



South Carolina

Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University
1835 Assembly St., Suite 1008 · Columbia, SC 29201
(800) 424-9406 · FAX (803) 765-5310 · www.nass.usda.gov/sc

Issue: SC-CW004209
Released: October 19, 2009 , after 4 pm
Week Ending: October 18, 2009
Cooperating Agencies:
Clemson University
SC State Climatology Office
Farm Service Agency



GENERAL

Rain fell across South Carolina last week, replenishing soil moisture but hampering field work. Soil moisture levels increased substantially and were reported as 2% very short, 5% short, and 78% adequate and 15% surplus. With wet weather, there was a statewide average of 2.9 days suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

The last of the 2009 **CORN** crop was harvested last week. Ninety-five percent of **COTTON** bolls had opened and despite wet weather, 22% of the cotton crop had been harvested by week's end. Cotton conditions were mostly unchanged from the previous week and were reported at 7% poor, 48% fair, and 45% good. However, producers were concerned that recent rains would result in grade reductions after harvest. **SOYBEANS** continued to mature slightly ahead of the 5 year average. Seventy-five percent had turned color and 40% had dropped leaves, both ahead of last year's crop. Thirty-four percent of soybeans were mature and 10% of the crop had been harvested. **PEANUT** harvest progressed with 58% of the crop being harvested by the end of the week. Peanut growers also voiced concerns about grade reductions resulting from recent rains. **TOBACCO** stalks were destroyed, closing out the 2009 crop. Small grain plantings progressed slowly given the wet weather. Fourteen percent of both **WINTER WHEAT** and **OATS** were in the ground, while 6% and 3%, respectively, had emerged.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions improved slightly to 23% fair, 75% good and 2% excellent. **WINTER GRAZINGS** progressed slowly with 56% planted and 24% emerged. **PASTURE** conditions continued to improve with rain and were reported as 2% poor, 41% fair, 55% good, and 2% excellent.

Crop Progress for Week Ending October 18, 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>
Corn, Harvested	100	100	100	Soybeans, Mature	34	15	20
Cotton, Bolls Opened	95	94	94	Soybeans, Harvested	10	4	5
Cotton, Harvested	22	22	31	Tobacco, Stalks Destroyed	100	99	97
Oats, Planted	14	35	24	Winter Grazings, Planted	56	57	53
Oats, Emerged	3	8	10	Winter Grazings, Emerged	24	26	26
Peanuts, Harvested	58	60	58	Winter Wheat, Planted	14	14	19
Soybeans, Turned Color	75	71	74	Winter Wheat, Emerged	6	7	9
Soybeans, Leaves Dropped	40	35	38				

Condition for Week Ending October 18, 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>
Cotton	0	7	48	45	0	Pasture	0	2	41	55	2
Livestock	0	0	23	75	2	Soybeans	1	4	47	42	6

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending October 18, 2009

A nearly stationary boundary became the avenue for a long-duration rain event beginning before sunrise on Monday. The heaviest totals fell from Anderson County to near Florence County. Pelion measured 3.82 inches in 24-hours. At 3:00 p.m., McEntire ANG Airport reported heavy rain and 57 degrees while at distant Hilton Head it was partly sunny and 81 degrees. Brilliant, blue skies were observed Tuesday with afternoon temperatures warming into the upper 70's. On Wednesday, rainshowers once again developed along the oscillating boundary and this pattern continued for several days. Because of the absence of ground-warming, sunshine hours, Chester's high temperature Thursday only made it to 53 degrees. A cold front entered the state over the weekend limiting any warming caused by the few breaks of sunshine. On Saturday, Columbia Airport set a date record lowest maximum temperature of 58 degrees. On Sunday, both Florence and Charleston set date record low maximum temperatures of 57 and 60 degrees, respectively. At sunset on Sunday, the season's coldest air was spreading into the state from the northwest. The state average temperature for the period was 5 degrees below normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 82 degrees at Edisto Beach on October 12 and at Lake Wateree on October 13. The lowest official temperature reported was 34 degrees at Cedar Creek on October 18. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 3.84 inches at Antreville ending at 7:00 a.m. on October 13. The state average rainfall for the period was 1.8 inches.

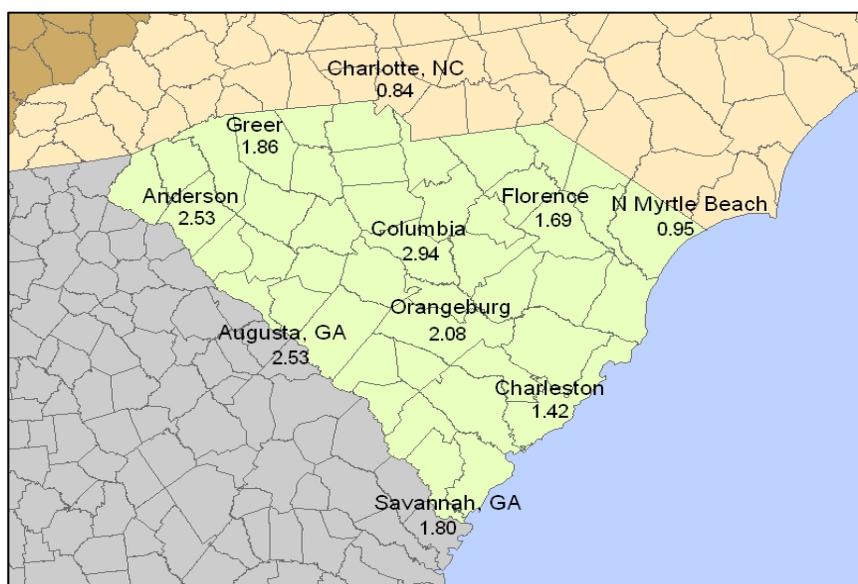
SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 66 degrees, Charleston 69 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near normal. Ocean water temperatures at nearby Fort Pulaski, GA, were reported at 70 degrees and at Ocean Crest Pier, NC, 68 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2009	Deviation from Average
Greer	1.86	36.39	-4.6
Anderson	2.53	39.78	2.0
Columbia	2.94	39.60	-1.2
Orangeburg	2.08	34.62	-6.1
Charlotte, NC	0.84	33.98	-1.5
Augusta, GA	2.53	34.13	-3.3
Florence	1.69	30.46	-7.1
N Myrtle Beach	0.95	29.49	-8.6
Charleston	1.42	43.37	-1.2
Savannah, GA	1.80	48.04	4.8

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



USDA-NASS
 SOUTH CAROLINA FIELD OFFICE
 1835 Assembly St. Suite 1008
 Columbia, SC 29201-2449
 Official Business

Address Service Requested