



South Carolina

Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University
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Clemson University
SC State Climatology Office
Farm Service Agency



GENERAL

Much of South Carolina had ample rain this past week, with some areas of the State seeing strong thunderstorms. The timely precipitation relieved dry soil conditions, revived crops, and helped recent plantings to emerge in most areas. While the much needed rainfall benefitted most farmers, rain delayed planting and various field activities for some producers. South Carolina's soil moisture ratings improved with the rainfall, and were 16% short, 80% adequate, and 4% surplus. There was a statewide average of 5.0 days that were suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

CORN planting is nearing completion for 2009 and remained in mostly good condition. **TOBACCO** transplanting was also nearly complete, while conditions were reported at 47% fair, 47% good, and 6% excellent. Ninety-six percent of **WINTER WHEAT** has headed. The crop continued to turn color. **OATS** have nearly completed heading while 38% of those headed oats have turned color. The rainy weather delayed farmers in some areas from cutting **GRAIN HAY**, but the crop remained in mostly good condition. **COTTON** planting continued at a rapid pace. Conditions were reported at 47% fair and 53% good. **SOYBEAN** and **PEANUT** planting continued at a steady pace.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions remained mostly good. **PASTURE** conditions improved slightly with precipitation and were reported at 4% poor, 32% fair, 62% good and 2% excellent. **VEGETABLE** planting was nearly complete for many crops. **PEACH** conditions were reported at 4% poor, 38% fair, and 58% good. Some producers gave report of early peach varieties turning color.

Crop Progress for Week Ending May 10, 2009

Crop and Stage	2009	2008	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2009	2008	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Cantaloup, Planted	92	90	91	Snapbeans, Fresh, Planted	95	96	95
Corn, Planted	98	99	99	Soybeans, Planted	11	15	15
Corn, Emerged	89	92	94	Soybeans, Emerged	4	5	2
Cotton, Planted	33	26	35	Tobacco, Transplanted	98	96	98
Cucumbers, Fresh, Planted	85	90	96	Tomatoes, Fresh, Planted	99	99	99
Hay, Grain Hay, Harvested	60	57	57	Watermelons, Planted	96	92	93
Oats, Headed	97	95	96	Winter Wheat, Headed	96	96	97
Oats, Turned Color	38	35	39	Winter Wheat, Turning Color	25	23	31
Peanuts, Planted	10	22	32				

Condition for Week Ending May 10, 2009

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	6	44	50	0	Peaches	0	4	38	58	0
Corn	0	0	28	69	3	Peanuts	0	0	25	75	0
Cotton	0	0	47	53	0	Snapbeans	0	10	60	30	0
Cucumbers	0	0	70	30	0	Tobacco	0	0	47	47	6
Hay	0	0	39	54	7	Tomatoes	0	0	17	83	0
Livestock	0	0	20	76	4	Watermelons	0	1	22	77	0
Oats	2	1	14	80	3	Winter Wheat	1	2	19	75	3
Pasture	0	4	32	62	2						

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending May 10, 2009

Strong storms swept through the state on Monday. Golf ball-sized hail fell in parts of Summerville and Berkeley counties, with reports of funnel clouds in both Newberry and Dorchester counties and a possible tornado near the Cross Hill community in Laurens County. At 7:11 p.m., the Marion County Airport measured winds gusting to 69 mph. Rainfall amounts exceeding two inches accompanied the towering thunderstorms. Tuesday's unstable weather included 1.75-inch diameter hail in Union County and similarly sized, large hail fell in Greenville County on Wednesday. Daily high temperatures in the mid to upper 80's were common from the foothills to the beaches. Since April began, Dillon has received 4.18 inches of rain and Long Creek 4.59 inches. A break in the unsettled weather occurred on Saturday with west winds gusting to 30 mph and a full day of sunshine pushing the mercury to nearly 90 degrees. Sunday's weather included more thunderstorm cells over parts of Sumter County and reports of large hail. Givhans, in Dorchester County, measured close to 2.5 inches of rain in a passing rain storm. Late Sunday evening, a southward moving boundary of cooler air entered the state. The state average temperature for the period was five degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 93 degrees at Jamestown on May 9. The lowest official temperature reported was 54 degrees at Table Rock on May 8. The heaviest 24-hour rainfall reported was 2.65 inches at McCormick ending at 7:00 a.m. on May 5. The state average rainfall for the period was 1.5 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 75 degrees, Charleston 78 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 75 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for Year	Deviation from Average
Greer	1.68	18.86	-0.1
Columbia	0.60	10.88	-6.1
Orangeburg	2.48	13.97	-3.0
Charlotte, NC	3.07	16.03	0.0
Augusta, GA	1.48	14.92	-2.1
Florence	2.17	11.35	-3.5
N Myrtle Beach	1.59	9.76	-4.1
Charleston	0.26	10.96	-3.9
Savannah, GA	0.71	14.45	-0.4

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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