. Conditions were 46% fair, 42% good, and 12% excellent. **WATERMELON** planting neared completion with 94% planted. Conditions were 49% fair, 48% good, and 3% excellent.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending May 1, 2011

Crop and Stage	2011	2010	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2011	2010	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Cantaloup, Planted	88	89	83	Peanuts, Planted	7	6	7
Corn, Planted	99	99	97	Snapbeans, Fresh, Planted	65	83	84
Corn, Emerged	88	89	82	Soybeans, Planted	7	9	7
Cotton, Planted	20	13	12	Tobacco, Transplanted	96	96	87
Cucumbers, Fresh, Planted	78	96	86	Tomatoes, Fresh, Planted	98	97	97
Hay, Grain Hay, Harvested	37	49	39	Watermelons, Planted	94	93	88
Oats, Headed	97	84	87	Winter Wheat, Headed	92	89	85
Oats, Turned Color	18	4	10	Winter Wheat, Turning Color	11	2	6

### Condition for Week Ending May 1, 2011

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	0	46	42	12	Peaches	0	0	22	72	6
Corn	0	0	19	68	13	Snapbeans	0	0	48	32	20
Cucumbers	0	0	60	22	18	Tobacco	0	0	41	56	3
Hay	0	10	21	64	5	Tomatoes	0	0	52	37	11
Livestock	0	0	17	79	4	Watermelons	0	0	49	48	3
Oats	0	3	14	74	9	Winter Wheat	0	0	13	74	13
Pasture	0	4	23	71	2						

## South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending May 1, 2011

Warm southerly winds were responsible for Cades and the Marlboro County Jetport reaching 88 degrees on Monday afternoon. A few late afternoon showers developed over the State's northwest corner. On Tuesday, showers expanded in coverage with some cells containing lightning. "Sunshowers", a phenomena when rain falls through sunshine, was observed across the Midlands. Dillon reported a 24-hour heavy rainfall amount of 1.60 inches. Ft. Moultrie measured 0.83 inches and Summerville received 0.73 inches. At 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, the Charleston City Waterfront Park reported south winds at 20 mph, gusting to 29 mph. Stormy weather swept through the State on Thursday morning. At 7:40 a.m., an EF1 tornado touched down near Ft. Motte causing light property damage. Only ten minutes later, another EF1 tornado affected the Millwood community just south of Sumter. Storm cells, with cloud tops of 55 thousand feet, produced hail and localized intense rains as they sped northeastward at 64 mph. Pelion measured 1.62 inches of rain. At 2:00 p.m. and ahead of the cold front, Myrtle Beach reported south winds of 29 mph, gusting to 38 mph. Friday arrived under clear blue skies and much cooler temperatures. On Saturday morning, Johnston recorded 45 degrees and at Walterboro, it was 50 degrees. April 2011 rainfall totals ranged from 5.15 inches at Ft. Mill to 1.57 inches at Winnsboro. Sunny, warm weather ended the week with afternoon temperatures in the upper 70's and lower 80's. The State average temperature for the seven-day period was six degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 89 degrees at Barnwell on April 26, at Columbia, Aiken and Barnwell on April 27 and at Givhans on April 30. The lowest official temperature reported was 41 degrees at Walhalla on April 30. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 1.63 inches at Aiken ending at 7:00 a.m. on April 28. The State average rainfall for the period was 0.4 inches.

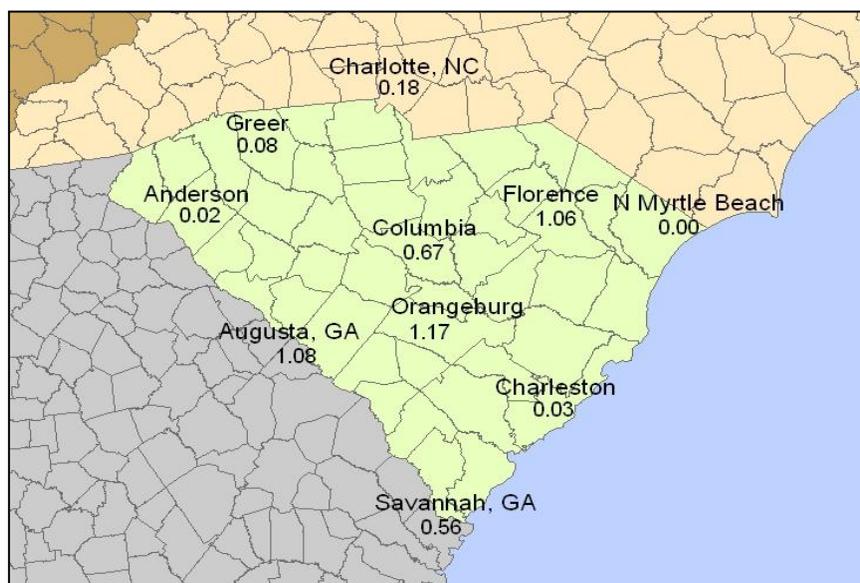
SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 72 degrees, Charleston 75 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 71 degrees.

### Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2011	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.08	16.72	-0.9
Anderson	0.02	13.97	-3.2
Columbia	0.67	12.67	-3.5
Orangeburg	1.17	13.08	-3.0
Charlotte, NC	0.18	12.64	-2.4
Augusta, GA	1.08	13.80	-2.4
Florence	1.06	12.27	-1.7
N Myrtle Beach	0.00	10.01	-3.1
Charleston	0.03	9.78	-4.2
Savannah, GA	0.56	11.53	-2.4

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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