



South Carolina Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University
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Issue: SC-CW001812
Released: April 30, 2012 , after 4 pm
Week Ending: April 29, 2012
Cooperating Agencies:
Clemson University
SC State Climatology Office
Farm Service Agency



GENERAL

Scattered frost led to minor damage in some crops at the start of the week ending April 29, 2012. Cool air was observed through Wednesday when warmer temperatures arrived from the south. Scattered thunderstorms dumped rain in isolated parts of the Upstate with some producers reporting minor hail damage. Temperatures in the mid-eighties and low-nineties were observed through the weekend with very little precipitation. The State average temperature for the period was three degrees above normal with six days suitable for fieldwork. The State average rainfall for the period was 0.3 inches. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 9% very short, 37% short, 52% adequate and 2% surplus.

FIELD CROPS

Ninety-seven percent of **CORN** was planted by Sunday and 91% of the crop had emerged. Conditions were 3% poor, 37% fair, 55% good and 5% excellent. **COTTON** planting was 14% complete by the end of the week, five points ahead of the five year average. Ten percent of **PEANUTS** were planted and 20% of **SOYBEANS** were in the ground. **OATS** were 99% headed with 30% turned color. Conditions were 1% very poor, 3% poor, 33% fair, 60% good and 3% excellent. **WINTER WHEAT** was also 99% headed with conditions reported as 3% poor, 38% fair, 55% good and 4% excellent. **TOBACCO** transplanting increased rapidly with 93% complete by the end of the week, ten points ahead of this time last year. Conditions declined to 1% poor, 54% fair, 40% good and 5% excellent. Sixty percent of **HAY** had been harvested, well ahead of historical figures.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

PASTURE conditions fell to 5% very poor, 6% poor, 44% fair, 44% good and 1% excellent. **LIVESTOCK** conditions improved slightly to 1% very poor, 3% poor, 30% fair, 65% good and 1% excellent. **TOMATO** plantings were almost complete with 98% planted by Sunday. Conditions fell to 52% fair and 48% good. Ninety one percent of **SNAPBEANS** and 75% of **CUCUMBERS** were planted by the end of the week. **CANTALOUPE** planting was 83% complete by Sunday, on pace with last year. **WATERMELON** planting was reported as 91% complete. **PEACH** conditions were 63% fair, 36% good and 1% excellent.

Crop Progress for Week Ending April 29, 2012

Crop and Stage	2012	2011	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2012	2011	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Cantaloup, Planted	83	83	81	Peanuts, Planted	10	7	4
Corn, Planted	97	98	96	Snapbeans, Fresh, Planted	91	63	75
Corn, Emerged	91	85	80	Soybeans, Planted	20	6	5
Cotton, Planted	14	17	9	Tobacco, Transplanted	93	90	83
Cucumbers, Fresh, Planted	75	73	79	Tomatoes, Fresh, Planted	98	96	95
Hay, Grain Hay, Harvested	60	35	37	Watermelons, Planted	91	91	87
Oats, Headed	99	93	84	Winter Wheat, Headed	99	88	79
Oats, Turned Color	30	13	7	Winter Wheat, Turning Color	30	8	3

Condition for Week Ending April 29, 2012

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	54	46	0	Peaches	0	0	63	36	1
Corn	0	3	37	55	5	Snapbeans	0	0	73	23	4
Cucumbers	0	0	74	24	2	Tobacco	0	1	54	40	5
Hay	1	2	48	48	1	Tomatoes	0	0	52	48	0
Livestock	1	3	30	65	1	Watermelons	0	0	54	44	2
Oats	1	3	33	60	3	Winter Wheat	0	3	38	55	4
Pasture	5	6	44	44	1						

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending April 29, 2012

Cold northwest winds sent the sunrise temperature on Monday morning to 34 degrees at Table Rock. At 3:00 p.m., the Rock Hill AP reported 54 degrees and northwest winds gusting to 28 mph. Scattered frost was observed on Tuesday morning as far south as Gilbert, through Camden, and east into Kingstree. Bennettsville and Lugoff noted a minimum temperature of 34 degrees. The Darlington AP 3:00 p.m. temperature observation of 63 degrees included west winds, steady at 24 mph, gusting to 30 mph. Warmer air began arriving from the south on Wednesday for the Lowcountry. The Beaufort Marine Corps Air Station and Pinopolis recorded an afternoon high temperature of 84 degrees. Stormy weather developed on Thursday across the northern counties bordering North Carolina. At 3:49 p.m., the Cheraw State Park reported hail that had covered the ground. The Kingstree AP reached 90 degrees. Florence measured west winds gusting to 38 mph. Nighttime thunderstorms over Townville in Anderson County produced hailstones of 1.75 inches in diameter along with a heavy rainfall total of 1.90 inches in the city of Anderson. More storms formed on Friday and were concentrated from the Foothills and eastward into the northern Midlands. Parts of Oconee County were pelted with two-inch diameter hail. Most of the convective cells contained nickel to quarter-sized hail. Gallivants Ferry received one of the heavier rainfall totals of 1.36 inches. While a sunny Barnwell warmed to 91 degrees on Saturday afternoon, the Rock Hill AP could only reach 65 degrees. The boundary of cool and cloudy conditions eased northward on Sunday and allowed statewide warming. The Sunday high temperature at Clinton, Shaw AFB and Lake City climbed to 86 degrees. The State average temperature for the seven-day period was three degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 93 degrees at Witherbee on April 28 and at Barnwell on April 29. The lowest official temperature reported was 32 degrees at Caesars Head on April 23. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 2.29 inches at Marion ending at 7:00 a.m. on April 28. The State average rainfall for the period was 0.3 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 74 degrees, Charleston 77 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were below normal. Ocean water temperatures at nearby Johnny Mercer Pier in Wrightsville Beach, NC, were reported at 71 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2012	Deviation from Average
Greer AP	0.36	11.56	-4.0
Anderson AP	1.07	10.95	-4.2
Columbia Metro AP	0.12	8.71	-4.7
Orangeburg AP	0.02	8.96	-5.4
Charlotte, NC AP	0.12	9.14	-4.6
Augusta, GA Bush AP	0.00	6.25	-8.5
Florence AP	0.87	10.95	-1.1
N Myrtle Beach AP	0.08	8.46	-5.4
Charleston AP	0.00	9.74	-3.5
Savannah, GA AP	0.00	9.13	-4.1

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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