

## United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service

# South Carolina Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report



Cooperating with Clemson University

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SC State Climatology Office Farm Service Agency







#### **GENERAL**

The counties along the coast and in higher elevations in the Upstate benefited from heavy rain during the week ending August 5, 2012. Thunderstorms created humid weather along the coast for most of the week dropping multiple inches of rain at a time. Severe weather was present Wednesday and Thursday in the Lowcounty with large hailstones and a brief EF-0 tornado near Kiawah Island. Areas in the Upstate received heavy rain throughout the week. Inland areas missed out on most of the rain and conditions remained very warm and dry. Soil moisture conditions improved to 7% very short, 32% short and 61% adequate. The State average rainfall for the period was 1.3 inches. The State average temperature for the period was two degrees above normal with 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork.

#### FIELD CROPS

**CORN** was 98% doughed by Sunday. Eighty-three percent of the crop had reached maturation, remaining well above historical averages. Harvest was underway with 20% complete by the end of the week. Conditions were stable at 1% very poor, 7% poor, 35% fair, 48% good and 9% excellent. **COTTON** was 96% squared with 62% setting bolls. Conditions were 1% very poor, 3% poor, 34% fair, 56% good and 6% excellent. **PEANUTS** were 94% pegged, on pace with the five year average. Conditions improved to 1% very poor, 3% poor, 27% fair, 61% good and 8% excellent. Fifty-five percent of **SOYBEANS** had bloomed, falling to eight points behind the five year average. Twenty-two percent of the crop had set pods, remaining five points ahead of last year. Conditions were 1% very poor, 10% poor, 38% fair, 48% good and 3% excellent. **TOBACCO** was 100% topped with 61% of the crop harvested. Ten percent of stalks had been destroyed. Conditions improved to 4% poor, 38% fair, 51% good and 7% excellent. Ninety percent of **HAY** had been harvested.

#### OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

All **TOMATOES** and **SNAPBEANS** had been harvested. **CANTALOUP** and **WATERMELON** harvest was close to finished with 98% and 94% harvested, respectively. **PEACH** harvest was 94% complete by the end of the week, ten points ahead of last year. **PASTURE** conditions improved to 1% very poor, 10% poor, 41% fair, 47% good and 1% excellent. **LIVESTOCK** conditions also improved to 3% poor, 29% fair, 64% good and 4% excellent.

**Crop Progress for Week Ending August 5, 2012** 

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Crop and Stage	2012	2011	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2012	2011	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Cantaloup, Harvested	98	95	94	Snapbeans, Fresh, Harvested	100	100	100
Corn, Doughed	98	99	95	Soybeans, Bloomed	55	69	63
Corn, Matured	83	67	50	Soybeans, Pods Set	22	17	26
Corn, Harvested	20	0	0	Tobacco, Topped	100	100	100
Cotton, Squared	96	92	96	Tobacco, Harvested	61	55	49
Cotton, Bolls Set	62	65	58	Tobacco, Stalks Destroyed	10	0	0
Hay, Other Hay, Harvested	90	94	91	Tomatoes, Fresh, Harvested	100	100	99
Peaches, Harvested	94	84	77	Watermelons, Harvested	94	96	93
Peanuts, Pegged	94	89	94				

### Condition for Week Ending August 5, 2012

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Corn	1	7	35	48	9	Peanuts	1	3	27	61	8
Cotton	1	3	34	56	6	Soybeans	1	10	38	48	3
Livestock	0	3	29	64	4	Tobacco	0	4	38	51	7
Pasture	1	10	41	47	1						

#### South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending August 5, 2012

Heavy rains formed over the Grand Strand coastal counties on Monday morning. The N Myrtle Beach AP measured 1.81 inches in just one hour. The North Inlet gage near Winyah Bay measured a 24-hour total of 2.59 inches and Socastee received 2.32 inches. Sunrise temperatures on Tuesday morning fell to 64 degrees at Ninety Nine Islands and 65 degrees at Pelion. Clusters of storms developed over the mountain communities, leaving 2.44 inches of rain at Hunts Bridge and 2.33 inches at Table Rock. Cloudy conditions along with rain kept the high temperature at the Greenville-Spartanburg AP to just 75 degrees. The rainfall range for July 2012 showed the greatest amount at Caesars Head with 15.13 inches to a least amount of 3.67 inches at Johnston. Wednesday's weather included a brief EF-0 rated tornado that touched down two miles west of Kiawah Island. The high temperature on Thursday reached 97 degrees at Chester, Clinton, Greenwood, Clarks Hill, Dillon and Kingstree. Towering thunderstorms on Thursday afternoon produced large, damaging hail over parts of the Lowcountry. Hailstones of 2.75 inches in diameter fell near Green Pond in Colleton County and near Givhans in Dorchester County. Walterboro measured one of the heavier rainfalls at 1.50 inches. Thunderstorms on Friday were concentrated over the Upstate. Table Rock received 2.02 inches giving them a four-day total of 4.42 inches. More tropical-like weather arrived on Saturday with a mix of sun and showers. Edisto Beach warmed to 88 degrees. Beginning late Sunday morning and into the afternoon hours, parts of Hampton County were soaked. A CoCoRaHS volunteer near Varnville reported 4.84 inches of rain. Lake City and Charleston City recorded a Sunday high temperature of 85 degrees. The State average temperature for the seven-day period was two degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 98 degrees at Winnsboro August 3. The lowest official temperature reported was 61 degrees at Caesars Head on August 1. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 3.80 inches at Travelers Rest ending at 7:00 a.m. on August 1. The State average rainfall for the period was 1.3 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 84 degrees, Charleston 84 degrees. RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near to below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 84 degrees.

**Precipitation** 

recipitation							
Location	Total for Week	Total for 2012	Deviation from Average				
Greer AP	2.07	21.29	-7.5				
Anderson AP	0.27	21.59	-4.8				
Columbia Metro AP	0.27	24.56	-3.1				
Orangeburg AP	0.79	27.81	-1.1				
Charlotte, NC AP	0.23	20.27	-4.8				
Augusta, GA Bush AP	1.46	15.98	-11.3				
Florence AP	1.23	26.95	0.8				
N Myrtle Beach AP	2.26	22.02	-7.0				
Charleston AP	2.76	28.58	-1.0				
Savannah, GA AP	2.26	26.65	-2.2				

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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