



**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 · (800) 253-4419
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.

October 16, 2023

Media Contact: *Jacqueline Moore*

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in South Carolina, there were 5.4 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, October 15, 2023. Precipitation ranged from 0.6 inches to 4.2 inches of rain. Average high temperatures ranged from the low 70s to the mid 70s. Average low temperatures ranged from the mid 40s to the high 50s.

Crops

Scattered showers across most of the state helped replenish soil moisture back to adequate levels after a few dry weeks. The cool and wet weather conditions were noted to have slowed crop maturity and harvesting activities; however, the rainfall was helpful for the progress of fall crops.

Cotton bolls continued opening and harvesting activities progressed as weather conditions permitted. Peanuts continued to be dug and harvested at a steady pace. The cooler temperatures and wet conditions last week slowed digging and harvesting, causing peanut progress to fall slightly behind historical levels. Soybeans were dropping leaves and harvest for early planted varieties was underway. The rainfall was noted to have been especially beneficial for planting of fall grazing and cover crops, as well as strawberries as soil preparation and planting was underway.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle were in good to fair condition, while pastures were in mostly fair condition around the state. Much needed rainfall helped improve pasture conditions, although some pastures remained unchanged in the Midlands region.

Crop Progress for Week Ending 10/15/23

Crop stage	Prev year (percent)	Prev week (percent)	This week (percent)	5 Year avg (percent)
Cotton - Bolls Opening.....	93	81	88	89
Cotton - Harvested.....	25	8	11	19
Hay - 3rd Cutting.....	80	81	87	77
Peanuts - Dug.....	58	33	47	56
Peanuts - Harvested.....	40	21	31	39
Soybeans - Drop Leaves ...	58	35	47	56
Soybeans - Harvested	14	12	16	7

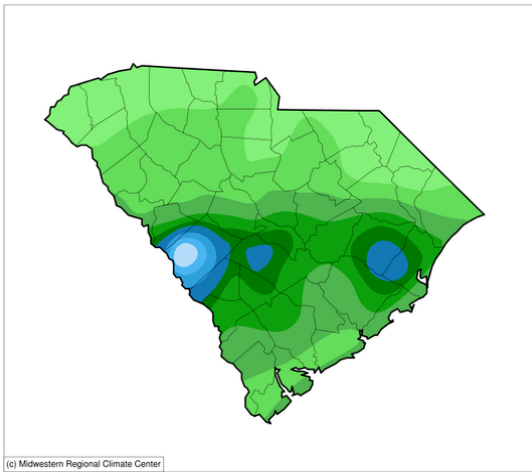
Conditions for Week Ending 10/15/23

Crop	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Cattle.....	9	17	29	41	4
Cotton.....	0	3	40	53	4
Pasture and range....	15	29	41	15	0
Peanuts.....	0	0	9	88	3
Soybeans.....	0	2	29	64	5

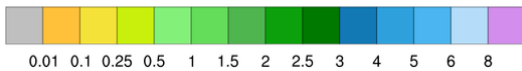
Soil Moisture for Week Ending 10/15/23

Topsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very short.....	16	7
Short.....	40	27
Adequate.....	44	66
Surplus.....	0	0
Subsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very short.....	2	5
Short.....	38	22
Adequate.....	60	73
Surplus.....	0	0

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
October 09, 2023 to October 15, 2023

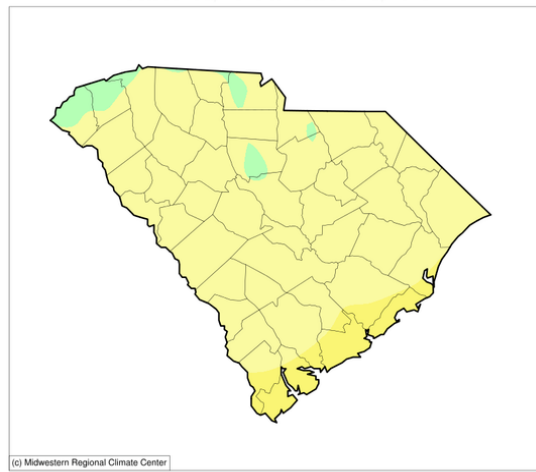


(c) Midwestern Regional Climate Center

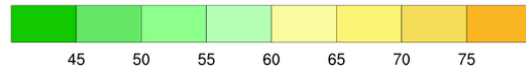


<https://mrc.purdue.edu/CLIMATE>

Average Temperature (°F)
October 09, 2023 to October 15, 2023



(c) Midwestern Regional Climate Center



<https://mrc.purdue.edu/CLIMATE>

U.S. Drought Monitor South Carolina

October 10, 2023
(Released Thursday, Oct. 12, 2023)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	60.48	39.52	22.07	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 10-03-2023	69.09	30.91	10.08	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 07-11-2023	100.00	0.00	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 09-26-2023	76.91	23.09	1.19	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 10-11-2022	71.24	28.76	6.77	0.00	0.00	0.00

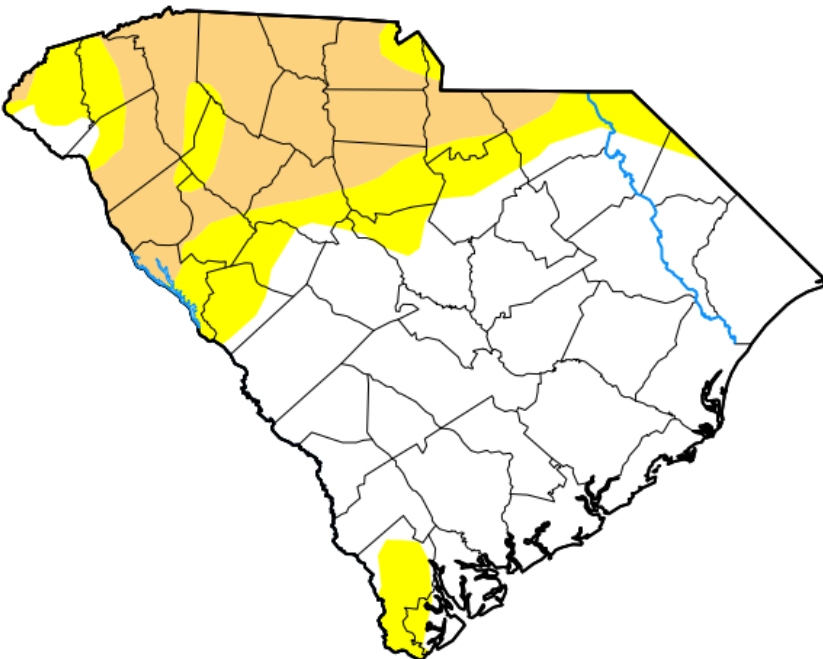
Intensity:

- 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:

Brad Pugh
CPC/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu