

April 2, 2025

South Carolina: March temperatures were 1.0 to 5.1 degrees warmer than historic averages depending on location. Total rainfall during the month ranged from 1.1 inches in Horry County to 6.1 inches in Richland County. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 99 percent of the state had abnormally dry conditions, 60 percent had moderate drought conditions, and 3 percent had severe drought conditions by month's end, compared to 82 percent abnormally dry and 31 percent with moderate drought at the month's beginning. Wildfires were reported in the Upstate region due to dry conditions combined with high winds, with the extent of agricultural damage not yet known. Despite the dry conditions, spring planting activities began in earnest, with fertilizer, lime, and other applications being applied to many fields. Early planted corn started to emerge in the Midlands, while small grains began to head. There were concerns noted about cotton acreage levels due to low prices. Peaches and other fruits and vegetables were noted to be in good condition and progressing well. Pastures were reported to be improving due to warmer temperatures, although growth has been limited given the lack of rainfall. Reporters noted that some pastures that were heavily impacted by armyworms in 2024 have yet to recover. Cattle were observed to be in good condition and benefiting from pastures starting to green up.