

FALL AND SPRING FREEZE CLIMATOLOGY

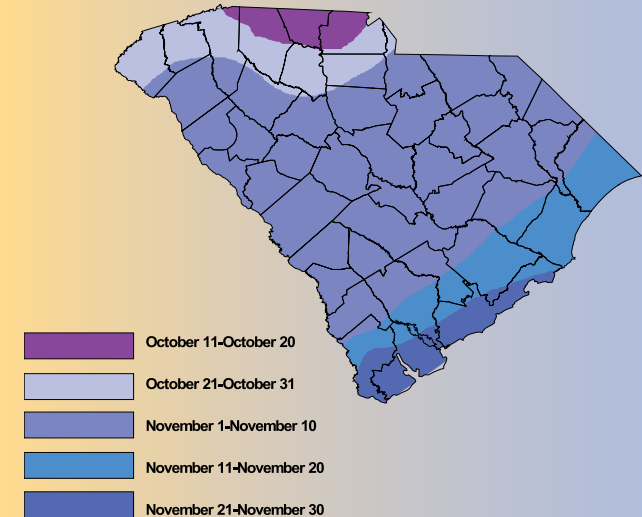
Leaves changing color and falling off the trees characterize autumn along with cooler temperatures and shorter days. Autumn is also noted for its previews of winter, including the first frost and freeze of the season. The freeze dates shown in the following table are the last dates in spring and first dates in fall when the air temperature reached a minimum of 32°F or less. The table also provides the median dates for the last spring freeze and first fall freeze. The median dates are displayed geographically in the maps. This type of information, when accumulated over a long period of time, is particularly useful for agricultural interests. The potential of a late spring freeze is of great concern to farmers, gardeners, nurserymen, and other plant growers. A climatological analysis of freeze events can provide a measure of the risk involved with planting before a particular time in spring. The dates were obtained using 1948-2003 climatological data for each location.



Robert Clark

Station Name	Date of Latest Spring Freeze	Date of Median Spring Freeze	Date of Earliest Fall Freeze	Date of Median Fall Freeze
AIKEN	April 25	March 28	October 8	November 5
BAMBERG	April 21	March 21	October 14	November 7
BEAUFORT	April 6	March 6	October 29	November 22
BLACKVILLE	April 23	March 23	October 14	November 8
CALHOUN FALLS	April 23	April 1	October 4	November 7
CHARLESTON INTL AP	April 20	March 10	October 28	November 20
CHERAW	April 24	March 31	October 7	November 5
CHESTER	May 11	April 10	October 4	October 28
CLEMSON UNIVERSITY	May 8	April 7	October 3	November 1
COLUMBIA METRO AP	April 24	March 30	October 4	November 3
CONWAY	April 26	March 17	October 12	November 14
DILLON	May 2	April 2	October 4	October 31
FLORENCE RGNL AP	April 20	March 21	October 14	November 9
GREENWOOD	May 9	April 2	October 4	November 3
KERSHAW	May 8	March 31	October 13	November 5
KINGSTREE	April 30	March 24	October 4	November 3
LONGCREEK	May 10	April 11	September 25	October 26
NEWBERRY	May 2	April 4	October 3	November 1
NINETY NINE ISLANDS	May 17	April 26	September 30	October 24
ORANGEBURG	April 23	March 21	October 14	November 9
PAGELAND	May 8	March 31	October 4	November 6
SUMMERVILLE	April 24	March 21	October 14	November 10
SUMTER	April 21	March 23	October 4	November 6
UNION	May 9	April 12	October 3	October 27
WALTERBORO	April 30	March 23	October 4	November 7
YEMASSEE	April 30	March 22	October 14	November 8

MEDIAN DATE OF FIRST FALL FREEZE (T = 32°F)



MEDIAN DATE OF LAST SPRING FREEZE (T = 32°F)

