



WEATHER & CROPS



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Week of: May 1 - 7, 2006

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CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 7, 2006

Recent showers were welcomed by the Commonwealth, but temperatures at the end of the week were cooler than expected. Days suitable for field work were 5.5. Average rainfall for the week across the state was below normal, while the average temperature was above normal at 61 degrees. Beneficial rains helped to recharge topsoil moisture levels in most areas, resulting in good planting conditions for soybeans. Some hay fields are being grazed due to poor hay yield potential and lack of stored hay on the farm. However, the recent moisture has renewed some pastures and hay fields, thus improving livestock conditions and prospects for a good first cutting of hay. Some frost damage was reported in corn fields on the eastern shore, but the affected fields are expected to make a full recovery. For the most part, good growing conditions this week have helped emerging corn. The strawberry crop is bountiful with many u-pick markets open. The small grain crop is reported to look good despite the early dry conditions. Small grains are short but are reported to be heading out reasonably well. Other farm activities include liming and fertilizing, turning stocks out to pasture, sheering sheep, and repairing fences.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
April 9, 2006	42	38	19	1
April 16, 2006	32	47	21	0
April 23, 2006	22	37	31	10
April 30, 2006	18	33	41	8
May 7, 2006	10	30	56	4

CROP CONDITION PERCENT

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pastures	6	13	38	40	3
Livestock	1	4	27	59	9
Other Hay	9	28	31	25	7
Alfalfa Hay	5	14	39	36	6
Corn	0	3	30	64	3
Winter Wheat	6	14	38	37	5
Barley	4	16	32	44	4
All Apples	0	1	38	61	0
Peaches	2	19	50	27	2
Grapes	0	11	30	58	1

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT - WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Average
Corn Planted	74	56	70	68
Corn Emerged	50	30	39	33
Soybeans Planted	11	4	7	7
Tobacco, Flue-Cured Transplanted	30	15	0	26
Tobacco, Dark Fire-Cured Transplanted	3	1	0	13
Peanuts Planted	31	10	9	28
Cotton Planted	60	39	55	58

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 7, 2006

WEATHER STATION	TEMPERATURE (degrees Fahrenheit)				PRECIPITATION (inches)		
	HI	LO	Average	Departure From Normal	TOTAL	Departure From Normal	Days
NORTHERN							
Woodstock	81	39	59	-1	0.23	-0.52	3
Warrenton	81	40	62	4	0.16	-0.72	1
Winchester 7 SE	82	34	58	1	0.02	-0.76	1
Dale Enterprise	80	39	57	-2	0.21	-0.53	3
WESTERN							
Glasgow	85	41	61	0	0.14	-0.65	1
Roanoke AP	85	45	63	3	0.00	-0.90	0
Waynesboro	81	38	58	2	0.46	-0.34	2
Staunton AG	79	40	60	3	0.03	-0.77	1
CENTRAL							
Charlottesville	84	36	62	2	0.23	-0.81	2
Piedmont Res ST	83	41	63	4	0.80	-0.15	1
Bremo Bluff	87	35	63	3	0.96	0.12	2
Richmond AP	83	40	64	2	0.04	-0.77	1
EASTERN							
Eastville	76	46	62	0	0.09	-0.59	1
Wallops Island	81	39	60	-2	0.00	-0.66	0
Williamsburg	81	41	63	1	1.04	0.12	3
Keysville	89	39	64	4	0.00	-0.81	0
SOUTHWESTERN							
Blacksburg AG	80	37	56	1	0.20	-0.71	3
Wytheville	78	35	55	-2	0.62	-0.28	4
Saltville	79	39	58	2	0.50	-0.49	4
Richlands	77	39	58	6	1.01	0.03	4
SOUTHERN							
Stuart	83	41	62	2	0.33	-0.72	3
Danville AG	85	41	63	0	0.10	-0.73	1
Chatham	83	35	59	-1	0.13	-0.78	1
Martinsville	82	36	58	-2	0.06	-0.86	1
SOUTHEASTERN							
Norfolk VA	79	50	64	2	0.15	-0.66	2
Oceana	81	47	64	2	0.18	-0.64	1
Emporia	83	41	63	3	0.10	-0.68	2
Newport News	83	39	66	4	0.16	-0.65	2

Departure from Normal based on 1961-90 Normals.

Precipitation Days=Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.