

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY, cont.

BRUNSWICK COUNTY (Cynthia L. Gregg): Heavy rains and storms this week caused some minor to moderate flooding. Some crops are showing signs of water log and stress, including tobacco. Some pastures and hay land that have been fertilized are growing. Calves are being vaccinated for fall VQA sales and heifers are being selected for heifer development as well.

ROANOKE COUNTY (Jon Vest): Subsoil moisture and growing conditions are returning after recent much need rains.

CAROLINE COUNTY (McGann Saphir): Dryer weather allowed for a lot of progress in the wheat harvest. Yields are looking very good despite very dry weather early in the growing season. Corn and soybean crops are looking very good to excellent. One additional good round of rain could almost make the corn crop (some later planted corn still needs a good rain for proper pollination). Farmers are finishing up the wheat harvest and still planting a few fields of soybeans into the wheat stubble. However, the soybean crop is planted, for the most part.

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY (John Howe): The rains have helped the moisture conditions in the county. Corn is responding to the rain. The rain will also help pastures to some extent, although the summer slump for our cool season grasses is at hand.

ACCOMACK COUNTY (James N. Belote): Potato harvest has started. Good rains came down slow and all went in. There was very little runoff. Corn and soybean crops are looking really good. Farmers are spraying Roundup on soybeans, and scouting for soybean rust. Wheat yields have

been excellent but acreage was down. Tomato harvest should start any day.

NEW KENT COUNTY (Paul Davis): Rains this week were perfect for pollinating corn and germinating double-crop soybeans. Wheat yields and test weights were excellent prior to the late June heavy rains. Some wheat seed sprouting has occurred but yields are still good. Soybeans are being planted and sprayed for weed control.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY (Sam Johnson): We received more rain across the area this week on Tuesday and Wednesday again slowing small grain harvesting and soybean planting. Generally, wheat yields remain good, but producers are seeing some quality losses due to rain. We are seeing much better growth on pastures and hay fields due to the rainfall. Corn has responded very well to the rains over the last two weeks.

HALIFAX COUNTY (Traci Talley): Rain at the first part of the week was just what the crops ordered. The rain has brought most all of the tobacco crop into topping stage. The corn and soybean crops benefited greatly as well. The pastures and hay land are back green and growing.

CULPEPER COUNTY (Carl Stafford): We received rainfall ranging from .75 to 2.5 inches across the area this week. Without further rainfall we can now make it through July.

HIGHLAND COUNTY (Rodney Leech): Pastures have improved in the last 2 weeks. Second cutting hay is coming on strong.



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WEATHER & CROPS



Week of: July 3 –July 9, 2006

Number: 18

Released: July 10, 2006

CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 9, 2006

Most areas in the Commonwealth spent this week trying to recover from the heavy rains and flooding experienced from the previous week. Days suitable for work were 5. Average rainfall across the state was above average at 1.47 inches. The average temperature was 74 degrees, which is below normal for this time of year. Soil moisture levels remain satisfactory. The previous heavy rains and flooding caused tobacco producers concern as their crops showed the affect of excessive moisture. Cooler weather and timely rainfall have helped pastures and hayfields continue to show improvement. Grain harvest was again delayed due to the rainfall. This also caused a delay in planting late and double crop soybeans. Peach and potato harvests are underway while the tomato harvest is expected to begin at anytime. The sweet corn harvest continues and producers are still reporting good yields. Calves are being vaccinated for fall VQA sales and heifers are being selected for heifer development. Other activities this week included spraying soybeans, bush hogging, scouting fields, cleaning around the farm, and scouting for soybean rust.

| Week Ending | TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
| June 11, 2006 | 14 | 45 | 41 | 0 |
| June 18, 2006 | 17 | 35 | 46 | 2 |
| June 25, 2006 | 9 | 25 | 56 | 10 |
| July 2, 2006 | 1 | 15 | 66 | 18 |
| July 9, 2006 | 1 | 10 | 76 | 13 |

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WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 9, 2006

| WEATHER STATION | TEMPERATURE (degrees Fahrenheit) | | | | PRECIPITATION (inches) | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|----|---------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|------|
| | HI | LO | Average | Departure from | TOTAL | Departure from | Days |
| NORTHERN | | | | | | | |
| Woodstock | 92 | 52 | 71 | -4 | 0.7 | -0.14 | 2 |
| Warrenton | 92 | 58 | 74 | 0 | 2.67 | 1.83 | 4 |
| Winchester 7 SE | 91 | 52 | 73 | -2 | 0.56 | -0.35 | 2 |
| Dale Enterprises | 92 | 49 | 70 | -4 | 0.99 | 0.22 | 4 |
| WESTERN | | | | | | | |
| Glasgow | 93 | 54 | 74 | -2 | 1.11 | 0.28 | 3 |
| Roanoke AP | 93 | 55 | 75 | 0 | 0.59 | -0.24 | 1 |
| Waynesboro | 91 | 51 | 71 | -2 | 0.66 | -0.07 | 1 |
| Staunton AG | 90 | 53 | 72 | -1 | 0.87 | 0.14 | 4 |
| CENTRAL | | | | | | | |
| Charlottesville | 93 | 55 | 75 | -2 | 0 | -0.72 | 0 |
| Piedmont Res ST | 93 | 59 | 75 | 0 | 1.28 | 0.33 | 1 |
| Bremo Bluff | 98 | 51 | 75 | -2 | 0.86 | 0.03 | 3 |
| Richmond AP | 96 | 63 | 78 | 2 | 1.64 | 0.56 | 3 |
| EASTERN | | | | | | | |
| Eastville | 93 | 63 | 78 | 2 | 1.17 | 0.34 | 3 |
| Wallops Island | 92 | 62 | 76 | -2 | 2.04 | 1.32 | 4 |
| Williamsburg | 94 | 62 | 76 | -2 | 1.63 | 0.55 | 3 |
| Keysville | 100 | 56 | 77 | 3 | 3.06 | 2.22 | 3 |
| SOUTHWESTERN | | | | | | | |
| Blacksburg AG | 87 | 49 | 69 | -1 | 2.17 | 1.26 | 2 |
| Wytheville | 87 | 45 | 67 | -4 | 1.01 | 0.11 | 2 |
| Saltville | 89 | 49 | 70 | -2 | 1.03 | -0.02 | 4 |
| Richlands | 88 | 48 | 68 | 2 | 1.76 | 0.71 | 3 |
| SOUTHERN | | | | | | | |
| Stuart | 93 | 54 | 73 | -1 | 1.17 | 0 | 2 |
| Danville AG | 96 | 59 | 76 | -2 | 2.87 | 1.89 | 3 |
| Chatham | 92 | 53 | 72 | -3 | 1.58 | 0.62 | 3 |
| Martinsville | 93 | 53 | 73 | -2 | 1.35 | 0.27 | 5 |
| SOUTHEASTERN | | | | | | | |
| Norfolk VA | 92 | 63 | 78 | 1 | 0.09 | -0.99 | 1 |
| Oceana | 95 | 61 | 78 | 1 | 0.07 | -0.91 | 1 |
| Emporia | 94 | 59 | 75 | 0 | 6.1 | 5.2 | 4 |
| Newport News | 89 | 63 | 79 | 3 | 2.14 | 1.14 | 3 |

Departure from normal based on 1961-90 normals.

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

WEATHER & CROPS

Week Of July 3 –July 9, 2006

| CROP CONDITION PERCENT | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
| Pastures | 3 | 9 | 39 | 42 | 7 |
| Livestock | 1 | 6 | 25 | 57 | 11 |
| Other Hay | 7 | 18 | 36 | 38 | 1 |
| Alfalfa Hay | 5 | 10 | 31 | 45 | 9 |
| Corn | 0 | 4 | 20 | 53 | 23 |
| Soybeans | 0 | 4 | 15 | 64 | 17 |
| Winter Wheat | 0 | 7 | 27 | 43 | 23 |
| Flue-cured Tobacco | 0 | 4 | 19 | 65 | 12 |
| Burley Tobacco | 0 | 0 | 15 | 63 | 22 |
| Dark Fire-cured Tobacco | 1 | 16 | 41 | 42 | 0 |
| Peanuts | 0 | 1 | 15 | 74 | 10 |
| Cotton | 0 | 6 | 35 | 48 | 11 |
| All Apples | 0 | 1 | 58 | 41 | 0 |
| Peaches | 0 | 11 | 31 | 57 | 1 |
| Grapes | 0 | 1 | 9 | 88 | 2 |

| CROP PROGRESS PERCENT-WITH COMPARISONS | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Crop | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5 Year Avg. |
| Corn Silked | 45 | 35 | 30 | 40 |
| Corn Dough | 3 | 0 | 1 | 7 |
| Soybeans Planted | 90 | 78 | 92 | 91 |
| Soybeans Emerged | 80 | 69 | 84 | 82 |
| Soybeans Blooming | 6 | 0 | 3 | 6 |
| Winter Wheat Harvested | 80 | 54 | 79 | 86 |
| Barley Harvested | 96 | 93 | 99 | 98 |
| Peanuts Pegged | 30 | 20 | 30 | 33 |
| Cotton Squaring | 65 | 55 | 49 | 70 |
| Cotton Setting Bolls | 3 | 0 | 12 | 14 |
| Summer Potatoes Harvested | 15 | 15 | 6 | 32 |
| Summer Apples Harvested | 10 | 0 | 0 | 9 |

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

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

MECKLENBURG COUNTY (C. Taylor Clarke, Jr.):
Tobacco topping has begun although rain last week and this week has caused some drowning of tobacco in low areas, poor draining spots and row ends. Storms Wednesday night and Thursday morning blew some tobacco down in spots. All parts of the county have now received at least two inches of rain.

FAUQUIER COUNTY (Tim Mize):
Scattered thunderstorms have provided needed rains in most areas. Corn has recovered earlier drought stress. Beans have recovered also and with good canopy cover.