

January 30, 2017

South Carolina: Rains received throughout January have helped relieve much of the drought across the state. According to the current United States Drought Monitor, seventy-one percent of the state is now drought free compared to only twenty-seven percent on January 3, 2017. The northwestern corner of the state is the only area that remains under drought conditions as producers are still short on hay and pastures dry. Small grain plantings are reported to be behind but look acceptable considering the conditions. In the rest of the state, pasture is in much better condition with healthy pastures and livestock and no shortage of hay. Small grains and winter greens are progressing well. With the excess rainfall, some farmers have not been able to get in the field to do any prep work. Average maximum temperatures ranged from the mid 60s in eastern South Carolina to the mid 50s in the west. Average minimum temperatures ranged from the mid 40s in the east to low 30s in west. Precipitation estimates for the month range from 7.46 inches in Edgefield to 2.0 inches near Boiling Springs.