General

According to the National Agriculture Statistics Service’s South Carolina Field Office, there were 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, June 21, 2015. Precipitation estimates for the state ranged from 0.04 inches of rain up to 1.14 inches. Average high temperatures ranged from the mid 90s to the low 100s. Average low temperatures ranged from the high 60s to the high 70s.

County Extension Comments

“Extreme temperatures over the last week have led to stress on plants and animals.”

Jeffrey Fellers, Union County, District 10

“Corn, cotton, peanuts, and soybeans are showing signs of heat and drought stress. Cotton leaves are drooping, and some corn has turned brown and is trying to silk and tassel. A section of Four Holes had a hail storm that laid tomatoes, sweet corn, and other crops over. The hail damaged the leaves and fruits on squash, tomatoes, and cucumbers. Row crops also had some damage as well.”

Mark Nettles, Orangeburg County, District 50

“Another week of scorching temperatures and no rain is taking a toll on dryland crops. The condition and potential of dryland corn is slipping the most. But, concerns about poor pollination even in irrigated corn leading to reduced yields have been raised. Harvest of peaches, watermelons, cantaloupes, and tomatoes is continuing. Rain and a reduction in daytime temperatures are needed to stem the loss of condition and yield potential of all crops. No crop insect or disease problems reported this week. All crops are suffering with the heat and a minimum of soil moisture.”

Hugh Gray, Allendale County, District 80

“All crops stressed due to extreme heat and inadequate moisture.”

Theresa Sweatman, Dorchester County, District 80