

# URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

## Growing and Harvesting in South Carolina

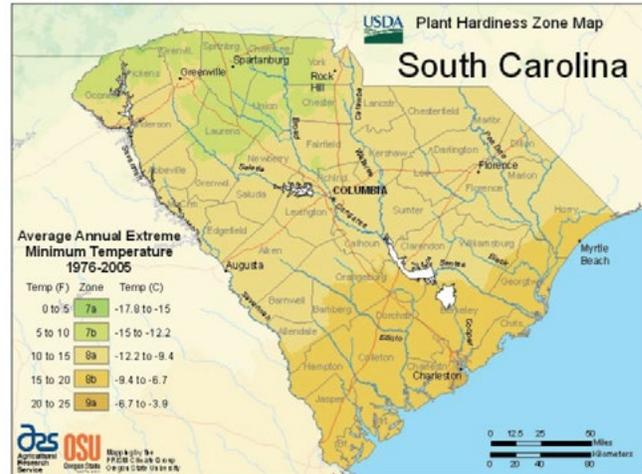
South Carolina resides in USDA Hardiness Zones 7 through 9. Zone 7 is mostly in the northwestern portion of the state, with the zones progressively getting warmer in a southeastern diagonal fashion. In South Carolina, first frost dates can be as early as the end of October in Greenville and as late as mid-December in Hilton Head Island. Last frost dates are as early as February in Hilton Head Island and as late as mid-April in Greenville.

### What to plant and when:

South Carolina has warmer USDA Hardiness Zones, which means its growing seasons are longer than those of other states. Pay attention on what to plant when so you plant cool-season vegetables early enough so they still thrive as well.

#### Zone 7:

- **February:** Begin broccoli, cauliflower and peas indoors.
- **March:** Begins beets, cabbage, carrots, kale, lettuce, onions, peppers, spinach and tomatoes indoors. Near the end of March, transplant broccoli, carrots, peas and cauliflower outdoors.
- **April:** Transplant kale, lettuce and spinach outdoors. Begin beans and Brussels sprouts indoors.
- **May:** Transplant onions, peppers and tomatoes outdoors. Begin corn, cucumbers and squash indoors.
- **June:** Transplant beans, Brussels sprouts, corn, cucumbers and squash outdoors.
- **July:** Begin cabbage indoors.
- **August:** Begin beets, broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, peas



[South Carolina Planting Calendar on ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)

and spinach indoors. Near the end of the month, transplant cabbage outdoors.

- **September:** Transplant beets, broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, peas and spinach outdoors for the fall harvest.

#### Zone 8:

- **February:** Begin beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach and tomatoes indoors.
- **March:** Transplant beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, peas and spinach outdoors. Begin beans indoors.
- **April:** Transplant onions, peppers and tomatoes outdoors. Begin Brussels sprouts, squash, corn and cucumbers indoors.
- **May:** Transplant Brussels sprouts, corn and cucumbers outdoors.
- **June:** Transplant beans and squash outdoors.
- **August:** Begin beets, broccoli, cabbage,



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carrots, cauliflower, kale and lettuce indoors.

- **September:** Transplant beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, kale and lettuce outdoors. Begin peas and spinach indoors.
- **October:** Transplant peas and spinach outdoors.

### Zone 9:

- **January:** Begin broccoli, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach and tomatoes indoors.
- **February:** Begin beets, beans, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, corn and cucumbers indoors. Transplant beets, broccoli, cabbage, lettuce, peas and spinach outdoors.
- **March:** Transplant cauliflower, tomatoes, peppers, onions, cucumbers, corn, carrots and beans outdoors. Begin Brussels sprouts and squash indoors.
- **April:** Transplant Brussels sprouts and squash outdoors.
- **July:** Begin peppers and tomatoes inside for a second season.
- **August:** Begin broccoli, corn and cucumbers inside.
- **September:** Begin beans, beets, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, lettuce and spinach indoors. Transplant peppers, tomatoes and broccoli outside.
- **October:** Transplant beets, beans, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, corn, cucumbers, lettuce and spinach outside. Begin peas and kale.
- **November:** Transplant peas and kale outside.



[Vegetable seeds and plants available at ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)

## South Carolina's soil and how it affects agriculture:

The best soil in South Carolina for gardening resides in the central area, where the top layer of soil is a combination of sandy loam. Other areas in South Carolina will require amendments, as soil in the northwest region is full of clay and the soil closer to the coast is sandier. South Carolina consists of four dominant soil orders throughout the state, but it is largely composed of Ultisols.

**Ultisols:** Much of South Carolina consists of these soils, nearly the entire state. These are red, clayey soils with a higher acid content, meaning they will either need to be used for vegetables that prefer soil with an acidic pH or it will need to be amended.

**Alfisols:** These soils are only in small patches in the northwestern corner of the state. Alfisols are fertile soils that are excellent for crop growth.

**Entisols:** These soils are mostly present in



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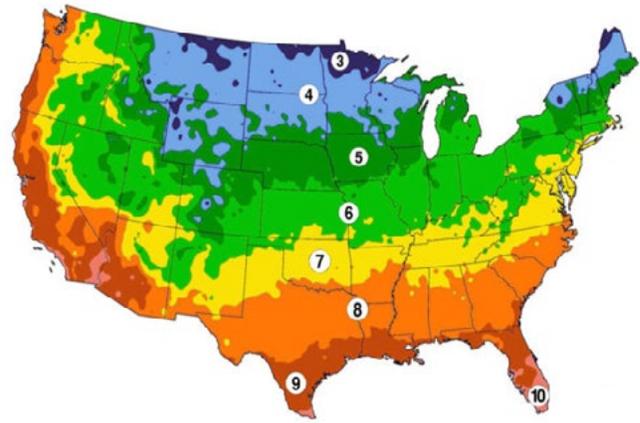
the north-central area of the state. Entisols are newer soils, and consist of soils that don't fit into any other classification. These soils typically reside in rockier areas and are most concentrated in the Rocky Mountains.

**Inceptisols:** These soils are in a very small grouping along the western border. Inceptisols are the most common soil across the earth, and they have decent drainage. They can grow crops decently well.

## Average rainfall in South Carolina:

Average annual rainfall in South Carolina varies depending on where in the state you reside. In the coast and low-country regions, average annual precipitation varies from 45.4 inches a year in Edisto Island to 56.2 inches a year in Georgetown. In the Midlands, annual precipitation is slightly lower, ranging from 42.9 inches a year in Florence to 47 inches a year in Orangeburg. Average annual precipitation has a much wider range in upstate South Carolina, where it ranges from 44.4 inches a year in Calhoun Falls to 70 inches a year in Caesars Head State Park.

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[USDA Hardiness Gardening Zone Finder on ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)



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