



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
**South Carolina Crop Progress
and Condition Report**



Cooperating with the South Carolina Department of Agriculture
Southern Region, South Carolina Field Office · 208G Wholesale Lane · West Columbia, SC 29172 · (803) 734-2506
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May 19, 2014

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GENERAL

According to the National Agriculture Statistics Service's South Carolina Field Office, there were 4.8 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, May 18th, 2014. The State average rainfall for the seven-day period was 2.1 inches. The State average temperature for the week was near the long-term average. Soil moisture ratings for topsoil were reported at 1% very short, 14% short, 74% adequate, and 11% surplus. Soil moisture ratings for subsoil were reported at 16% short, 75% adequate, and 9% surplus.

COUNTY AGENTS COMMENTS

“The corn is looking very good. Wheat crop looks good but not sure if the yield will be as good this year. The town of Kershaw received 4.9 inches of rain in one day. Some areas in the county reported receiving more rain than the town of Kershaw.”

Brandon Lambert, Kershaw County, District 20

“Between 1.5 and 2.0 inches of rain fell last Thursday which was almost perfect considering forecast were for heavy rain in areas. There are reports of areas 15-20 miles west of here in lower Florence County and Marion County that received 7.0 inches. Overall, crops look good. Tobacco and corn are growing off fairly well. Peanuts, cotton, and soybeans are just coming up in areas. Producers should finish planting cotton by the end of the week. The wheat crop is looking strong and yields could average fairly high.”

Kyle Daniel, Georgetown County, District 30

“Reports of good quality in the first cutting of hay but the quantity is short, down 10 to 15% in the Saluda/Edgefield area.”

Keith Ritter, Saluda County, District 40

“Heavy rainfall in the 3-5 inch range last week has slowed work. Planting and other field operations should begin again this week.”

Charles Davis, Calhoun County, District 50

“Heavy rainfall at the end of the week eased soil moisture concerns, with some bottoms having standing water for a few days. Cotton and peanuts that had just come up will need warmer conditions to grow.”

Mark Nettles, Orangeburg County, District 50

“A light rain fell early on last Sunday morning but heavy rains of up to 3 inches fell in some areas on Thursday. This relieved soil dryness in all areas. A number of small grain fields had areas of the crop flattened from the high winds and heavy rain on Thursday. Crop conditions have improved for all crops during this week due to rainfall and lots of sunshine. No pest problems reported. Some small grain harvesting should begin next week depending on weather.”

Hugh Gray, Hampton County, District 80

Crop Progress for Week Ending May 18, 2014

Crop and Stage	2014	2013	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2014	2013	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Cantaloup, Planted	83	95	96	Rye, Turned Color	63	39	60
Corn, Planted	98	97	99	Snapbeans, Fresh, Planted	45	87	96
Corn, Emerged	96	95	98	Soybeans, Planted	36	25	33
Cotton, Planted	64	34	54	Soybeans, Emerged	15	10	19
Cucumbers, Fresh, Planted	59	83	95	Tobacco, Transplanted	53	99	99
Oats, Headed	97	99	99	Tomatoes, Fresh, Planted	65	100	100
Oats, Turned Color	48	43	71	Watermelons, Planted	77	96	98
Peanuts, Planted	71	42	43	Winter Wheat, Headed	97	95	99
Rye, Headed	95	97	99	Winter Wheat, Turning Color	45	32	62

Condition for Week Ending May 18, 2014

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	2	50	48	0	Peaches	12	15	54	15	4
Corn	0	1	27	68	4	Rye	0	2	21	76	1
Cucumbers	0	0	17	83	0	Snapbeans	0	0	20	80	0
Hay	0	6	44	50	0	Tobacco	0	0	48	51	1
Livestock	0	1	15	76	8	Tomatoes	0	0	47	53	0
Oats	0	0	17	70	13	Watermelons	0	1	13	86	0
Pasture	0	4	36	59	1	Winter Wheat	1	3	16	62	18

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending May 18, 2014

Poorly distributed showers fell from groups of cumulus clouds on Monday but amounts were light. Union and Winnsboro reported a Monday high temperature of 92 degrees. Sunny weather on Tuesday allowed the afternoon temperature at Florence and Sandhill to also reach 92 degrees. Wednesday's deep-layer southeasterly winds brought an early episode of subtropical weather. Thunderstorms developed over the Upstate late in the day. Rainfall amounts measured at 7:00 a.m. on Thursday morning included 3.76 inches at Jocassee Dam and 2.79 inches at Table Rock. The Charleston AP sunrise temperature of 77 degrees was that location's warmest start of a May morning in ten years. Drenching rains on Thursday caused flooded fields from Orangeburg County into Dillon County. Richland County Emergency Services instruments at McCord's Ferry Road near Eastover measured 6.93 inches. A CoCoRaHS volunteer in the Fork community of Dillon County measured 6.02 inches. National Weather Service cooperative observers reported 6.00 inches at Lake City, 5.50 inches at Mullins, 4.62 inches at Longtown and 3.31 inches at the Orangeburg AP. At least twenty-two airports in South Carolina reported an observation on Thursday of heavy rain. Bright, blue skies were observed on Friday after a frontal passage and falling temperatures. Bishopville and the McEntire ANG AP noted a mild maximum of 74 degrees on Friday afternoon. Unseasonable cold greeted early risers on Saturday morning. Walhalla and Ninety-Nine Islands cooled to 38 degrees. Cedar Creek and Pickens reported 40 degrees and the mercury moved to 46 degrees at Hartsville and Walterboro. The Beaufort Marine Corps Air Station and Charleston AP were a pair of the few locations to reach 80 degrees on Saturday. Mostly clear conditions transitioned into overcast then cloudy skies during Saturday's evening hours. Areas of light rain formed over the northwestern counties. Anderson, Calhoun Falls and Greenwood all received 0.23 inches of rain. Passing showers on Sunday kept temperatures quite cool for the date. A cool and rainy Fountain Inn only reached 62 degrees while a distant and partly cloudy Sullivan's Island noted 79 degrees. The state average temperature for the seven-day period was near the long-term average.

The highest official temperature reported was 94 degrees at Sandhill on May 12. The lowest official temperature reported was 32 degrees at Jocassee 8WNW on May 17. (This is the state's lowest temperature for so late in May since the 32 degrees at Cedar Creek on May 23, 2002.) The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 7.65 inches at the Marion US Forest Service (RAWS) site ending at 7:00 a.m. on May 16. The state average rainfall for the seven-day period was 2.1 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 69 degrees, Charleston 73 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near normal. Charleston Harbor reported a water temperature of 74 degrees and Springmaid Pier at Myrtle Beach reported a surf water temperature of 69 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Weekly Total	Jan 1 Total	Departure from Avg
Anderson AP	1.85	16.09	-0.9
Greer AP	2.02	17.65	-0.2
Charlotte, NC AP	2.11	21.44	5.9
Columbia Metro AP	2.05	15.31	0.1
Orangeburg AP	3.31	16.00	0.1
Augusta, GA Bush AP	3.75	17.19	1.0
Florence AP	2.52	17.28	3.5
N Myrtle Beach AP	0.91	12.44	-3.4
Charleston AP	0.96	16.95	2.0
Savannah, GA AP	0.53	14.90	0.1

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.

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 Official Business

Address Service Requested