



NATIONAL  
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SERVICE

# WEATHER & CROPS



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture



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**Week of: June 11 – June 17, 2007**

**Number: 15**

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## CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING JUNE 17, 2007

Scattered showers and storms were present again this week across the state, bringing relief to some pastures and crops. Along with the moisture came hail in some areas. Days suitable for work were 5.6. Topsoil moisture was adequate. Pastures are beginning to show signs of recovery in areas that were previously experiencing dry conditions. Haymaking continues while strawberry harvesting winds down. Barley harvest also continues as wheat harvest begins. Most full season soybeans have been planted and double cropped soybean planting is starting. Vegetable producers are preparing fields for tomato transplanting and clearing raised beds to begin planting second crop. Other activities this week include spraying soybeans and corn, equipment repair, and scouting fields.

### TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
June 17, 2007	11	39	49	1
June 10, 2007	19	33	46	2
June 3, 2007	13	32	53	2
May 27, 2007	10	47	43	0
May 20, 2007	5	25	66	4

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**Due to budget constraints we have had to reduce the size and content of the weather table. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.**

<b>CROP CONDITION PERCENT</b>					
<b>Crop</b>	<b>Very Poor</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
Pastures	2	14	46	36	2
Livestock	0	2	18	66	14
Other Hay	4	17	42	33	4
Alfalfa Hay	6	17	37	36	4
Corn	1	5	40	47	7
Winter Wheat	1	6	24	55	14
Barley	1	8	31	57	3
Flue-cured Tobacco	0	1	3	73	23
Burley Tobacco	0	11	51	32	6
Dark fire-cured Tobacco	0	0	45	55	0
Peanuts	0	0	8	62	30
Cotton	0	0	15	62	23
Summer Potatoes	0	0	20	40	40
All Apples	6	3	38	47	6
Peaches	50	22	7	13	8
Grapes	0	2	20	78	0

<b>CROP PROGRESS PERCENT-WITH COMPARISONS</b>				
<b>Crop</b>	<b>This Week</b>	<b>Last Week</b>	<b>Last Year</b>	<b>5 Year Avg.</b>
Corn Silked	3	0	3	2
Soybeans Planted	57	52	62	60
Soybeans Emerged	47	42	49	49
Winter Wheat Harvested	8	5	11	16
Barley Harvested	45	18	40	51
Cotton Squaring	4	4	14	15

**WEATHER & CROPS****VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 17, 2007**

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to June 16	Mar. 1 to June 16 normal *	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	76	59	82	57	68	-3	1304	1206	.73	1.97	.04	17.73	-2.19
Norfolk	76	61	86	56	69	-5	1355	1307	.04	2.01	.12	13.91	-6.54
Richmond	80	60	86	57	70	-3	1476	1335	.40	1.54	-.27	16.88	-2.74
Roanoke	78	62	85	59	70	-1	1493	NA	.18	1.35	-.60	14.57	-5.38
Wash/Dulles	80	58	89	55	69	-1	1272	NA	1.67	2.08	-.15	13.39	-5.73

1/ Formula used: GDD = (daily maximum (86<sup>0</sup> + daily minimum (50<sup>0</sup>))/2-50<sup>0</sup>; where 86<sup>0</sup> is used if the maximum exceeds 86<sup>0</sup> and 50<sup>0</sup> is used if the minimum falls below 50<sup>0</sup>.

\* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>.

N.A. = not available. T = trace. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

**REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY**

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

**WESTERN****BATH (Rodney Leech)**

Heavy thunder storms caught the western half of the county, causing some minor damage to farm roads and ditches. Hay making continues between showers with yields near normal.

**CENTRAL****AMELIA (Robyn D. Whittington)**

Most of the county was fortunate enough to catch several good rains last week. Things dried out over the weekend and this morning the race is on to be the first to thrash wheat. Soybeans (full season and double crop behind barley) are coming in well. Corn's looking great too.

**NELSON (Michael Lachance)**

Late first cutting of hay is still in progress. Peach availability will be reduced from normal but some peach orchard blocks and varieties escaped late freeze damage and local fruit will be available again this year. Mites have been observed in isolated apple orchard blocks.

**Eastern****ESSEX (Keith Balderson)**

Dry weather prevailed last week with only a very small section of the county receiving rainfall. The corn crop is starting to suffer with the increased heat and lack of soil moisture. Barley harvest is complete, and wheat harvest is just starting and should be in full swing this week. Barley yields were below average due in large part to freeze injury in early April. Quality was okay. Some post-emergence herbicides were applied to soybeans.

**MIDDLESEX (David Moore)**

Barley harvest continues and wheat harvest begins. Both are yielding well to very good. Producers are anxious to get going with wheat harvest but moisture is still slightly high. Double crop soybeans are difficult to get in the ground due to the dry weather. Soybean planting has been a difficult process this year due to the dryness. We need rain, overcast conditions are keeping the corn looking good right now but forecast of temperatures in the 90's will change that if we don't get rain. Farm activities include post herbicide applications on beans and corn, equipment repair, small grain harvest, bean planting and vegetable planting and harvest. The wheat market is exciting to watch as prices reach historical levels.

## REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)

### SOUTHWESTERN

#### WASHINGTON (Phil Blevins)

The entire county is suffering from drought. Some areas are in severe drought condition. Pastures are getting short in all areas and some areas have practically no pasture now. The dry weather coupled with the late freeze has severely curtailed the hay crop. Some beef producers are already feeding hay (5-6 months earlier than normal) and some are beginning to sell cattle in an attempt to make it through till rain comes. Some areas have received thunderstorms for which we are very grateful.

#### BLAND (Jim Atwell)

The weather is very dry through out most of Bland and Giles. Rains that we have received have been very spotty, but beneficial. Producers are beginning to be concerned about hay supplies for next year.

### SOUTHEASTERN

#### SURRY (Glenn Slade)

Small grain harvest is underway with good yields. Yields and higher market prices have growers rushing to get wheat out of the fields. Corn, peanuts, and cotton are growing well but in need of rain. Soybeans are being planted with some growers moving into double cropped beans.

#### CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence)

Showers have interrupted harvest of alfalfa and hay this week. Wheat harvest has started. Soil moisture conditions are good and crops are growing, however growing degree days are low due to cooler temperatures. This is slowing crop development just a bit.

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