



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

Afternoon showers fell across much of the State last week, bringing much needed moisture to the soil. Increased soil moisture improved nearly all crop conditions. South Carolina's soil moisture ratings were 6% very short, 38% short, 51% adequate, and 5% surplus. The days that were suitable for field work averaged 6.1 across the State.

FIELD CROPS

Ninety-three percent of the **CORN** crop had doughed and 40% had matured this past week. Corn harvest was underway in some areas while others were still preparing for the start of harvest season. Conditions were little changed and were reported at 2% very poor, 12% poor, 43% fair, 37% good and 6% excellent. Ninety-six percent of **COTTON** had squared and 54% had set bolls. Stinkbugs continued to be a problem for cotton growers however; rains improved the cotton crop condition overall. Cotton conditions were reported at 1% poor, 37% fair, 61% good and 1% excellent. Ninety-five percent of **PEANUTS** had pegged, as of last week, slightly ahead of the five year average of 92%. Conditions for the crop improved in the last week. Fifty percent of the **SOYBEAN** crop had bloomed and 17% had set pods, both slightly behind the five year averages of 60% and 25%, respectively. Conditions improved slightly to 1% very poor, 4% poor, 41% fair and 54% good. Heavy rains decreased the weight of the **TOBACCO** crop last week. Tobacco conditions were reported at 5% very poor, 5% poor, 19% fair, 70% good, and 1% excellent.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions improved last week to 2% poor, 27% fair, 68% good, and 3% excellent. **PASTURE** conditions improved with 90% of the pastures reportedly being in fair or better condition. The summer **VEGETABLE** harvest continued winding down. Eighty percent of the **PEACH** crop had been harvested, ahead of the five year average of 67%. Conditions for the crop for last week were reported at 4% poor, 27% fair, and 69% good. South Carolina 4-H youth participated in the Southern Regional Horse Competition in Little Rock, AR last week. They represented the state very well, winning several individual and team awards.

Crop Progress for Week Ending August 2, 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, Harvested	89	91	95	Peanuts, Pegged	95	94	92
Corn, Doughed	93	81	92	Soybeans, Bloomed	50	55	60
Corn, Matured	40	24	37	Soybeans, Pods Set	17	20	25
Cotton, Squared	96	95	95	Tobacco, Harvested	49	36	44
Cotton, Bolls Set	54	56	54	Tomatoes, Fresh, Harvested	100	99	99
Hay, Other Hay, Harvested	97	73	84	Watermelons, Harvested	93	91	90
Peaches, Harvested	80	67	67				

Condition for Week Ending August 2, 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>
Corn	2	12	43	37	6	Peaches	0	4	27	69	0
Cotton	0	1	37	61	1	Peanuts	0	2	25	72	1
Hay	2	8	50	40	0	Soybeans	1	4	41	54	0
Livestock	0	2	27	68	3	Tobacco	5	5	19	70	1
Pasture	0	10	44	44	2						

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending August 2, 2009

Tall thunderstorm cells produced golf ball-sized hail near Brunson in Hampton County on Monday. Kingstree measured 2.32 inches of rain during Monday's storms and Pritchardville reported 1.97 inches. Afternoon high temperatures reached 96 degrees at Calhoun Falls Tuesday and 97 degrees at Camden on Wednesday. Bluffton reported numerous toppled trees from high winds during a strong storm on Wednesday. Tropical weather conditions were observed on Thursday and Friday and the majority of rain events seemed to shift over to the eastern half of the state. At 4:40 p.m. Thursday, National Weather Service instruments recorded a peak thunderstorm wind gust of 56 mph at the Santee Dam. Ft. Moultrie recorded a high temperature Friday of 96 degrees and nearby Walterboro received 1.40 inches of rain. At the end of July, Andrews, in Georgetown County, had received 8.54 inches of rain while the Anderson County Airport had only received 0.74 inches. Limited sunshine and milder temperatures were the result of increased cloudiness over the weekend. Showers and occasional storms were observed into Sunday night. Pritchardville, in Beaufort County, reported a weekly rainfall total of 5.50 inches. The state average temperature for the period was near normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 100 degrees at Johnston on July 28. The lowest official temperature reported was 60 degrees at Long Creek on July 27. The heaviest 24-hour rainfall reported was 3.48 inches at Bennettsville ending at 7:00 a.m. on July 31. The state average rainfall for the period was 1.4 inches.

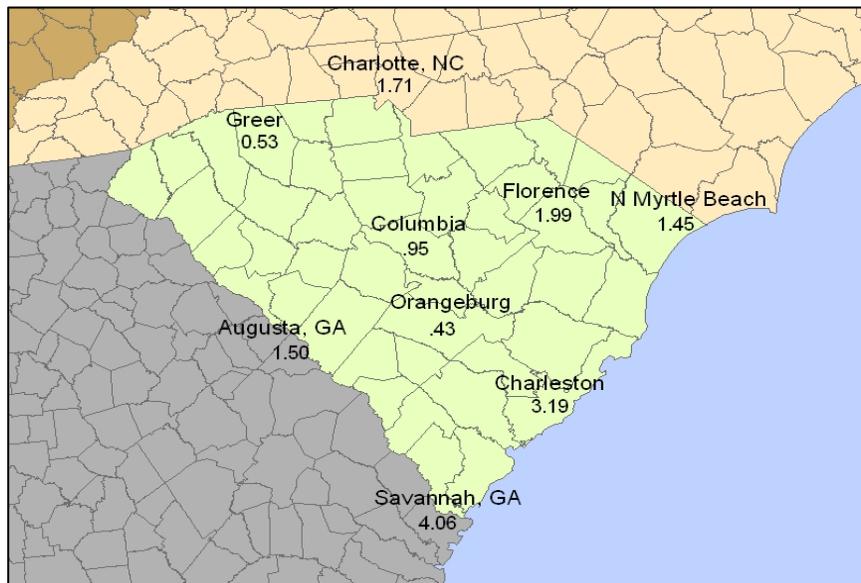
SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 82 degrees, Charleston 85 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near normal. Ocean water temperatures at the Edisto Buoy were reported at 83 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2009	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.53	26.62	-4.3
Columbia	0.95	25.17	-5.0
Orangeburg	0.43	28.03	-2.1
Charlotte, NC	1.71	29.20	3.2
Augusta, GA	1.50	25.00	-2.8
Florence	1.99	24.83	-2.3
N Myrtle Beach	1.45	23.09	-2.2
Charleston	3.19	31.48	1.4
Savannah, GA	4.06	35.67	6.3

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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