



South Carolina Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

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



GENERAL

High temperatures and little rainfall persisted through the week ending May 6, 2012. Livestock producers were harvesting hay at a quicker pace due to poor grazing conditions. Temperatures in the nineties were common throughout the State with the average temperature recorded at nine degrees above normal for the week. Isolated thunderstorms produced some rainfall but the State remained in a serious drought. The State average rainfall for the period was 0.2 inches with decreased soil moisture conditions at 16% very short, 44% short and 40% adequate. There was an average of 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork.

FIELD CROPS

CORN plantings were wrapping up and 92% of the crop had emerged by the end of the week. Conditions declined to 1% very poor, 6% poor, 36% fair, 53% good and 4% excellent. **COTTON** planting was 27% complete by the end of the week, six points ahead of the five year average. Twenty-five percent of **PEANUTS** were planted, ahead of both last year and historical averages. **SOYBEANS** were 25% planted and 7% emerged by Sunday. **OATS** were completely headed with 60% turned color. Conditions declined to 1% very poor, 5% poor, 36% fair, 55% good and 3% excellent. **WINTER WHEAT** was also 100% headed with conditions reported as 3% poor, 38% fair, 55% good and 4% excellent. **TOBACCO** transplanting was complete, five points ahead of the five year average. Conditions were stable at 4% poor, 45% fair, 46% good and 5% excellent. Seventy-five percent of **HAY** had been harvested, remaining well ahead of historical figures.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

PASTURE conditions continued to slide to 6% very poor, 11% poor, 48% fair and 35% good. **LIVESTOCK** conditions also declined slightly to 1% very poor, 3% poor, 39% fair, 56% good and 1% excellent. **TOMATO** plantings were complete with conditions improving to 47% fair and 53% good. Ninety-five percent of **SNAPBEANS** and 90% of **CUCUMBERS** were planted by the end of the week. **CANTALOUPE** planting was 95% complete by Sunday, two points ahead of last year. **WATERMELON** planting was 95% complete. **PEACH** conditions were 60% fair, 39% good and 1% excellent.

Crop Progress for Week Ending May 6, 2012

Crop and Stage	2012	2011	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2012	2011	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Cantaloup, Planted	95	93	88	Snapbeans, Fresh, Planted	95	76	88
Corn, Planted	99	100	98	Soybeans, Planted	25	13	11
Corn, Emerged	92	92	88	Soybeans, Emerged	7	3	3
Cotton, Planted	27	29	21	Tobacco, Transplanted	100	98	95
Cucumbers, Fresh, Planted	90	89	89	Tomatoes, Fresh, Planted	100	99	98
Hay, Grain Hay, Harvested	75	53	53	Watermelons, Planted	95	96	92
Oats, Headed	100	98	94	Winter Wheat, Headed	100	98	95
Oats, Turned Color	60	31	25	Winter Wheat, Turning Color	60	20	14
Peanuts, Planted	25	13	11				

Condition for Week Ending May 6, 2012

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	1	58	41	0	Peaches	0	0	60	39	1
Corn	1	6	36	53	4	Snapbeans	0	0	80	16	4
Cucumbers	0	0	74	24	2	Tobacco	0	4	45	46	5
Livestock	1	3	39	56	1	Tomatoes	0	0	47	53	0
Oats	1	5	36	55	3	Watermelons	0	1	54	39	6
Pasture	6	11	48	35	0	Winter Wheat	0	3	38	55	4

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending May 6, 2012

Clarks Hill and McCormick reached 92 degrees on a sunny and dry Monday. The month of April ended with Caesars Head measuring a thirty-day rainfall total of 7.90 inches, while a distant Beaufort Marine Corps Air Station measured only 0.53 inches. May began with a continuing trend of unseasonably high temperatures. Saluda and Kingstree warmed to 90 degrees on May 1 and Aiken and Pinopolis warmed to 92 degrees on May 2. On Wednesday morning, Summerville, Sandy Springs and the Georgetown AP cooled to 62 degrees. The Sandhill Experiment Station in Richland County reported a 24-hour open pan evaporation water loss of 0.30 inches. Showers developed on Friday over the south Midlands and moved northeast. Welcomed rains fell over Barnwell with 1.05 inches and at nearby Bamberg with 0.81 inches. Saturday was the State's hottest day since September 15, 2011. McCormick, Orangeburg and the Georgetown AP all reported a Saturday afternoon maximum temperature of 94 degrees. Late afternoon thunderstorms formed over the southern Piedmont and drifted east. Little Mountain received 0.74 inches of much needed rain. At 9:55 p.m., the Georgetown AP recorded a thunderstorm wind gust of 52 mph. Increased cloudiness on Sunday scaled back the heat. Florence, Sandhill and Chester noted a Sunday high temperature of just 80 degrees. The State average temperature for the seven-day period was nine degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 95 degrees at Kingstree AP, Beaufort Marine Corps Air Station, Columbia Metro AP, Johnston and Witherbee on May 5. The lowest official temperature reported was 54 degrees at Hunts Bridge on May 5. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 1.09 inches at McClellanville ending at 7:00 a.m. on May 6. The State average rainfall for the period was 0.2 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 76 degrees, Charleston 80 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were below normal. Ocean water temperatures at nearby Johnny Mercer Pier in Wrightsville Beach, NC, were reported at 72 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2012	Deviation from Average
Greer AP	0.00	11.56	-4.8
Anderson AP	0.00	10.95	-4.9
Columbia Metro AP	0.24	8.95	-5.2
Orangeburg AP	0.04	9.00	-5.9
Charlotte, NC AP	0.00	9.14	-5.2
Augusta, GA Bush AP	0.00	6.25	-9.1
Florence AP	0.00	10.95	-1.7
N Myrtle Beach AP	0.46	8.92	-5.7
Charleston AP	0.14	9.88	-4.0
Savannah, GA AP	0.00	9.13	-4.7

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.

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