



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

Dry weather continued to dominate the weather pattern for much of South Carolina this past week. The lack of rain is beginning to take its toll on small grains, pastures, and newly planted crops. Crop conditions remained steady for the locations fortunate enough to receive substantial rainfall. Only mild damage to crops from Tuesday's storm system was reported. South Carolina's soil moisture levels diminished and were reported 3% very short, 45% short, and 52% adequate. There was a statewide average of 6.5 days suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

CORN planting neared completion for the year with 99% of corn reportedly planted. Ninety percent of the 2010 corn crop had emerged. Corn conditions were mostly unchanged from the previous week. **TOBACCO** transplants continued to be set in the field with 97% reportedly transplanted. Tobacco conditions were 28% fair, 60% good, and 12% excellent. **COTTON** planting progressed at a rapid pace with 15% of this year's crop planted. Ninety-three percent of **WINTER WHEAT** and 87% percent of **OATS** had headed. Small grains had just begun to turn color, but have fallen behind historical figures. Conditions for winter wheat were 8% poor, 52% fair, 39% good, and 1% excellent. Oat conditions were reportedly 5% poor, 51% fair, 43% good, and 1% excellent. Fifty-two percent of **GRAIN HAY** was harvested, fourteen points ahead of the previous year and five-year average. Hay conditions were 3% poor, 47% fair, 48% good, and 2% excellent. Seven percent of **PEANUTS** and 11% of **SOYBEANS** had been planted.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions were reported 14% fair, 84% good, and 2% excellent. **PASTURE** conditions continued to decline and were reportedly 1% very poor, 6% poor, 46% fair, 46% good, and 1% excellent. **TOMATO** planting neared completion for the year. Conditions were reportedly 19% fair, 73% good, and 8% excellent. **CUCUMBER** planting continued at a rapid pace with 98% reportedly planted. Conditions were 1% poor, 19% fair, 78% good, and 2% excellent. **SNAPBEAN** planting caught up with the five-year average. Eighty-nine percent of **CANTALOUPS** and 94% of **WATERMELONS** had been planted, remaining ahead of historical figures. Early planted cantaloups and watermelons are in bloom with some fruit on the vine. **PEACH** conditions were reportedly 7% fair, 86% good, and 7% excellent.

Crop Progress for Week Ending May 2, 2010

Crop and Stage	2010	2009	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2010	2009	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Cantaloup, Planted	89	74	83	Peanuts, Planted	7	2	10
Corn, Planted	99	91	96	Snapbeans, Fresh, Planted	86	84	86
Corn, Emerged	90	73	82	Soybeans, Planted	11	4	7
Cotton, Planted	15	12	13	Tobacco, Transplanted	97	85	87
Cucumbers, Fresh, Planted	98	76	87	Tomatoes, Fresh, Planted	98	96	97
Hay, Grain Hay, Harvested	52	38	38	Watermelons, Planted	94	85	88
Oats, Headed	87	82	88	Winter Wheat, Headed	93	84	87
Oats, Turned Color	5	7	15	Winter Wheat, Turning Color	2	3	9

Condition for Week Ending May 2, 2010

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Cantaloup	0	0	33	65	2	Peaches	0	0	7	86	7
Corn	0	1	26	70	3	Snapbeans	0	0	12	83	5
Cucumbers	0	1	19	78	2	Tobacco	0	0	28	60	12
Hay	0	3	47	48	2	Tomatoes	0	0	19	73	8
Livestock	0	0	14	84	2	Watermelons	0	1	26	71	2
Oats	0	5	51	43	1	Winter Wheat	0	8	52	39	1
Pasture	1	6	46	46	1						

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending May 2, 2010

At 5:00 p.m. on Monday, the N Myrtle Beach AP recorded a minimum barometric pressure value of 29.33 inches of mercury. On the same day, drying west winds peaked at 38 mph at the Florence AP. The north Midlands experienced stormy weather Tuesday within the rotation around an upper level feature located over Tennessee. Many of the brief cells included episodes of hail. The Wilmington National Weather Service storm survey team concluded that a “microburst”, with winds estimated at 95 mph, caused property damage five miles west-southwest of Bennettsville. Catawba received 0.53 inches of rain. Much colder air spread southward into the state for Wednesday and Thursday. Early morning temperatures fell into the lower 40’s. Hartsville and Loris both recorded 39 degrees on Thursday morning. Mostly sunny, mild weather started the weekend. The month of April ended with a precipitation range of 5.77 inches total at Jocassee to just 0.70 inches at the Charleston AP. On Saturday, Barnwell and the Marlboro County Jetport reported 90 degrees. Early season hot weather was observed Sunday afternoon for much of inland South Carolina. Florence set a date record 93 degrees. By Sunday night, areas of rain were entering the mountainous northwest counties. The state average temperature for the seven day period was near normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 94 degrees at Dillon and the Columbia Metro AP on May 2. The lowest official temperature reported was 34 degrees at Chesnee on April 28 and at Chesnee and Pelion on April 29. The heaviest 24-hour rainfall reported was 0.80 inches at Lake Marion ending at 7:00 a.m. on April 28. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.1 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 74 degrees, Charleston 76 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near to below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 72 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2010	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.03	14.03	-3.7
Anderson	0.05	13.78	-3.5
Columbia	0.01	9.31	-6.9
Orangeburg	0.04	11.57	-4.6
Charlotte, NC	0.31	14.48	-0.6
Augusta, GA	0.00	12.16	-4.2
Florence	0.03	9.15	-4.9
N Myrtle Beach	0.15	10.45	-2.8
Charleston	0.00	14.30	0.2
Savannah, GA	0.00	13.65	-0.4

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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