



South Carolina

Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University
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Issue: SC-CW001613
Released: April 22, 2013 , after 4 pm
Week Ending: April 21, 2013
Cooperating Agencies:
Clemson University
SC State Climatology Office
Farm Service Agency



GENERAL

Drier weather during the mid-week aided South Carolina growers in catching up with their crop planting. Farmers were particularly busy with planting corn and setting tobacco plants. Rainfall early and latter in the week kept soils close to where they had been during the previous week at 2% short, 85% adequate, and 13% surplus. There was an average of 5.5 days across the State that were suitable for fieldwork.

FIELD CROPS

This was a good week to get the **CORN** crop planted, and farmers were hustling to get it done. By the end of the week, huge progress had been made, and planting was 81% complete, compared to 95% in 2012, and 88% for the five-year average. The cool weather earlier this spring that has delayed planting may cause some producers to reconsider some corn acreage. The crop was 50% emerged, compared to 80% last year, and 66% for the five-year average. Continued warm weather earlier in the week helped small grains to head. **OATS** were at 43% headed, far behind the 95% last year and the 66% five-year average. The crop condition was 17% fair, 80% good, and 3% excellent. **PEANUT** and **SOYBEAN** planting had just begun in a very few areas. The **RYE** crop condition was little changed, remaining in mostly good condition, with 44% of the crop headed. **TOBACCO** transplanting was in full swing last week as farmers were up early hauling plants from the greenhouse to the field, and getting the job done. Fifty-five percent of the crop had been transplanted by Sunday. This is compared to 75% last year, and the 62% five-year average. **WINTER WHEAT** was 43% headed, compared to 95% last year, and 60% for the five-year average. Conditions were 1% poor, 25% fair, 69% good, and 5% excellent.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

VEGETABLE planting continues. In some places, planting was nearly complete, while in other areas work slowed due to wet soils, and cool ground temperatures. **TOMATOES** were in still in mostly fair condition. **PEACH** conditions changed modestly, and remain mostly in fair condition. **LIVESTOCK** conditions were 1% poor, 29% fair, 68% good, and 2% excellent. **PASTURE** conditions were reported at 1% poor, 32% fair, 65% good, and 2% excellent. **HAY** cutting is well behind average with only 10% of grain hay cut, compared to 38% last year, and 23% for the five-year average. The crop is in mostly good condition.

Crop Progress for Week Ending April 21, 2013

Crop and Stage	2013	2012	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2013	2012	5-Yr Avg
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cantaloup, Planted	61	77	69	Rye, Headed	44	93	89
Corn, Planted	81	95	88	Snapbeans, Fresh, Planted	41	83	62
Corn, Emerged	50	80	66	Soybeans, Planted	3	4	2
Cotton, Planted	7	7	4	Tobacco, Transplanted	55	75	62
Cucumbers, Fresh, Planted	39	50	55	Tomatoes, Fresh, Planted	89	98	90
Hay, Grain Hay, Harvested	10	38	23	Watermelons, Planted	61	86	78
Oats, Headed	43	95	66	Winter Wheat, Headed	43	95	60
Peanuts, Planted	1	1	1				

Condition for Week Ending April 21, 2013

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>
Hay	0	0	37	63	0	Peaches	1	1	53	41	4
Livestock	0	1	29	68	2	Rye	0	0	33	66	1
Oats	0	0	17	80	3	Tomatoes	0	0	85	15	0
Pasture	0	1	32	65	2	Winter Wheat	0	1	25	69	5

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending April 21, 2013

The week began cloudy and wet with 72-degree high temperatures reported at Orangeburg and Charleston City. More warming sunshine on Tuesday raised the temperature to 81 degrees at Clemson AP, Winnsboro, Calhoun Falls and Kingstree. Thunderstorms on Wednesday moved southeast over the Upstate with localized heavy rains before dissipating over the Piedmont. Some of the heavier totals included 1.98 inches at Long Creek, 1.93 inches at Table Rock, 1.90 inches at Travelers Rest and 1.63 inches at Hunts Bridge. Sandhill warmed to 87 degrees on Wednesday afternoon. Surface winds shifted on Thursday to the southeast. Pinopolis and Barnwell reached 84 degrees. The Friday sunrise temperature of 65 degrees at the Greenville-Spartanburg AP was the mildest morning temperature since September 18, 2012. The Charleston AP Friday morning temperature of 69 degrees was their mildest since October 4, 2012. An energetic cold front raced into the state on Friday afternoon. A line of violent thunderstorms produced a wind gust of 62 mph at the Lake Murray Dam at 3:40 p.m. and 82 mph at 5:17 p.m. over Shaw AFB in Sumter. At least twenty-two counties in South Carolina reported wind damage. Shaw AFB also received 1.84 inches of rain. Sullivan's Island measured a 24-hour rainfall total of 1.83 inches. On Saturday morning, the mercury sank to 35 degrees at Walhalla and 37 degrees at Pickens. Clarks Hill and Florence reported a Saturday afternoon high temperature of just 65 degrees. Colder temperatures left their mark Sunday morning with 35 degrees at Cedar Creek and 39 degrees at Hartsville. Strong winds affected the coast on Sunday. At 5:00 p.m., Hilton Head observed northeast winds of 20 mph gusting to 35 mph. A portion of the Wando Bridge at Interstate 526 was temporarily closed due to a wind related overturned tractor-trailer truck. At 7:00 p.m., instruments atop the Ravenel Bridge near Charleston measured a wind gust of 68 mph. Greenville and Murrells Inlet shared a Sunday high temperature of 66 degrees. The average temperature for the seven-day period was three degrees above the long term average.

The highest official temperature reported was 88 degrees at the Columbia Metro AP and Hartsville AP on April 19. The lowest official temperature reported was 34 degrees at Long Creek on April 20. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 3.07 inches at Walhalla ending at 7:00 a.m. on April 18. The state average rainfall for the seven-day period was 0.9 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 65 degrees, Charleston 66 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 62 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2013	Deviation from Average
Anderson AP	0.80	14.93	0.7
Greer AP	0.79	15.28	0.6
Charlotte, NC AP	0.29	13.02	0.1
Columbia Metro AP	0.42	12.90	0.1
Orangeburg AP	0.95	13.40	-0.3
Augusta, GA Bush AP	0.41	14.74	0.6
Florence AP	1.09	11.58	0.3
N Myrtle Beach AP	1.36	12.45	0.7
Charleston AP	1.50	19.32	6.9
Savannah, GA AP	1.28	15.65	3.2

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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