



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

South Carolina received some wind and rain near the beginning of this past week, but the remainder of the week was mostly dry for the majority of the State. Days during the latter portion of the week were mostly sunny with above average temperatures. Some farmers benefitted from the dryer conditions, however several farms have reported the need for rain as topsoil dries out. Rain is needed to promote seed germination and to help activate chemicals. South Carolina's soil moisture ratings were 20% short, 78% adequate, and 2% surplus. There was a statewide average of 6.1 days that were suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

CORN planting is nearing completion, whereas some growers were not able to get all of the corn acreage planted that they wanted and are considering shifting acreage to cotton, peanuts, or soybeans. **OATS** were 70% headed and remain in mostly good condition. **TOBACCO** transplanting made significant gains this past week. **WINTER WHEAT** heading is progressing well and continued to look good. **HAY** conditions worsened slightly from last week. **SOYBEAN** planting has just begun and is expected to continue throughout this coming week with good weather in the forecast.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions remained mostly good. Conditions were reported at 1% poor, 25% fair, 72% good and 2% excellent. **PASTURES** remain in rather good conditions as well. **VEGETABLE** conditions worsened slightly from last week. **PEACHES** conditions were reported at 3% poor, 39% fair, and 58% good.

Crop Progress for Week Ending April 26, 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	66	79	79	Snapbeans, Fresh, Planted	71	73	77
Corn, Planted	88	93	94	Soybeans, Planted	2	4	6
Corn, Emerged	59	67	75	Tobacco, Transplanted	70	70	74
Cotton, Planted	6	5	7	Tomatoes, Fresh, Planted	93	95	94
Cucumbers, Fresh, Planted	67	74	82	Watermelons, Planted	81	84	83
Hay, Grain Hay, Harvested	25	31	27	Winter Wheat, Headed	67	68	74
Oats, Headed	70	78	78				

Condition for Week Ending April 26, 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	4	63	33	0	Peaches	0	3	39	58	0
Corn	0	0	36	63	1	Snapbeans	0	0	50	50	0
Cucumbers	0	5	60	35	0	Tobacco	0	1	42	55	2
Hay	0	0	43	54	3	Tomatoes	0	0	46	54	0
Livestock	0	1	25	72	2	Watermelons	0	1	65	34	0
Oats	1	1	17	72	9	Winter Wheat	1	2	25	68	4
Pasture	0	2	41	56	1						

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending April 26, 2009

Monday's thunderclouds rose to nearly 45,000 feet along the south coast. Parts of Charleston County received one-inch diameter hail. Winds at N Myrtle Beach Airport gusted to 39 mph. Drying, high pressure built over the state on Tuesday with breezy conditions. Sunrise temperatures on Wednesday fell into the 30's at the usual cold locations. At 3:00 pm, Greenville observed a relative humidity value of 11 percent. During the 24-hour period from Wednesday to Thursday morning, the Sandhill observation site noted an open pan evaporation water loss of 0.44 inches. A wildfire began Wednesday within Horry County, fanned by west winds gusting to 38 mph at the Marion Airport and 35 mph at the N Myrtle Beach Airport. An estimated 30 square miles of forest and residential property would eventually be consumed. Wind speeds calmed on Friday, allowing afternoon temperatures to rise to their highest of the spring season. All day sunshine helped push the thermometer to around 90 degrees. Sunny, warm weather was observed on Saturday and Sunday. The state average temperature for the period was three degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 95 degrees at Camden on April 24. The lowest official temperature reported was 34 degrees at Chesnee on April 22. The heaviest 24-hour rainfall reported was 0.84 inches at Beaufort Marine Corps Air Station ending at 7:00 a.m. on April 21. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.3 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth average soil temperature: Columbia 70 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 68 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Weekly Total	Jan 1 Total	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.90	17.11	0.1
Columbia	0.26	10.24	-5.5
Orangeburg	0.06	11.43	-4.3
Charlotte, NC	0.57	12.43	-2.1
Augusta, GA	0.05	13.44	-2.4
Florence	0.03	8.44	-5.1
N Myrtle Beach	0.00	8.20	-5.0
Charleston	0.73	10.70	-2.9
Savannah, GA	0.37	13.74	0.3

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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