



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

South Carolina saw warm conditions and received very little, if any, rain this past week. Many farmers with non-irrigated crops or pastures reported a need for adequate precipitation. The warm daytime temperatures allowed for vegetable and melon planting to pick up, however dry soils hampered some field work. South Carolina's soil moisture levels continued to fall and were reported as 5% very short, 40% short, 54% adequate and 1% surplus. There was a statewide average of 6.6 days suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

CORN planting continued its progression with 83% of corn reportedly planted. Sixty-one percent of the 2010 corn crop had emerged, advancing ahead of the five year average. Corn conditions were reportedly 13% fair, 85% good, and 2% excellent. **TOBACCO** transplants continued to be set in fields with 54% reportedly transplanted, ahead of the five year average. **COTTON** had just begun to be planted, however some growers are waiting for soil moisture to improve. Twenty-six percent of **WINTER WHEAT** had headed, remaining behind historical numbers. Conditions were 4% poor, 46% fair, 48% good, and 2% excellent. Thirty-two percent of **OATS** had headed and was reportedly 2% poor, 53% fair, 44% good, and 1% excellent. Twenty percent of **GRAIN HAY** was harvested and in mostly fair to good condition.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions were reported primarily good. **PASTURE** conditions fell slightly and were reportedly 4% poor, 38% fair, 57% good, and 1% excellent. Eighty-seven percent of **TOMATOES** had been planted. Tomato conditions were reportedly 18% fair, 69% good, and 13% excellent. Forty percent of **CUCUMBERS** and 49% of **SNAPBEANS** had been planted; both falling between the previous year and five year average. **CANTALOUPS** and **WATERMELON** plantings made substantial gains again this past week with 70% and 76% planted, respectively. **PEACH** conditions remained mostly good this past week.

Crop Progress for Week Ending April 18, 2010

Crop and Stage	2010	2009	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2010	2009	5-Yr Avg
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cantaloup, Planted	70	54	60	Oats, Headed	32	45	49
Corn, Planted	83	67	78	Snapbeans, Fresh, Planted	49	47	57
Corn, Emerged	61	37	53	Tobacco, Transplanted	54	36	42
Cotton, Planted	2	4	2	Tomatoes, Fresh, Planted	87	75	78
Cucumbers, Fresh, Planted	40	36	54	Watermelons, Planted	76	63	68
Hay, Grain Hay, Harvested	20	4	9	Winter Wheat, Headed	26	33	41

Condition for Week Ending April 18, 2010

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	0	0	13	85	2	Pasture	0	4	38	57	1
Hay	0	0	33	65	2	Peaches	0	0	13	84	3
Livestock	0	0	12	84	4	Tomatoes	0	0	18	69	13
Oats	0	2	53	44	1	Winter Wheat	0	4	46	48	2

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending April 18, 2010

Monday morning temperatures rose 40 degrees by late afternoon at Hunts Bridge, 40 to 80, and at Chesnee, 39 to 79. A strong ridge of high pressure moved into the state on Tuesday with clear blue skies and much improved air quality. The Darlington AP recorded a peak barometric pressure value of 30.54 inches of mercury at noon, on Wednesday. Later that afternoon and under cloudy skies, Hartsville AP reported a high temperature of just 59 degrees. A sunny Hardeeville warmed to 81 degrees. Loris and the Marlboro County AP cooled to 41 degrees Thursday morning. There was no relief to the extended period of drying top soils on either Friday or Saturday as temperatures climbed into the middle and upper 80's. A frontal boundary slid southeastward Saturday afternoon with west winds gusting from 25 to 30 mph. Radar indicated a few isolated showers in its passing but amounts were either un-measurable or missed the gages. Noticeably cooler air was observed on Sunday by at least a ten-degree fall in minimum and maximum temperatures. The state average temperature for the seven day period was two degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 89 degrees at Dillon and Saluda on April 17. The lowest official temperature reported was 39 degrees at Chesnee and Cedar Creek on April 12 and at Walhalla and Chesnee on April 18. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.0 inches.

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

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near to below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 66 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2010	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.00	12.39	-3.7
Anderson	0.00	12.34	-3.4
Columbia	0.00	8.83	-6.2
Orangeburg	0.00	11.00	-4.1
Charlotte, NC	0.00	13.39	-0.4
Augusta, GA	0.00	11.21	-3.9
Florence	0.00	8.44	-4.4
N Myrtle Beach	0.00	9.60	-2.9
Charleston	0.00	14.07	1.2
Savannah, GA	0.00	13.41	0.9

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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