



# South Carolina

## Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University  
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**Issue:** SC-CW001313  
**Released:** April 1, 2013 , after 4 pm  
**Week Ending:** March 31, 2013  
**Cooperating Agencies:**  
Clemson University  
SC State Climatology Office  
Farm Service Agency



### GENERAL

Crop planting for South Carolina was well behind normal for this time of year due primarily to cold weather yielding several late frosts and freezes. There was adequate or better soil moisture for most of the State with ratings at 5% short, 75% adequate, and 20% surplus. There was an average of 4.4 days across the State that were suitable for fieldwork.

### FIELD CROPS

Cool wet weather hindered early **CORN** planting. Planting was 22% complete, compared to 50% in 2012, 34% for the five-year average. As of the end of the week, **OATS** were only 1% headed, well behind the 27% last year and the 12% five-year average. The crop condition was 26% fair, 71% good, and 3% excellent. The **RYE** crop was in mostly good condition, and with a few fields beginning to head. **TOBACCO** transplantings have just begin at 3%, compared to 8% last year, and 4% for the five-year average. **WINTER WHEAT** was 3% headed, compared to 27% last year, and 7% for the five-year average. Conditions were 2% poor, 34% fair, 61% good, and 3% excellent.

### OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

**CANTALOUPE, CUCUMBER, SNAPBEAN, TOMATO, AND WATERMELON** planting is under way, but well behind normal for the time of year. There were some reports of freeze damage to several vegetable crops. **PEACHES** are in mostly fair condition. Much of the crop is in bloom, with some trees beginning to leaf out. Below freezing temperatures this past week have had an effect on bloom, but damage has not been fully assessed at this time. **LIVESTOCK** conditions were 1% poor, 39% fair, 58% good, and 2% excellent. **PASTURE** conditions were reported at 4% poor, 42% fair, 52% good, and 2% excellent.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending March 31, 2013

Crop and Stage	2013	2012	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2013	2012	5-Yr Avg
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cantaloup, Planted	5	30	17	Snapbeans, Fresh, Planted	3	24	18
Corn, Planted	22	50	34	Tobacco, Transplanted	3	8	4
Corn, Emerged	4	16	10	Tomatoes, Fresh, Planted	27	42	29
Cucumbers, Fresh, Planted	4	19	13	Watermelons, Planted	6	29	25
Oats, Headed	1	27	12	Winter Wheat, Headed	3	27	7
Rye, Headed	3	0	0				

### Condition for Week Ending March 31, 2013

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>
Livestock	0	1	39	58	2	Peaches	0	0	66	34	0
Oats	0	0	26	71	3	Rye	0	0	33	67	0
Pasture	0	4	42	52	2	Winter Wheat	0	2	34	61	3

## South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending March 31, 2013

Strong westerly winds brought late season cold on Monday. At noon, the Columbia Metro AP recorded west winds of 29 mph, gusting to 41 mph. Caesars Head State Park observed snow flurries. On Tuesday morning, the thermometer indicated 26 degrees at the Greenville-Spartanburg AP, 28 degrees at Sandhill and 32 degrees as far south as Summerville. Cold weather's grip continued overnight into Wednesday. Mount Pleasant AP and Conway AP reported a Wednesday morning low temperature of 32 degrees. At 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, sunny skies were observed at all airport reporting sites with a temperature range of 51 degrees at Anderson to 58 degrees at Florence. Freezing temperatures held on for another sunrise on Thursday. Sandy Springs observed a minimum of 24 degrees while a distant Andrews recorded a sub-freezing 29 degrees. A slow return to seasonal temperatures began on Friday. Barnwell warmed to 70 degrees. A few light showers passed through the Upstate overnight with amounts generally less than one-quarter of an inch. The Charleston AP reported a Saturday afternoon high temperature of 75 degrees which was their warmest afternoon in two weeks. More showers on Saturday night left 0.64 inches at Pickens and 0.26 inches at Rock Hill. Easter Sunday's breezy and warming weather moved increased counts of pine pollen from tree to exposed surfaces for much of central South Carolina. Shaw AFB, Orangeburg and Hardeeville all warmed up to 78 degrees on Sunday afternoon. Columbia's March 2013 temperature average of 51.0 degrees was the tenth coldest on record. The statewide rainfall range for March 2013 ended with 5.47 inches at Allendale and 1.76 inches at McColl. The average temperature for the seven-day period was eight degrees below the long term average.

The highest official temperature reported was 80 degrees at Barnwell on March 31. The lowest official temperature reported was 22 degrees at Hunts Bridge, Ninety Nine Islands and Cedar Creek on March 28. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 0.76 inches at Clemson AP ending at 7:00 a.m. on March 31. The state average rainfall for the seven-day period was 0.3 inches.

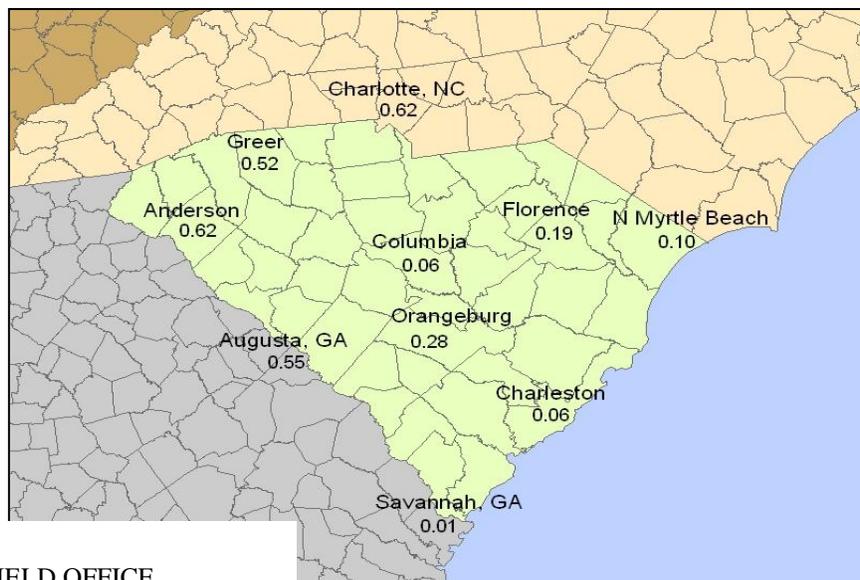
SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 59 degrees, Charleston 59 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 56 degrees.

### Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2013	Deviation from Average
Anderson AP	0.62	12.70	0.6
Greer AP	0.52	12.67	0.4
Charlotte, NC AP	0.62	11.19	0.5
Columbia Metro AP	0.06	10.37	-0.6
Orangeburg AP	0.28	11.22	-0.3
Augusta, GA Bush AP	0.55	13.11	1.1
Florence AP	0.19	9.01	-0.5
N Myrtle Beach AP	0.10	8.24	-2.8
Charleston AP	0.06	14.89	4.5
Savannah, GA AP	0.01	12.32	2.1

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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