



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

Much of South Carolina saw severe thunderstorms and showers early this week with some reports of hail and wind damage to crops. Cold air returned causing a few small, isolated areas of frost. Rain showers early in the week followed by more sunny days later in the week promoted substantial growth across the State. South Carolina's soil moisture ratings were 6% short, 79% adequate, and 15% surplus. There was a statewide average of 5.0 days that were suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

CORN planting continued at a rapid pace in some counties, whereas corn planting was stalled in some counties due to the lack of dry fields. **OAT** heading is slightly behind schedule but the crop was mostly in good condition. **TOBACCO** transplanting was behind average for this time in the season. **WINTER WHEAT** was 36% headed and continued to look good. Farmers in some areas began harvesting **Hay**.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions changed little from last week and remained mostly good. **PASTURES** remain in rather good conditions. Conditions were reported at 2% poor, 37% fair, 57% good and 4% excellent. **VEGETABLE** conditions improved slightly from last week. Some fruit growers reported damage to **PEACHES** this week from hail, otherwise conditions remained mostly good.

Crop Progress for Week Ending April 19, 2009

Crop and Stage	2009	2008	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2009	2008	5-Yr Avg
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cantaloup, Planted	56	66	66	Oats, Headed	48	57	54
Corn, Planted	69	85	83	Snapbeans, Fresh, Planted	49	62	62
Corn, Emerged	39	59	59	Tobacco, Transplanted	39	47	49
Cotton, Planted	4	0	3	Tomatoes, Fresh, Planted	78	86	83
Cucumbers, Fresh, Planted	39	62	65	Watermelons, Planted	65	72	73
Hay, Grain Hay, Harvested	5	12	12	Winter Wheat, Headed	36	47	49

Condition for Week Ending April 19, 2009

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>
Cantaloup	0	6	43	51	0	Peaches	0	2	25	68	5
Corn	0	0	24	76	0	Snapbeans	0	0	40	60	0
Hay	0	0	23	71	6	Tomatoes	0	0	27	73	0
Livestock	1	1	26	68	4	Watermelons	0	9	50	41	0
Oats	1	1	9	80	9	Winter Wheat	1	1	20	74	4
Pasture	0	2	37	57	4						

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending April 19, 2009

Showers and a few thunderstorms were observed on both Monday and Tuesday. Instruments at Springmaid Pier in Myrtle Beach measured a wind gust of 48 mph early Tuesday morning and several thunderstorm cells produced small hail. Loris received 1.41 inches of rain and Pritchardville 1.26 inches. Much cooler conditions overspread the state Wednesday with gusting northwest winds. Strong cold air advection sent temperatures on Friday morning back into the 30's with isolated pockets of frost. The Conway Airport and Chesterfield both reported 34 degrees. On Saturday, most of the state enjoyed sunny weather with afternoon high temperatures in the middle 70's. April's 12-hour sunshine days on top of the recent wet weather events have resulted in visual new growth and fast greening of the countryside. The week ended with overcast skies and a line of showers entering the state from the west. The state average temperature for the period was three degrees below normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 80 degrees at Chesterfield and Jamestown on April 18. The lowest official temperature reported was 33 degrees at Pageland on April 17. The heaviest 24-hour rainfall reported was 1.68 inches at Dillon ending at 7:00 a.m. on April 15. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.6 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth average soil temperature: Columbia 66 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 65 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Weekly Total	Jan 1 Total	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.51	16.21	0.0
Columbia	1.00	9.98	-5.1
Orangeburg	0.66	11.37	-3.7
Charlotte, NC	0.23	11.86	-2.0
Augusta, GA	0.98	13.39	-1.8
Florence	0.53	8.41	-4.5
N Myrtle Beach	0.13	8.20	-4.4
Charleston	0.58	9.97	-3.0
Savannah, GA	1.49	13.37	0.7

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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