



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

Tropical Storm Ida brought soaking rains to South Carolina last week. Precipitation provided relief to dry conditions, however excessively wet conditions delayed crop harvest and caused quality to decline for some field crops. Soil moisture levels increased significantly from the previous week and were reported as 68% adequate and 32% surplus. Wet, rainy weather led to a statewide average of 3.1 days suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

Sixty percent of **COTTON** had been harvested by week's end. Some cotton growers expressed concern about quality losses. Nearly all **SOYBEANS** had dropped leaves and 79% was reported mature. Thirty-six percent of soybeans had been harvested. Much like cotton, some soybean growers were concerned about the quality of their crop due to extended wet weather. Soybean conditions were reported as 2% poor, 44% fair, 47% good and 7% excellent. **PEANUT** farmers were approaching completion for the 2009 harvest. Wet weather during the peanut harvest has significantly hurt peanut quality for some farmers, with some not making contracted yields. Small grain plantings were delayed this past week with 40% of **WINTER WHEAT** and 55% of **OATS** reportedly planted. Thirty percent of winter wheat and 44% of oats had emerged. Conditions of the winter wheat crop were reported 41% fair and 59% good. Oat conditions were 62% fair and 38% good.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions were reported as 20% fair, 78% good and 2% excellent. Ninety-three percent of **WINTER GRAZINGS** were planted and 88% had emerged. Wet weather this past week helped to improve the conditions of winter grazings which were reported 27% fair, 71% good, and 2% excellent. Likewise, **PASTURE** conditions showed signs of improvement and were reported as 36% fair, 62% good and 2% excellent.

Crop Progress for Week Ending November 15, 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, Harvested	60	71	73	Soybeans, Harvested	36	33	40
Oats, Planted	55	67	65	Winter Grazings, Planted	93	88	83
Oats, Emerged	44	50	47	Winter Grazings, Emerged	88	71	65
Peanuts, Harvested	99	98	98	Winter Wheat, Planted	40	31	40
Soybeans, Leaves Dropped	98	97	96	Winter Wheat, Emerged	30	20	28
Soybeans, Mature	79	84	84				

Condition for Week Ending November 15, 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>
Livestock	0	0	20	78	2	Soybeans	0	2	44	47	7
Oats	0	0	62	38	0	Winter Grazings	0	0	27	71	2
Pasture	0	0	36	62	2	Winter Wheat	0	0	41	59	0

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending November 15, 2009

Near 80-degree warmth was reported on Monday for locations within the coastal counties. A solar halo appeared within the high cirrus clouds at around noon over the Midlands and signaled the expected approach of precipitation. Shortly after midnight, a curtain of rain fell as the once-named and Mobile Bay, Alabama landfalling Tropical Storm Ida remnants entered the Upstate. At 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, both Anderson AP and Orangeburg AP reported heavy rain. Abundant Atlantic moisture, drawn into the circulation, would cause steady, saturating rainfalls through the day and into Wednesday. At 12:36 p.m. Wednesday, Springmaid Pier measured north winds gusting to 48 mph. The lowest barometric pressure noted was 29.61 inches of mercury at N Myrtle Beach AP at 4:35 a.m. on Thursday. Some sunshine appeared over the state's westernmost counties Thursday afternoon but clouds, light rain or drizzle persisted eastward to the coast. On Friday, the Georgetown AP recorded a high temperature of only 52 degrees while a sunny Clemson AP recorded 76 degrees. When the effects of the passing cyclonic feature had exited, Loris, in Horry County, had received 6.91 inches of rain during the event. Sunny, mild weather was observed over the weekend and contributed to fast drying. The state average temperature for the period was four degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 80 degrees at Charleston AP on November 9 and at Camden, Barnwell, Hunts Bridge, Allendale, Givhans and Pritchardville on November 15. The lowest official temperature reported was 41 degrees at Walterboro and Hunts Bridge on November 15. The heaviest official 24-hour rain reported was 5.55 inches at Clarks Hill ending at 7:00 a.m. on November 11. The state average rainfall for the period was 3.0 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 62 degrees, Charleston 63 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near to above normal. Ocean water temperatures at nearby Fort Pulaski, GA, were reported at 66 degrees and at Ocean Crest Pier, NC, 64 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2009	Deviation from Average
Greer	4.52	43.17	-1.3
Anderson	3.41	45.19	4.2
Columbia	3.04	44.46	1.1
Orangeburg	2.92	38.10	-5.2
Charlotte, NC	3.50	40.09	1.4
Augusta, GA	4.54	40.60	0.5
Florence	2.82	33.50	-6.4
N Myrtle Beach	4.95	35.61	-5.1
Charleston	1.71	45.37	-1.6
Savannah, GA	1.56	49.66	4.1

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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