



South Carolina Crop Progress and Condition Report

Cooperating with the South Carolina Department of Agriculture
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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.

August 28, 2023

Media Contact: Jacqueline Moore

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in South Carolina, there were 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, August 27, 2023. Precipitation ranged from no rain to 1.9 inches of rain. Average high temperatures ranged from the high 80s to the high 90s. Average low temperatures ranged from the mid 60s to the high 70s.

Crops

High heat indexes and sparse rainfall across most of the state during the week caused a significant drop in soil moisture levels. According to the US Drought Monitor, 32 percent of the state was experiencing abnormally dry conditions and 6 percent was experiencing moderate drought conditions as of August 22nd. Rainfall on Sunday afternoon in some areas helped to alleviate immediate moisture needs for crops. Corn maturity neared completion as harvesting continued to progress. The hot and dry weather helped to dry down corn and provided good conditions for corn harvesting. Farmers were working to make good progress harvesting corn before tropical storms cause any problems. Cotton continued to progress with producers applying final stinkbug sprays and growth regulators in the Lowcountry region. Both cotton and soybeans were noted to be stressed due to dry soil conditions.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle were in mostly good to fair condition, while pastures were in mostly fair condition around the state. Pasture condition levels waned due to the high temperatures and winds. Some pastures in the Midlands region were noted to have turned brown and stopped growing.

Crop Progress for Week Ending 08/27/23

Crop stage	Prev year (percent)	Prev week (percent)	This week (percent)	5 Year avg (percent)
Corn - Mature	93	90	95	93
Corn - Harvested	37	22	36	40
Cotton - Setting Bolls	94	89	93	93
Cotton - Bolls Opening	15	6	12	13
Hay - 2nd Cutting	92	87	94	88
Hay - 3rd Cutting	2	NA	7	2
Soybeans - Blooming	84	81	87	87
Soybeans - Setting Pods ...	52	51	58	52
Soybeans - Drop Leaves ...	1	NA	2	0
Tobacco - Harvested	70	74	79	70

(NA) Not available.

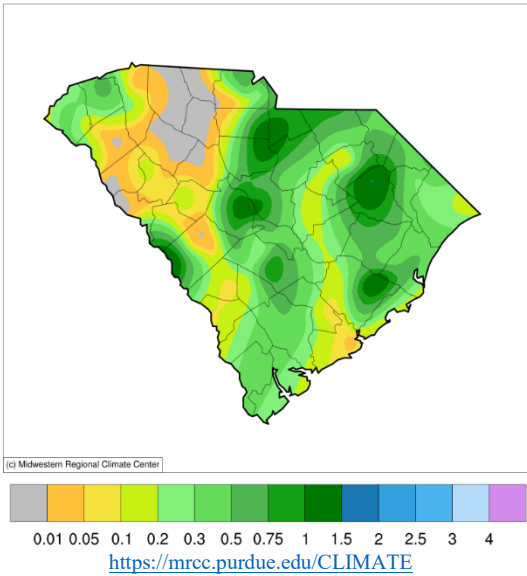
Conditions for Week Ending 08/27/23

Crop	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Cattle	2	7	33	52	6
Corn	0	0	9	70	21
Cotton	0	2	29	63	6
Pasture and range	4	22	46	26	2
Peanuts	0	1	9	86	4
Soybeans	1	3	17	68	11

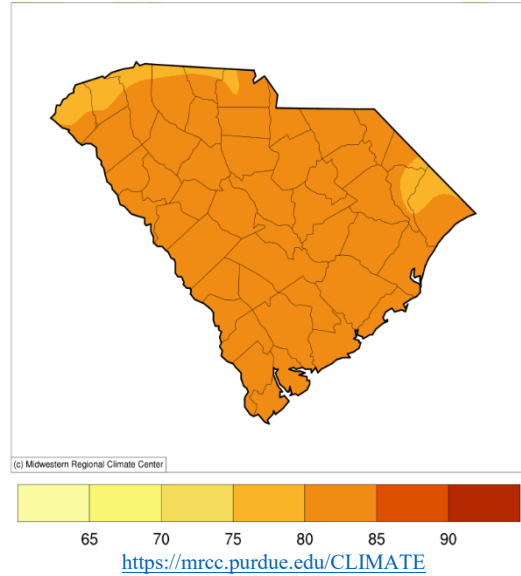
Soil Moisture for Week Ending 08/27/23

Topsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very short	2	14
Short	31	41
Adequate	67	45
Surplus	0	0
Subsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very short	3	6
Short	26	41
Adequate	70	53
Surplus	1	0

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
August 21, 2023 to August 27, 2023



Average Temperature (°F)
August 21, 2023 to August 27, 2023



U.S. Drought Monitor South Carolina

August 22, 2023
(Released Thursday, Aug. 24, 2023)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	67.87	32.13	5.76	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 08-15-2023	82.93	17.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 05-23-2023	88.76	11.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2023	49.44	50.56	10.67	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-27-2022	63.65	36.35	4.72	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 08-23-2022	81.39	18.61	1.70	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>

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droughtmonitor.unl.edu

