



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

South Carolina continued to bake under intense heat during the week ending July 8, 2012. Temperatures were in the triple digits for many parts of the State during the week. Little to no rainfall was present except for a few scattered summer thunderstorms. The stress of the dry heat continued to take a toll on all crops, livestock and pastures. Soil moisture conditions fell further to 18% very short, 52% short, 29% adequate and 1% surplus. There was an average of 0.3 inches of rainfall for the week. The State average temperature for the period was five degrees above normal with 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork.

FIELD CROPS

Ninety-eight percent of **CORN** had silked and 75% of the crop had doughed by Sunday. Twenty percent of the crop had reached maturation, eleven points ahead of last year. Conditions fell to 5% poor, 37% fair, 50% good and 8% excellent. **COTTON** was 62% squared with 10% setting bolls. Conditions slid to 1% very poor, 5% poor, 36% fair, 54% good and 4% excellent. **PEANUTS** were 55% pegged, six points ahead of the previous year. Conditions declined to 4% poor, 39% fair, 53% good and 4% excellent. **SOYBEANS** were 98% planted and 96% emerged by the end of the week. Seven percent of the crop had bloomed. Conditions continued to decline to 1% very poor, 11% poor, 45% fair, 42% good and 1% excellent. All small grains had been harvested. **TOBACCO** was 70% topped, 1 point behind the five year average. Twelve percent of the crop had been harvested. Conditions were 6% poor, 45% fair, 46% good and 3% excellent.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Eighty-seven percent of **TOMATOES** had been harvested, 2 points ahead of last year. **WATERMELON** and **CANTALOUPE** harvest continued with 60% and 59% harvested respectively. Ninety percent of **CUCUMBERS** had been harvested, 8 points behind the five year average. The **SNAPBEAN** harvest was 80% complete, 1 point behind last year. **PEACH** harvest continued with 65% complete by the end of the week, 15 points ahead of last year. **PASTURE** conditions fell to 4% very poor, 18% poor, 44% fair and 34% good. **LIVESTOCK** conditions were steady at 4% poor, 35% fair, 60% good and 1% excellent.

Crop Progress for Week Ending July 8, 2012

Crop and Stage	2012	2011	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2012	2011	5-Yr Avg
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cantaloup, Harvested	59	74	68	Snapbeans, Fresh, Harvested	80	81	85
Corn, Silked	98	98	97	Soybeans, Planted	98	97	99
Corn, Doughed	75	40	46	Soybeans, Emerged	96	87	92
Corn, Matured	20	9	3	Soybeans, Bloomed	7	4	7
Cotton, Squared	62	65	56	Tobacco, Topped	70	87	71
Cotton, Bolls Set	10	30	11	Tobacco, Harvested	12	13	10
Cucumbers, Fresh, Harvested	90	97	98	Tomatoes, Fresh, Harvested	87	85	80
Oats, Harvested	100	100	100	Watermelons, Harvested	60	74	62
Peaches, Harvested	65	50	44	Winter Wheat, Harvested	100	100	100
Peanuts, Pegged	55	49	53				

Condition for Week Ending July 8, 2012

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>
Cantaloup	6	3	60	31	0	Peanuts	0	4	39	53	4
Corn	0	5	37	50	8	Soybeans	1	11	45	42	1
Cotton	1	5	36	54	4	Tobacco	0	6	45	46	3
Livestock	0	4	35	60	1	Watermelons	1	9	71	15	4
Pasture	4	18	44	34	0						

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending July 8, 2012

There was little consolation in the fact that no one in the State reported 100 degrees on Monday. Andrews was the hottest with 98 degrees. On Tuesday afternoon, the mercury read 99 degrees at Darlington, Shaw AFB, Little Mountain, Clinton and Allendale. Scattered storms near the Savannah River developed during the late afternoon hours and brought Saluda some relief with 1.02 inches of rain and McCormick 0.89 inches. Golf ball-sized hail fell four miles northeast of Laurens. Both airports at Bennettsville and Hartsville reported 99 degrees on Wednesday. The Sandhill Experiment Station noted a Thursday maximum temperature of 103 degrees followed by a 24-hour open pan evaporation water loss of 0.51 inches. The only escape from the taxing heat was found at Caesars Head State Park (elevation 3200 feet and a high of only 85 degrees) or the water's edge at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach with a sea breeze-limiting 86 degrees. A few locations observed isolated thunderstorms on Thursday. Hardeeville was under a thunderstorm cell that left 1.14 inches of rain and the Greenville-Spartanburg AP recorded a rainfall amount of 0.89 inches. Hot, humid weather continued through the weekend. Non-irrigated landscapes displayed the wilting effects of the drying summer heat. Pinopolis and the Columbia Metro AP reached the century mark on Saturday. Sullivan's Island never got cooler than 80 degrees at sunrise on Sunday morning. Just up the coast, the Georgetown AP temperature moved to the triple-digits of 100 degrees on Sunday afternoon. The State average temperature for the seven-day period was five degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 104 degrees at Santuck on July 4. The lowest official temperature reported was 62 degrees at Sandy Springs on July 6. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 1.77 inches at Chesterfield ending at 7:00 a.m. on July 6. The State average rainfall for the period was 0.3 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 85 degrees, Charleston 83 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 84 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2012	Deviation from Average
Greer AP	1.02	17.63	-6.7
Anderson AP	0.52	17.80	-5.3
Columbia Metro AP	0.00	18.90	-3.6
Orangeburg AP	0.00	21.11	-3.1
Charlotte, NC AP	0.28	16.36	-5.2
Augusta, GA Bush AP	0.29	13.59	-9.7
Florence AP	0.00	21.89	0.7
N Myrtle Beach AP	0.10	14.83	-8.6
Charleston AP	0.00	22.59	-1.0
Savannah, GA AP	0.82	21.14	-2.4

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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