

# Heat Claims 17 Victims In South

By The Associated Press

Southern states that have baked for weeks had no hope of cooling temperatures any time soon, but some farmers facing empty pens and shriveled crops got good news Friday — help is on the way from the Farm Belt.

Meanwhile, the human toll continued to rise, with 17 deaths in the South and the Midwest blamed on the relentless heat.

Afternoon temperatures ranged from the low 90s in Michigan to 100 in Augusta, Ga., and 103 in Fayetteville, N.C. It hit 99 in Atlanta, breaking a record set in 1944, and 98 at North Carolina's Raleigh-Durham Airport, breaking a 1948 record. It was 105 in Columbia, S.C., marking the 13th day in a row that city had seen the mercury in triple digits.

While some parts of the upper Midwest were expected to cool by early next week, temperatures of over 100 were forecast for the weekend in South Carolina and Georgia.

"It looks like more of the same," Wes Tyler, assistant climatologist for South Carolina, said Friday. "Barring any tropical influence, it's getting more serious by the day. We ain't asking to be hit by a hurricane, but it See Live'stock' Aid on page 8A

# Live'stock' Aid On Way For Sizzling South

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would help if we got some rain. . . . It's a good time to live underground."

Gov. Dick Riley of South Carolina, where agriculture officials predict at least \$100 million in crop losses due to the worst drought on record, announced plans Friday to get badly needed hay to livestock in scorched pastures.

Riley said trucking and railroad companies had agreed to haul more than 2,000 tons of hay from the Midwest to South Carolina at no charge. That would be about enough for two weeks.

"We hope to have the freight train loaded and on its way to South Carolina sometime next week," Riley said, though he added many details remained to be worked out. He also said he would seek a federal disaster declaration for at least two-thirds of the state.

State Agriculture Commission Les Tindal said farmers are flooding livestock markets with cattle because they can't feed the animals.

Their plight struck a chord in farmers in Illinois, where Gov. James R. Thompson asked for contributions of hay and the Illinois Railroad Association offered to try to arrange transportation of hay to the South at reduced cost.

"The phones are ringing off the hook" at the Department of Agriculture, said Susan Mogerman, a Thompson spokeswoman. "There is high interest, but we have to overcome a lot of administrative detail."

"This the U.S.A. Heartland at its best," Riley said. "Clearly, the greatest thanks go to those farmers throughout the country who saw the suffering of their brothers in South Carolina and they generously moved to do something about it."

The Georgia Extension Service said Friday that corn and soybean farmers in that state could sustain yield losses of 15 percent to 20 percent.