General
According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in South Carolina, there were 6.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, May 2, 2021. Precipitation ranged from no rain to 0.1 inches. Average high temperatures ranged from the mid 70s to the mid 80s. Average low temperatures ranged from the low 40s to the mid 60s.

Crops
Most of the state continue to be in abnormally dry designation. Continued lack of rainfall has farmers choosing which fields to plant based on soil moisture. Most corn has recovered from previous frost damage. Topsoil moisture is getting short in some areas. Most of the corn is up, and off to a good start. Cotton and peanut planting have progressed slowly due to moisture concerns but will likely ramp up due to time constraints with a hope of rains to come. Planting/transplanting of tobacco has all but stopped due to low soil moisture. There were some reports of freeze damage to wheat and other small grains. Concerns were noted that the lack of moisture during grain fill may negatively impact wheat yields.

Vegetable planting is currently paused on non-irrigated fields due to dry conditions. It will resume as soon as it rains, and soil moisture conditions improve. Vegetable crop conditions are good. Newly planted blueberries are looking good. Blueberries are sizing well, and picking should begin in a couple of weeks. Strawberry yields are starting to decline slightly in some locations, but the crop’s condition is very good. Muscadines were damaged by the Easter freeze, but are recovering nicely. The condition of all fruit crops are very good due to the dry conditions we have been experiencing.

Livestock and Pastures
Continued dry weather and cool nighttime temperatures have limited growth of warm season pastures, but cool season hay cutting has increased as a result of the dry weather.
Accumulated Precipitation (in)
April 26, 2021 to May 02, 2021

Average Temperature (°F)
April 26, 2021 to May 02, 2021

http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/

For the state’s complete Weekly Weather Summary http://www.dnr.sc.gov/climate/sco/ClimateData/cli_reports_2021.php

U.S. Drought Monitor
South Carolina

April 27, 2021
(Released Thursday, Apr. 29, 2021)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

Intensity:

None
D0 Abnormally Dry
D1 Moderate Drought
D2 Severe Drought
D3 Extreme Drought
D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

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