



USDA
National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

South Carolina

Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report



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South
Carolina
State
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Office



Week Ending October 8, 2006

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GENERAL

Similar to the previous week, dry weather was prevalent across much of the State, which further aided harvesting activities. However, respondents in the Low Country reported that the lack of soil moisture supplies delayed the start of winter small grain plantings and has stalled the completion of winter grazing plantings. Reports also indicated the cotton harvest has slowed for some farmers in the region as they have focused their attention on the peanut harvest. Rain did fall, however, on the South Carolina coast where growers have observed good yields on their corn crop and are expecting similar results from their cotton harvest. There were 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was 4% very short, 32% short, 61% adequate, and 3% surplus.

FIELD CROPS

CORN was at 98% harvested, equal to the 5-year average, but 1% behind a year ago. **COTTON** had 80% of its bolls opened and 14% had been harvested. **SOYBEANS** had 54% of its leaves turning, 17% of the leaves had dropped, and 8% had matured. **SWEET POTATOES** were at 40% harvested. **TOBACCO** had 95% of its stalks destroyed, ahead of the 5-year average by five percent. **WINTER GRAZINGS** were at 50% planted, while **WINTER WHEAT** checked in at 5% planted.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

APPLES were at 85% harvested, 16% ahead of last year and 12% above the 5-year average. **LIVESTOCK** and **PASTURE** conditions again remained relatively steady from the previous week.

Crop Progress for Week Ending October 8, 2006

Crop and Stage	2006	2005	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2006	2005	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Apples, Harvested	85	69	73	Soybeans, Turned Color	54	51	54
Corn, Harvested	98	99	98	Soybeans, Leaves Dropped	17	19	22
Cotton, Bolls Opened	80	82	82	Soybeans, Mature	8	10	12
Cotton, Harvested	14	15	17	Sweetpotatoes, Harvested	40	35	46
Peanuts, Harvested	34	39	41	Tobacco, Stalks Destroyed	95	91	90
Sorghum, Turned Color	99	100	100	Winter Grazings, Planted	50	29	42
Sorghum, Matured	93	88	89	Winter Wheat, Planted	5	9	19
Sorghum, Harvested	80	56	65				

Condition for Week Ending October 8, 2006

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	1	8	49	34	8	Peanuts	1	3	38	47	11
Livestock	0	1	35	59	5	Soybeans	2	7	37	46	8
Pasture	1	14	39	45	1	Sweetpotatoes	0	0	37	63	0

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending October 8, 2006

Several days of dry and unseasonable hot weather were observed Monday through Thursday. Afternoon high temperatures during the stretch were reported in the mid and upper 80's. Clouds increased on Friday with the approach of a southeastward moving cold front. Thundershowers developed across the Pee Dee and central coast. A complex low pressure feature, near the surface and aloft, drifted south along the middle Atlantic coast into South Carolina Saturday bringing widely scattered rainshowers. The absence of sunshine combined with chilling northeast winds to limit high temperatures to the 50's and 60's. Sunday's weather, generally east of the Piedmont, ranged from cloudy with drizzle to heavy rain in thunderstorms. For the period, the state average temperature was near normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 91 degrees at Dillon on October 5. The lowest official temperature reported was 42 degrees at Walhalla on the morning of October 7. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 3.08 inches at Socastee ending at 7:00 AM on October 9. The average statewide rainfall for the period was 0.4 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth average soil temperature: Columbia 73 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Myrtle Beach and Fripp Inlet were reported at 72 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Weekly Total	Jan 1 Total	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.01	29.31	-10.4
Columbia	1.18	32.68	-7.3
Orangeburg	0.22	30.33	-9.7
Charlotte, NC	0.83	32.78	-1.5
Augusta, GA	0.07	30.27	-6.2
Florence	0.39	36.99	0.4
Myrtle Beach	0.84	41.11	4.0
Charleston	0.10	40.51	-3.1
Savannah, GA	0.51	29.12	-13.1

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.

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