



Cooperating with Clemson University
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Week Ending: March 25, 2012

Cooperating Agencies:

Clemson University
SC State Climatology Office
Farm Service Agency

GENERAL

Record high temperatures were present March 25th, 2012. Many areas reached 85 leading to scattered storms for the rest of observed in stronger thunderstorms but Scattered showers and high temperatures allowed plantings to continue. Soil moisture conditions were 2% very short, 26% short, 69% adequate and 3% surplus. The State average temperature for the period was ten degrees above normal. There were 6 days that were suitable for fieldwork. The State average rainfall was measured at 0.9 inches.



during the week ending degrees on Monday, the week. Some hail was little damage was reported.



FIELD CROPS

CORN plantings picked up pace with 27% completed by Sunday. Five percent of the crop had emerged. **OATS** were 10% headed. Conditions were 1% very poor, 5% poor, 25% fair, 60% good, and 9% excellent. **WINTER WHEAT** was also 10% headed with conditions reported as 3% poor, 27% fair, 64% good, and 6% excellent. **TOBACCO** transplanting was underway with 5% completed by the end of the week.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

SNAPBEANS, TOMATOES, and **CUCUMBERS** plantings increased steadily with favorable weather. Nine percent of snapbeans, 25% of tomatoes, and 15% of cucumbers were planted by week's end. **CANTALOUPE** and **WATERMELON** plantings were estimated at 15% and 20% completed, respectively. **PEACH** conditions were reportedly 1% poor, 56% fair, 38% good, and 5% excellent. **PASTURE** conditions were 1% very poor, 9% poor, 44% fair, 45% good, and 1% excellent. **LIVESTOCK** conditions were reported as 1% very poor, 2% poor, 26% fair, 70% good and 1% excellent.

Crop Progress for Week Ending March 25, 2012

Crop and Stage	2012	2011	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2012	2011	5-Yr Avg
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cantaloup, Planted	15	NA	NA	Snapbeans, Fresh, Planted	9	NA	NA
Corn, Planted	27	NA	NA	Tobacco, Transplanted	25	NA	NA
Corn, Emerged	5	NA	NA	Tomatoes, Fresh, Planted	20	NA	NA
Cucumbers, Fresh, Planted	15	NA	NA	Watermelons, Planted	10	NA	NA
Oats, Headed	10	NA	NA	Winter Wheat, Headed			

Note: Historical data is not available for the March month of the Crop Progress Report.

Condition for Week Ending March 25, 2012

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Livestock	1	2	26	70	1	Peaches	0	1	56	38	5
Oats	1	5	25	60	9	Winter Wheat	0	3	27	64	6
Pasture	1	9	44	45	1						

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending March 25, 2012

The Monday morning 8:00 a.m. observations along the southern coast included dense fog with visibilities reduced to "zero" at Hilton Head and Johns Island. On the last day of winter, date-record warmth was recorded at Greenville-Spartanburg AP (85 degrees), Florence AP (85 degrees) and N Myrtle Beach AP (81 degrees.) A few storm cells dropped south into the northern counties and Pee Dee region on Tuesday morning. Cheraw measured one of the heavier amounts with 0.19 inches of rain. Columbia's Hamilton-Owens AP reported a March 20, first day of spring, high temperature of 86 degrees. Pockets of heavy rain developed over the Lowcountry during the early afternoon hours of Wednesday. Jamestown received 0.74 inches and Givhans received 0.72 inches. Scattered rains on Thursday left 0.89 inches in the gage at Marion. The thermometers at Kingstree, Hartsville and Hardeeville each indicated a Friday afternoon high temperature of 86 degrees. Thunderstorms formed on Saturday afternoon for much of the Piedmont and eastward to the coast. Hailstones of 1.25 inches in diameter fell on parts of Sumter and Union counties. Large hail of up to one-inch in diameter pelted portions of Lexington, Newberry, Richland, Barnwell and Bamberg counties. Localized flooding was reported in the city of Columbia. Sandy Run measured a rainfall total of 1.53 inches. Winds gusted to 52 mph atop the Ravenel Bridge in Charleston. Sunday morning temperatures cooled to 49 degrees at Johnston and the McEntire ANG AP, located near Eastover. With the exception of the Pee Dee and coastal observation sites, most of the State reported clearing skies on Sunday afternoon and temperatures more in line with the season. The State average temperature for the seven-day period was ten degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 91 degrees at the University of South Carolina Campus on March 19. The lowest official temperature reported was 48 degrees at W Pelzer on March 25. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 3.56 inches at the Pelion ending at 7:00 a.m. on March 25. The State average rainfall for the period was 0.9 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 66 degrees, Charleston 67 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were below normal. No ocean water temp reports from either the Springmaid Pier in SC or the Johnny Mercer Pier in NC.

Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2012	Deviation from Average
Greer AP	0.32	7.83	-3.6
Anderson AP	0.24	7.69	-3.6
Columbia Metro AP	1.16	6.33	-3.9
Orangeburg AP	0.43	6.30	-4.5
Charlotte, NC AP	0.46	7.01	-3.0
Augusta, GA Bush AP	0.66	4.52	-6.7
Florence AP	2.41	8.34	-0.5
N Myrtle Beach AP	0.38	6.38	-3.9
Charleston AP	1.08	8.42	-1.2
Savannah, GA AP	0.66	8.13	-1.3

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.

