

January 3, 2023

**South Carolina:** December temperatures were 1.0 to 3.2 degrees cooler than historic averages depending on location. Total rainfall during the month ranged from 1.6 inches in Charleston County to 5.9 inches in Greenwood County. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 51 percent of the state was experiencing abnormally dry conditions by month's end, compared to 32 percent at the beginning of the month. Harvest of cotton and soybeans continued throughout the month as conditions allowed. Planting of winter wheat also carried on into December, with emergence aided by sufficient rainfall in most areas. Freezing temperatures during the last part of December caused stress to livestock and damage to cool season small grain crops, with oats noted to have been damaged the most in the Lowcountry region.