



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

Excessive heat and somewhat marginal rainfall negatively affected South Carolina crop and livestock conditions this past week. However, the dry conditions were beneficial for harvesting activities. Armyworms continued to be problematic for many farmers. Soil moisture levels declined and were reportedly 18% very short, 53% short, 28% adequate and 1% surplus. There was a statewide average of 6.8 days suitable for fieldwork in South Carolina.

FIELD CROPS

The weather was ideal for harvesting **CORN**. Eighty-four percent was reportedly harvested, ahead of historical figures. **COTTON** had nearly finished setting bolls and about half of the crop had bolls open. Cotton conditions declined and were 1% very poor, 10% poor, 30% fair, 52% good and 7% excellent. Five percent of **PEANUTS** had been harvested. Conditions fell only slightly and were reportedly 1% poor, 26% fair, 64% good and 9% excellent. Almost all **SOYBEANS** had bloomed and 90% had set pods by week's end. Eight percent of the crop had turned color and 1% had dropped leaves, both falling behind the five-year average. Like the other crops surveyed, soybean conditions declined and were 1% very poor, 16% poor, 35% fair, 45% good and 3% excellent. The **TOBACCO** harvest is winding up for the year. Half of tobacco stalks were destroyed. The fear of armyworms and the lack of rain hindered the planting of **WINTER GRAZINGS**, falling two points behind the five-year average.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions fell and were 1% very poor, 3% poor, 27% fair, 68% good and 1% excellent. Likewise, **PASTURE** conditions declined and were reportedly 8% very poor, 20% poor, 32% fair and 40% good. With pastures in poor condition, several cattlemen were feeding hay crops at harvest time. The South Carolina **PEACH** harvest is reportedly complete for 2010.

Crop Progress for Week Ending September 12, 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>
Corn, Harvested	84	79	74	Soybeans, Pods Set	90	95	91
Cotton, Bolls Set	98	100	99	Soybeans, Turned Color	8	7	11
Cotton, Bolls Opened	49	56	45	Soybeans, Leaves Dropped	1	2	3
Peaches, Harvested	100	100	96	Tobacco, Harvested	96	97	95
Peanuts, Harvested	5	5	3	Tobacco, Stalks Destroyed	50	78	61
Soybeans, Bloomed	99	99	99	Winter Grazings, Planted	8	9	10

Condition for Week Ending September 12, 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>
Cotton	1	10	30	52	7	Peanuts	0	1	26	64	9
Livestock	1	3	27	68	1	Soybeans	1	16	35	45	3
Pasture	8	20	32	40	0						

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending September 12, 2010

A work week of hot weather combined with the near absence of measurable rain to further the drying of topsoil's within the state's borders. On Monday, McCormick recorded 96 degrees. Lake Wateree reported 96 degrees on Tuesday, Johnston reached 98 on Wednesday and Barnwell hit 98 on Thursday. An eastward moving frontal boundary arrived on Saturday with scattered showers and thunderstorms. A few locations in the Upstate received one half-inch totals. The heaviest concentration of needed wet weather fell over the southern counties. Bamberg recorded an amount of 1.04 inches, Bennett's Point 0.91 inches and Holly Hill 0.69 inches. The Columbia Metro AP has not observed measurable rain so far this September 2010. Sunday morning temperatures cooled into the 60's away from the coast only to return back into the 90's during the mostly sunny, afternoon and peak heating hours. The state average temperature for the seven-day period was five degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 99 degrees at Ft. Moultrie on September 9. The heaviest official 24-hour rain reported was 1.26 inches at the USGS gage Santee State Park, St. Paul. The lowest official temperature reported was 49 degrees at Walhalla on September 7. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.2 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 84 degrees, Charleston 83 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near to below normal. Ocean water temperatures at the Johnny Mercer Pier, Wrightsville Beach, NC, were reported at 82 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2010	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.07	33.28	-2.0
Anderson	0.12	29.92	-3.5
Columbia	0.00	28.87	-8.1
Orangeburg	0.43	34.04	-3.0
Charlotte, NC	0.14	28.11	-2.9
Augusta, GA	0.08	23.69	-9.8
Florence	0.04	31.81	-1.9
N Myrtle Beach	0.70	28.76	-4.1
Charleston	0.23	46.07	6.8
Savannah, GA	0.52	31.32	-7.2

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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