



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

The first frost of the year fell across the northwest part of the State Monday morning. Cool mornings led to warm afternoons as dry conditions returned to South Carolina last week. Fall field activities resumed in full force. Soil moisture levels were reported as 2% very short, 5% short, and 91% adequate and 2% surplus. Across the State, there was an average of 5.9 days suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

COTTON harvest resumed with 33% of the crop reportedly harvested by week's end. Cotton conditions improved with the drier week and were reported at 2% poor, 47% fair, 50% good and 1% excellent. **SOYBEANS** continued to mature ahead of the 5 year average. Ninety percent had turned color and 59% had dropped leaves, both ahead of last year's crop. Forty-four percent of soybeans were mature and 16% of the crop had been harvested. Growers remained optimistic on yield prospects. Dry weather allowed **PEANUT** producers to continue digging and combining fields. Harvest was completed on 76% of the acres by week's end. Small grain plantings remained behind the 5-year average. Eighteen percent of **WINTER WHEAT** and 20% of **OATS** had been planted with 10% and 8% respectively, emerged.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions shifted slightly to 1% very poor, 1% poor, 18% fair, 78% good and 2% excellent. **WINTER GRAZINGS** progressed slowly with 70% planted and 40% emerged. **PASTURE** conditions remained favorable and were reported as 2% poor, 45% fair, 52% good and 1% excellent.

Crop Progress for Week Ending October 25, 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>
Cotton, Bolls Opened	98	98	97	Soybeans, Mature	44	25	32
Cotton, Harvested	33	32	41	Soybeans, Harvested	16	7	10
Oats, Planted	20	43	34	Winter Grazings, Planted	70	64	62
Oats, Emerged	8	16	18	Winter Grazings, Emerged	40	37	38
Peanuts, Harvested	76	74	73	Winter Wheat, Planted	18	18	24
Soybeans, Turned Color	90	83	87	Winter Wheat, Emerged	10	10	15
Soybeans, Leaves Dropped	59	49	55				

Condition for Week Ending October 25, 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	2	47	50	1	Pasture	0	2	45	52	1
Livestock	1	1	18	78	2	Soybeans	0	3	45	47	5

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending October 25, 2009

Parts of the state observed the first frost of the season on Monday morning. Locations northwest of a line extending from near Saluda to Camden reported minimum temperatures of 32 degrees or less. Unlimited visibility accompanied the clear blue skies on Monday and Tuesday afternoons. Much warmer weather began on Wednesday as light surface winds shifted to a more southerly direction. Coastal counties reported high temperatures on Thursday in the lower 80's. After a few hours of dense fog on Friday morning, the rest of the state saw a return to late summer-like temperatures. Chester recorded a high temperature on Friday afternoon of 80 degrees. At the same time, showers began entering the Upstate in advance of slow moving frontal boundary. By Saturday morning, Pickens had received 0.51 inches. Periods of light rain fell eastward into Saturday afternoon before late day clearing and breezy conditions arrived. The boundary became somewhat stationary with clouds returning for Sunday. Northeast surface winds combined with overcast skies to limit inland warming and most sites only managed high temperatures in the lower 60's. The few exceptions were along the beaches where a shallow layer of warm air helped the thermometer register 78 degrees at Georgetown Airport and Jamestown. The state average temperature for the period was 3 degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 85 degrees at McEntire ANG AP, Barnwell and Sandy Run on October 23 and at Cades, Andrews, Georgetown AP, Charleston AP and Jamestown on October 24. The lowest official temperature reported was 28 degrees at Chesnee on October 19, 20. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 1.06 inches at Table Rock ending at 7:00 a.m. on October 24. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.1 inches.

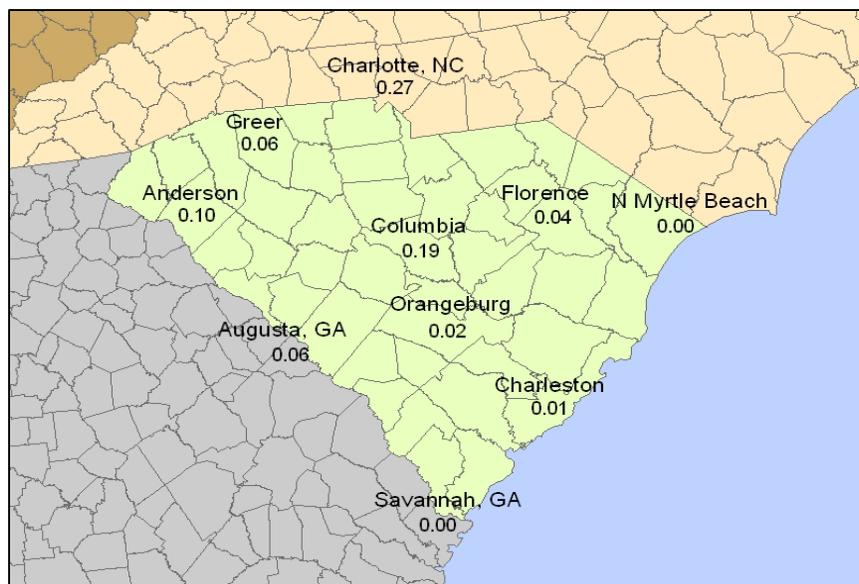
SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 68 degrees, Charleston 72 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near normal. Ocean water temperatures at nearby Fort Pulaski, GA, were reported at 71 degrees and at Ocean Crest Pier, NC, 69 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2009	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.06	36.45	-5.4
Anderson	0.10	39.88	1.4
Columbia	0.19	39.79	-1.7
Orangeburg	0.02	34.64	-6.8
Charlotte, NC	0.27	34.25	-2.1
Augusta, GA	0.06	34.19	-4.0
Florence	0.04	30.50	-7.7
N Myrtle Beach	0.00	29.49	-9.3
Charleston	0.01	43.38	-1.8
Savannah, GA	0.00	48.04	4.2

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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