



**United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service**

# South Carolina Crop Progress and Condition Report



Cooperating with the **South Carolina Department of Agriculture**  
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[www.nass.usda.gov](http://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 30, 2023

Media Contact: *Jacqueline Moore*

## General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in South Carolina, there were 6.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, October 29, 2023. Precipitation ranged from no rain to trace amounts. Average high temperatures ranged from the mid 70s to the low 80s. Average low temperatures ranged from the low 40s to the high 50s.

## Crops

Most of the state saw little to no rainfall during the week. This gave farmers ample time for fieldwork but did cause soil moisture levels to drop. According to the US Drought Monitor on October 24, 50 percent of the state had abnormally dry conditions, 28 percent had moderate drought conditions, and 2.4 percent had severe drought conditions.

Warmer and dry weather made for good harvesting conditions for cotton, peanuts, and soybeans. Cotton was finishing up opening bolls and fields continuing to be defoliated throughout the week. Soybeans were dropping leaves and harvest was running slightly ahead of historical levels. Planting of small grains and cover crops is expected to be delayed in many areas due to the dry conditions.

## Livestock and Pastures

Cattle were in good to fair condition, while pastures were in mostly fair condition around the state. Pasture conditions continued to decline with the lack of rain. Summer pastures were mostly finished, and more rainfall was needed to plant winter grazing.

## Crop Progress for Week Ending 10/29/23

Crop stage	Prev year (percent)	Prev week (percent)	This week (percent)	5 Year avg (percent)
Cotton - Bolls Opening.....	99	94	96	97
Cotton - Harvested.....	48	20	24	37
Hay - 3rd Cutting.....	93	92	97	88
Peanuts - Dug.....	80	66	74	76
Peanuts - Harvested.....	64	45	63	61
Soybeans - Drop Leaves ...	84	59	71	77
Soybeans - Harvested .....	32	20	26	18
Winter wheat - Planted.....	8	2	4	11

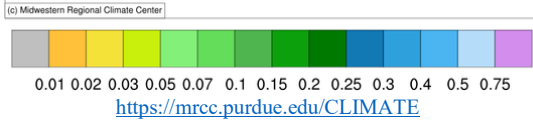
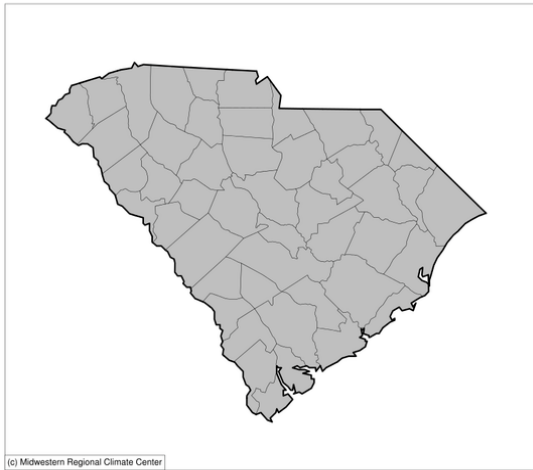
## Conditions for Week Ending 10/29/23

Crop	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Cattle.....	0	18	39	39	4
Cotton.....	0	4	42	52	2
Pasture and range ....	18	34	37	11	0
Soybeans .....	3	6	37	49	5

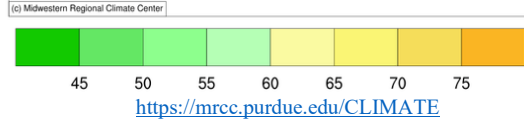
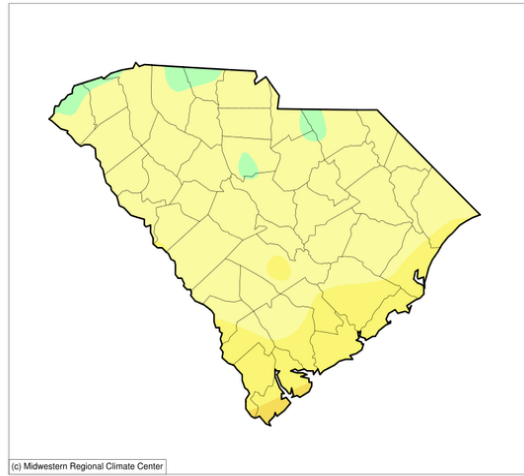
## Soil Moisture for Week Ending 10/29/23

Topsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very short.....	3	5
Short.....	26	44
Adequate .....	71	50
Surplus .....	0	1
Subsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very short.....	5	10
Short.....	22	30
Adequate .....	73	59
Surplus .....	0	1

**Accumulated Precipitation (in)**  
October 23, 2023 to October 29, 2023

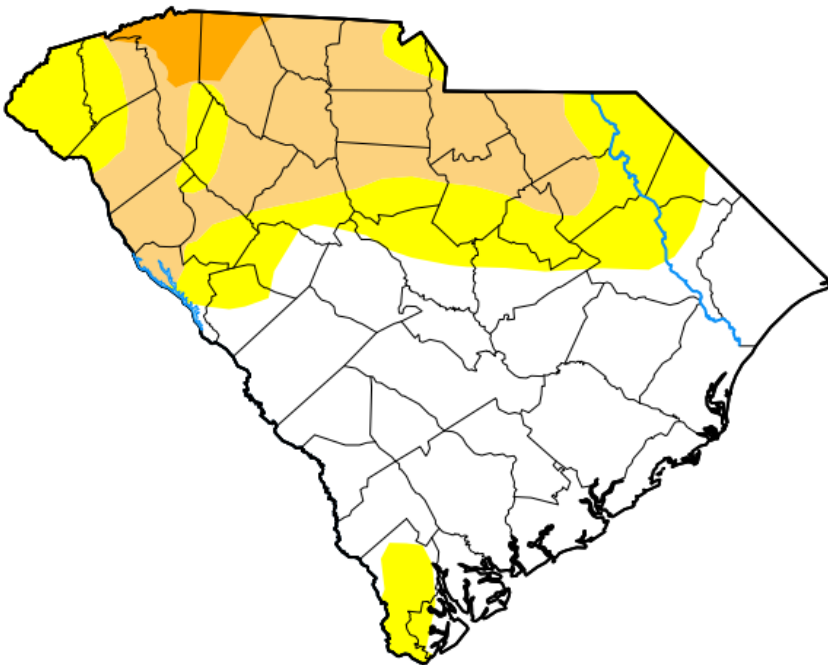


**Average Temperature (°F)**  
October 23, 2023 to October 29, 2023



# U.S. Drought Monitor South Carolina

**October 24, 2023**  
(Released Thursday, Oct. 26, 2023)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	50.15	49.85	26.02	2.43	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> <i>10-17-2023</i>	52.79	47.21	21.91	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> <i>07-25-2023</i>	98.11	1.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> <i>01-03-2023</i>	49.44	50.56	10.67	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> <i>09-26-2023</i>	76.91	23.09	1.19	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> <i>10-25-2022</i>	54.21	45.79	16.32	2.49	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](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)