



South Carolina Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University
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Issue: SC-CW003011
Released: August 1, 2011 , after 4 pm
Week Ending: July 31, 2011
Cooperating Agencies:
Clemson University
SC State Climatology Office
Farm Service Agency



GENERAL

Scattered showers brought some relief to moisture-starved crops in the period ending July 31st, 2011. Many areas of the State that badly needed rainfall received beneficial thunderstorms towards the beginning of the week as well as on Saturday and Sunday. These storms were scattered with some areas receiving intense periods of rainfall while other nearby areas received little to no rainfall. For example, Greer recorded 2.20 inches of rainfall on average for the week while nearby Anderson County recorded no measurable rainfall. The intense heat continued as well with many days registering above 100 degrees and temperatures seldom dipping below 80 degrees. While the areas that received rainfall did help topsoil conditions, overall soil moisture conditions were still deficient with reports of 27% very short, 50% short and 23% adequate. The State average temperature for the period was four degrees above normal. The State average rainfall for the period was 1.5 inches and there was an average of 6.4 days suitable for fieldwork.

FIELD CROPS

Ninety-eight percent of **CORN** had doughed while 53% of the crop had completed maturation. Corn maturation levels were 21 points ahead of the 5 year average. Even with the rainfall in the past week, many farmers were reporting the crop beyond repair and seeing very poor yields. Conditions were 46% very poor, 32% poor, 16% fair and 6% good. Ninety-one percent of the **COTTON** crop had squared and 59% had set bolls by the end of the week, ahead of schedule based on historical figures. Conditions improved slightly to 6% very poor, 16% poor, 44% fair, 33% good and 1% excellent. Eighty-eight percent of **PEANUTS** had pegged, 7 points behind last year's pace. Conditions improved to 4% very poor, 11% poor, 43% fair, 40% good and 2% excellent. Sixty percent of **SOYBEANS** had bloomed with 11% of the crop setting pods by the end of the week. Conditions were 12% very poor, 29% poor, 41% fair, 18% good and 0% excellent. **TOBACCO** harvest continued with 50% of the crop harvested by week's end, on pace with last year's harvest. Conditions deteriorated to 12% very poor, 18% poor, 32% fair, 37% good and 1% excellent as the crop continued to wilt as extreme temperatures lingered.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Ninety-nine percent of **SNAPBEANS** and **TOMATOES** had been harvested, on pace with historical figures. Ninety-three percent of **CANTALOUPES** and 95% of **WATERMELONS** had been harvested. **LIVESTOCK** conditions improved slightly to 2% very poor, 11% poor, 45% fair, 41% good and 1% excellent. **PASTURES** improved slightly to 19% very poor, 37% poor, 32% fair and 12% good. However, many producers were continuing to feed hay as the pastures were drying out and providing little feed value.

Crop Progress for Week Ending July 31, 2011

Crop and Stage	2011	2010	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2011	2010	5-Yr Avg
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cantaloup, Harvested	93	92	93	Peanuts, Pegged	88	95	92
Corn, Doughed	98	93	89	Snapbeans, Fresh, Harvested	99	99	100
Corn, Matured	53	41	32	Soybeans, Bloomed	60	58	52
Cotton, Squared	91	95	93	Soybeans, Pods Set	11	23	20
Cotton, Bolls Set	59	49	48	Tobacco, Harvested	50	50	42
Hay, Other Hay, Harvested	92	93	86	Tomatoes, Fresh, Harvested	99	99	99
Peaches, Harvested	82	73	69	Watermelons, Harvested	95	95	91

Condition for Week Ending July 31, 2011

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	46	32	16	6	0	Peanuts	4	11	43	40	2
Cotton	6	16	44	33	1	Soybeans	12	29	41	18	0
Livestock	2	11	45	41	1	Tobacco	12	18	32	37	1
Pasture	19	37	32	12	0						

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending July 31, 2011

Bamberg and Allendale reported a Monday high temperature of 101 degrees at the same time heavy rains were developing along an area of convergence at the beaches. In the darkness of Tuesday morning, rainfall rates at the E Cooper Regional AP were recorded at 2.63 inches in 20 minutes and part of 5.20 inches in only one hour. N Inlet, near Winyah Bay Georgetown, measured 4.57 inches. Orangeburg's 1:00 p.m. Monday temperature of 96 degrees fell to a cloudy 81-degree temperature at the same hour on Tuesday. The Tuesday maximum temperatures at Florence (87) and at Charleston (84) were their "lowest" high temperatures since May 27. A Charleston National Weather Service Spotter measured a rainfall event total of 7.75 inches at Kiawah Island from nearly stationary convection on Wednesday morning. By Thursday morning, Edisto Beach had received a multi-day total of 6.25 inches. Hot, humid weather was observed through the weekend. Chester and Sandy Springs recorded Friday high temperatures of 101 degrees. Pinopolis reached 102 degrees on Saturday. A frontal boundary moved southeast into the State Sunday afternoon and up against the tropical character of late July's weather. Clusters of lightning-filled storms brought localized heavy rain to parts of the north Midlands and Pee Dee. July 2011 rainfall totals ranged from 0.82 inches at Chesnee to 11.67 inches at Edisto Beach. The State average temperature for the seven-day period was four degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 103 degrees at Cades on July 30. The lowest official temperature reported was 59 degrees at Jocassee on July 29. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 6.63 inches at the E Cooper Regional AP at Mount Pleasant on July 26. The State average rainfall for the period was 1.5 inches.

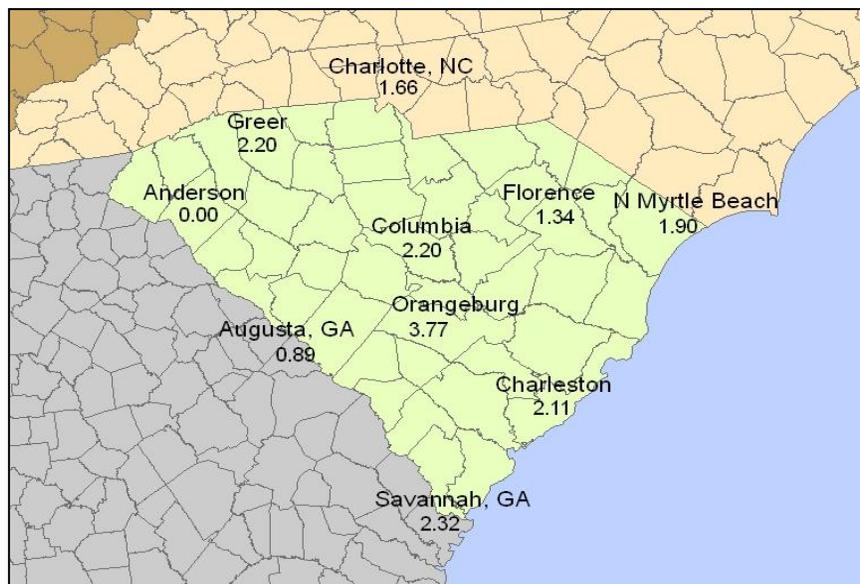
SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 85 degrees, Charleston 88 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 82 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2011	Deviation from Average
Greer	2.20	27.77	-2.9
Anderson	0.00	20.18	-7.8
Columbia	2.20	24.45	-5.3
Orangeburg	3.77	23.18	-6.6
Charlotte, NC	1.66	24.00	-1.8
Augusta, GA	0.89	22.33	-5.2
Florence	1.34	18.77	-8.0
N Myrtle Beach	1.90	19.10	-5.8
Charleston	2.11	21.50	-8.2
Savannah, GA	2.32	23.39	-5.6

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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