

## South Carolina

March was a dryer month with windy and warmer temperatures across the state. The average high temperatures ranged from low to high 70s and the average low temperatures ranged between low 40s to low 50s. Precipitation estimates for the state ranged from 0.85 to 3.17 inches. In the western counties the weather conditions have been favorable to date. Small grains are progressing well and pastures are excellent at this time. Livestock is generally in good condition and grazing has started. In the northern counties the wheat that has been planted looks good and seems to be on pace for the season. Livestock are doing well with grasses coming back. In the eastern counties farmers are getting prepared for setting tobacco. In the midlands the weather conditions were getting drier but recent rains helped to improve it. Crop production activities have been proceeding ahead of schedule due to dry conditions. Planting conditions improved late in the month and large acreages of corn has been planted. The small amount of wheat that was planted looks fair. Corn is starting to emerge. Winter wheat, rye, and oats are looking pretty good for now. Some winter vegetable crops have been irrigated. In the southern counties, the state growers were able to get into fields for land preparation for planting. Corn that is emerging seems to be in good shape. Watermelon transplanting began in mid-March. Small grains are faring well and the March weather allowed growers to get fertilizer and weed control treatments applied. No crop insect or disease problems reported so far.