



# South Carolina

## Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

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**Week Ending:** September 22, 2013  
**Cooperating Agencies:**  
Clemson University  
South Carolina State University  
SC State Climatology Office  
Farm Service Agency



### GENERAL

The majority of the week was filled with warm, breezy days and cool fall-like nights, which allowed harvesting activities to proceed with few interruptions. Scattered showers over the weekend were a welcomed and needed sight, as conditions have been very dry and the lack of rain was beginning to cause delays in fall plantings. Soil moisture ratings were reported at 5% very short, 53% short, 41% adequate and 1% surplus. There was a statewide average of 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork across South Carolina.

### FIELD CROPS

**CORN** harvest continued at a steady pace and by the end of the week, 82% of the crop was harvested, still lagging behind last year and the five-year average, which were 93% and 92%, respectively. **COTTON** bolls were 97% set, compared to 99% set last year and 100% set for the five-year average. By the end of the week, 44% of the bolls were open, slightly behind last year's 51% but still well behind the five-year average percentage of 67%. Conditions were 6% very poor, 11% poor, 45% fair, 36% good, and 2% excellent. The overall condition of the **PEANUT** crop was 1% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 68% good, and 4% excellent, with 13% of the crop harvested by week's end, on target with last year's pace and the five year average. **SOYBEANS** were 96% bloomed, slightly behind last year's 97% and the five-year average of 99%. By the end of the week, 15% of the crop had turned color, compared to 21% and 20% for last year and the five-year average, respectively. The overall condition of the crop was 1% very poor, 6% poor, 40% fair, 51% good, and 2% excellent. **TOBACCO** harvest was 97% complete by the end of the week, 2% behind last year and 1% behind the five-year average. **WINTER GRAZINGS** planting was 19% complete, ahead of both last year's pace and the five-year average which were 16% and 18%, respectively.

### OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

**LIVESTOCK** conditions for the week were 1% poor 17% fair, 80% good, and 2% excellent. **PASTURE** conditions decreased slightly to 1% poor, 22% fair, 76% good, and 1% excellent.

#### Crop Progress for Week Ending September 22, 2013

| Crop and Stage       | 2013    | 2012    | 5-Yr Avg | Crop and Stage            | 2013    | 2012    | 5-Yr Avg |
|----------------------|---------|---------|----------|---------------------------|---------|---------|----------|
|                      | Percent | Percent | Percent  |                           | Percent | Percent | Percent  |
| Corn, Harvested      | 82      | 93      | 92       | Soybeans, Turned Color    | 15      | 21      | 20       |
| Cotton, Bolls Set    | 97      | 99      | 100      | Soybeans, Leaves Dropped  | 4       | 2       | 5        |
| Cotton, Bolls Opened | 44      | 51      | 67       | Tobacco, Harvested        | 97      | 99      | 98       |
| Peanuts, Harvested   | 13      | 13      | 14       | Tobacco, Stalks Destroyed | 62      | 81      | 76       |
| Soybeans, Bloomed    | 96      | 97      | 99       | Winter Grazings, Planted  | 19      | 16      | 18       |
| Soybeans, Pods Set   | 77      | 85      | 94       |                           |         |         |          |

#### Condition for Week Ending September 22, 2013

| Crop      | Very Poor | Poor    | Fair    | Good    | Excellent | Crop     | Very Poor | Poor    | Fair    | Good    | Excellent |
|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|----------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
|           | Percent   | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent   |          | Percent   | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent   |
| Cotton    | 6         | 11      | 45      | 36      | 2         | Peanuts  | 1         | 4       | 23      | 68      | 4         |
| Livestock | 0         | 1       | 17      | 80      | 2         | Soybeans | 1         | 6       | 40      | 51      | 2         |
| Pasture   | 0         | 1       | 22      | 76      | 1         |          |           |         |         |         |           |

## South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending September 22, 2013

Monday's pre-dawn rains filled the USGS gage at McTier Creek, south of Monetta, with 2.59 inches of rain. Batesburg measured 1.32 inches. Billowing thunderclouds during the afternoon hours released rainfall amounts of 1.60 inches at the Charleston AP and 0.83 inches at Walterboro. A frontal passage followed by northeast surface winds lowered Monday's afternoon temperatures by around ten degrees for Tuesday afternoon. The Greenville-Spartanburg AP 1:00 p.m. Monday temperature of 81 degrees was replaced by a value of 69 degrees at the same hour on Tuesday. At 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Folly Beach reported northeast winds gusting to 30 mph. Continental-sourced high pressure (30.32 inches of mercury at 10:00 a.m. at Greenville and Rock Hill) delivered sunny mild conditions for Wednesday. After a sunrise start of 55 degrees, Hartsville warmed to a maximum of 81 degrees. A sunny Thursday sent the mercury to 85 degrees for Saluda, Columbia and Beaufort. Richland County observed a full "Harvest" moon rise at 7:26 p.m. Clarks Hill and Sandhill warmed to 90 degrees on Friday afternoon. Clouds began increasing on Saturday ahead of another boundary of cooler air and areas of heavy rain concentrated across the Upstate. Twenty-four hour amounts ending Sunday morning included 3.07 inches at Ninety-Nine Islands, 2.97 inches at Chesnee and 2.12 inches at Hunts Bridge. Chesterfield received a generous 1.41 inches of rain. With the exception of the southern coastal counties, most of South Carolina was sunny on Sunday. Orangeburg reached a warm 84 degrees while a cloudy McClellanville only made it to 76 degrees. The Autumnal Equinox occurred at 4:44 p.m., and with it, the astronomical end of summer 2013. The state average temperature for the seven-day period was two degrees above the long-term average.

The highest official temperature reported was 95 degrees at Hardeeville on September 16. The lowest official temperature reported was 52 degrees at Caesars Head on September 18 and at Chesterfield and Longtown on September 19. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 3.75 inches at Gaffney ending at 7:00 a.m. on September 22. The state average rainfall for the seven-day period was 1.0 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 78 degrees, Charleston 77 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 78 degrees.

### Precipitation

| Location            | Total<br>for Week | Total<br>for 2013 | Deviation<br>from Average |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Anderson AP         | 0.97              | 54.63             | 21.7                      |
| Greer AP            | 1.36              | 55.73             | 20.7                      |
| Charlotte, NC AP    | 2.74              | 38.21             | 7.3                       |
| Columbia Metro AP   | 0.82              | 44.41             | 9.8                       |
| Orangeburg AP       | 0.72              | 48.19             | 12.1                      |
| Augusta, GA Bush AP | 0.60              | 46.06             | 12.9                      |
| Florence AP         | 0.54              | 47.08             | 13.9                      |
| N Myrtle Beach AP   | 0.36              | 41.14             | 1.0                       |
| Charleston AP       | 1.61              | 48.77             | 8.4                       |
| Savannah, GA AP     | 0.57              | 48.31             | 10.5                      |

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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