United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

South Carolina Crop Progress and Condition Report

Cooperating with the South Carolina Department of Agriculture
Southern Region, South Carolina Field Office · 208G Wholesale Lane · West Columbia, SC 29172 · (803) 734-2506
www.nass.usda.gov

This report contains data collected each week from respondents across the state whose occupations provide them opportunities to discuss agricultural production with farmers in their counties as well as to make visual observations. We thank all who have contributed to this report.

September 8, 2020

Media Contact: Anthony Prillaman

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in South Carolina, there were 6.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, September 6, 2020. Precipitation ranged from no rain to 4.2 inches. Average high temperatures ranged from the mid 80s to the high 90s. Average low temperatures ranged from the mid 60s to the high 70s.

Crops

Limited to no rain in many counties was helpful for conducting fieldwork, especially cutting hay, but soybeans began showing signs of drought stress in some counties. Insect pressure was building on soybeans and other crops in the Lowcountry. Corn harvesting continued, but was slowed some by high humidity. Producers began digging peanuts. The percentage of cotton with bolls opening fell behind historic averages.

The muscadine harvest started to wind down, with very good yields. Fall vegetables were growing well, overall. Fall squash and cucumber harvesting began. Land preparation for strawberries was underway. Some farmers lost recently transplanted collards to heat stress; even some collards under irrigation showed signs of stress. Producers continued to plant brassicas. Last week's heat caused some stress to the crop. Diamondback moth, cabbage loopers, and black rot were observed in brassica crops, and armyworms were in tomatoes. Caterpillar activity continued to increase. Coastal counties battled a severe infestation of whiteflies on vegetable crops.

Livestock and Pastures

Lack of adequate rainfall over the last two weeks in some areas, combined with increased temperatures and high humidity, led to some thinning and wilting in pasture grasses. Pastures would benefit from soaking rain. Cattle condition remained mostly good.

Crop Progress for Week Ending 09/06/20

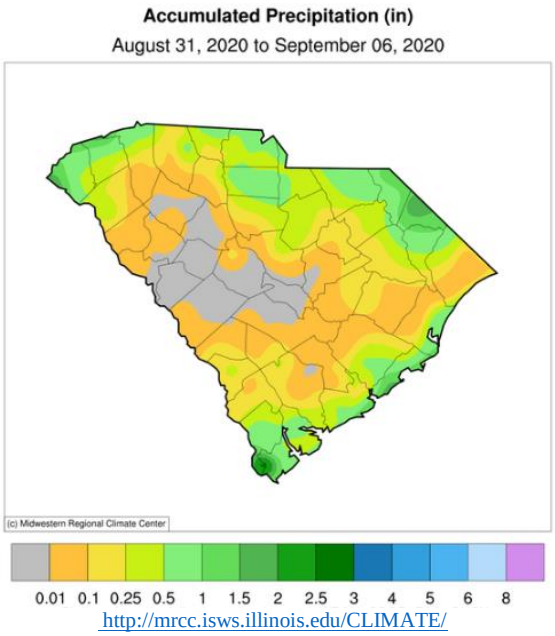
Crop stage	Prev year	Prev week	This week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn - Mature	97	93	99	99
Corn - Harvested	81	47	68	77
Cotton - Setting Bolls	100	87	92	99
Cotton - Bolls Opening	51	4	6	40
Hay - 3rd Cutting	NA	NA	14	NA
Peanuts - Dug	2	0	4	NA
Peanuts - Harvested	1	NA	1	1
Soybeans - Blooming	94	86	90	96
Soybeans - Setting Pods	51	55	66	72
Tobacco - Harvested	88	70	72	87

Conditions for Week Ending 09/06/20

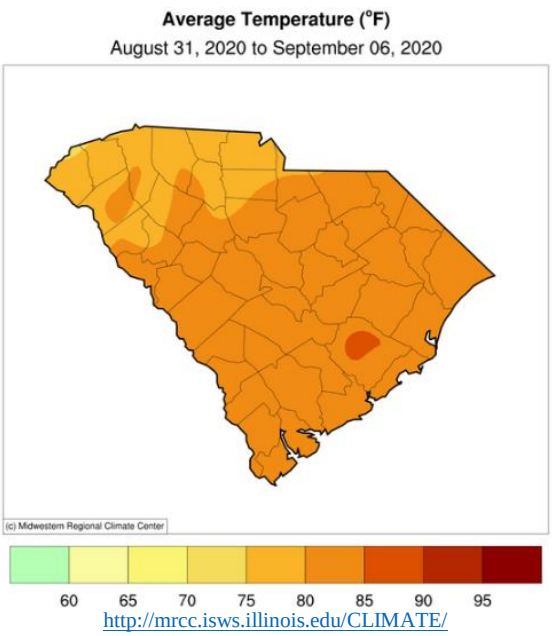
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	0	4	19	69	8
Corn	4	6	17	53	20
Cotton	5	6	16	55	18
Pasture and range	1	10	29	57	3
Peanuts	3	2	14	60	21
Soybeans	4	3	7	55	31

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 09/06/20

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	1	2
Short	11	49
Adequate	76	47
Surplus	12	2
Subsoil	**Previous week**	**This week**
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	1	1
Short	12	28
Adequate	76	69
Surplus	11	2



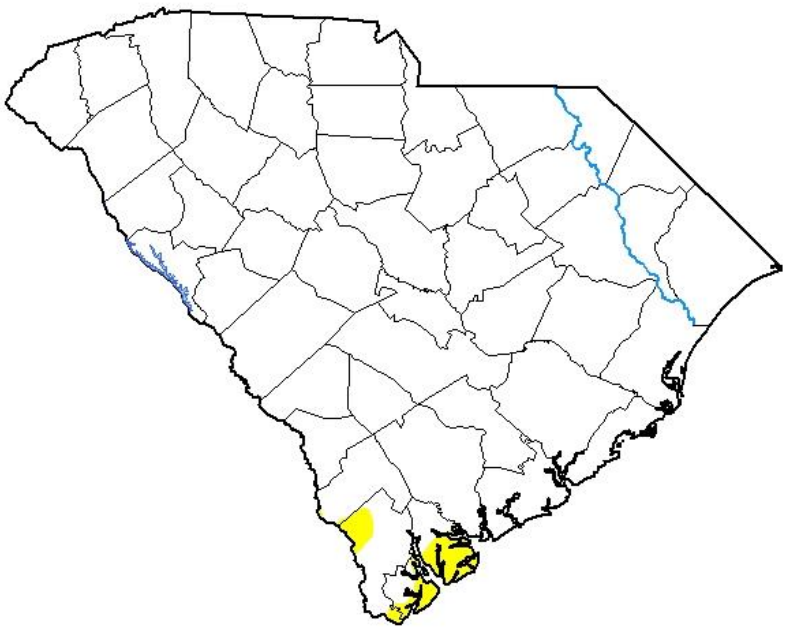
http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/



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

For the state's complete Weekly Weather Summary http://www.dnr.sc.gov/climate/sco/ClimateData/cli_reports_2020.php

U.S. Drought Monitor
South Carolina



September 1, 2020
(Released Thursday, Sep. 3, 2020)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	98.46	1.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week *08-25-2020*	98.46	1.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago *06-02-2020*	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year *12-31-2019*	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year *10-01-2019*	22.06	77.94	48.67	20.47	1.77	0.00
One Year Ago *09-03-2019*	28.35	71.65	17.39	0.00	0.00	0.00

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

Author:
Richard Tinker
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP

droughtmonitor.unl.edu