

March 30, 2020

South Carolina: Average temperatures ranged from 1.4 to 11.9 degrees warmer than historical values. Total rainfall for the month ranged from no rain in select locations to 7.6 inches in Anderson County. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, the state remained drought free throughout the month. Heavy rainfall affected most of the state earlier in March but slowed down later in the month, allowing some producers to prepare fields for planting corn and cotton. Some corn was already planted in areas where soil was dry enough. Small grains were progressing well; however, nitrogen applications were delayed due to rain earlier in the month. Pastures were greening up, which provided relief to cattlemen who were beginning to run out of hay supplies. Sweet corn, tomatoes, and cucurbits had been planted and were progressing well. Strawberries were also looking good and harvest had begun. Fresh market growers were concerned about future sales due to COVID-19 restrictions.