

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

USDA/NASS/Virginia Field Office
 P.O. Box 1659
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<http://www.nass.usda.gov/va>



WEATHER & CROPS



Week of: Oct. 22 - 28, 2007

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CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 28, 2007

The majority of the Commonwealth received much needed precipitation this week. Days suitable for work were 3.8. Topsoil moisture was generally adequate. The rain that fell over a 3-4 day span put somewhat of a welcomed damper on farm operations this week. Livestock producers are hoping that the rainfall will improve pasture conditions despite expected frosts in the coming week. Most producers are feeding hay despite the high demand. Small grain plantings have slowed with attention beginning to turn to harvesting double-crop soybeans. The cotton harvest continues this week. Other activities this week included finalizing crop insurance and booking corn and soybeans.



YOUR FUTURE

The 2007 Census of Agriculture gives you the opportunity to shape your future. Your response provides vital information that influences decisions about community development, funding availability, farm policy and other critical issues. Your feedback in the Census helps create a brighter tomorrow.

Look for your Census form in the mail in early January 2008. Please complete and return it by February 4. Your participation ensures a better future for your operation, your family and your community.

United States Department of Agriculture
 National Agricultural Statistics Service



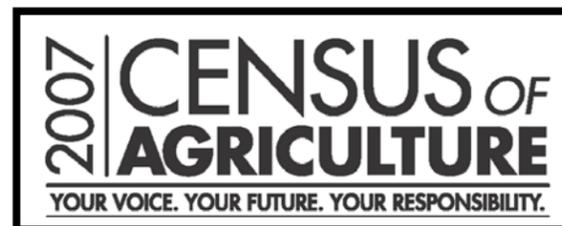
www.agcensus.usda.gov

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
October 28, 2007	1	25	71	3
October 21, 2007	56	38	6	0
October 14, 2007	55	39	6	0
October 7, 2007	61	35	4	0
September 30, 2007	52	36	12	0

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Address Service Requested

Virginia Cooperative Extension Service

Virginia Tech

Virginia State University

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pastures	32	41	20	6	1
Livestock	3	13	35	41	8
Other Hay	35	30	27	6	2
Alfalfa Hay	10	25	33	26	6
Soybeans	15	22	32	30	1
Barley	6	22	43	19	10

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 28, 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 Oct. 27	Mar. 1 to Oct. 27 normal *	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	69	51	76	39	60	7	4183	3822	4.65	6.18	-0.61	33.67	-2.92
Norfolk	79	64	87	52	72	14	4776	4285	3.39	4.03	-3.04	28.28	-10.99
Richmond	77	55	84	45	66	11	4713	4149	3.53	4.65	-2.39	33.71	-3.33
Roanoke	69	53	78	43	61	7	4569	NA	5.16	6.45	-0.06	27.02	-9.00
Wash/Dulles	70	52	82	42	61	9	4286	NA	3.17	4.92	-1.81	22.58	-12.15

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

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT-WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn For Grain Harvested	98	88	81	87
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	98	91	95	95
Soybeans Harvested	40	30	27	31
Winter Wheat Seeded	25	17	41	39
Barley Seeded	83	60	88	84
Peanuts Dug	95	91	85	88
Peanuts Combined	80	78	67	72
Cotton Harvested	70	51	41	46

EASTERN

NORTHUMBERLAND (Matt Lewis)

Last week saw a temporary end to agricultural drought conditions, as areas received anywhere from 3 to 6+ inches of rain over a four day period. Farmers are finishing with wheat seeding and shifting attention to the harvest of double-crop soybeans. Though soybean yields are low due to drought conditions, total revenue is not far from average due to higher commodity prices. Other activities during last week's rainy spell included finalizing crop insurance claims for corn and booking of corn and soybean seed for 2008 planting.

RICHMOND (Kelly Liddington)

Received anywhere from 3 to 6+ inches of rain in the area over three days. It was a good first installment on the precipitation deficiency. Hay feeding is in full swing now for most cow herds.

WESTERN

HIGHLAND (Rodney Leech)

Most areas of the County received 3.5 to 4.5 inches in a 3-day span. The rain was a good soaker that recharged springs and streams. Rye cover crops are responding and a green tint is showing up on pastures and hay meadows.

SOUTHWESTERN

GRAYSON (Kevin Spurlin)

Areas of the county received from 6 to 10 inches of rain last week which provided much needed drought relief. The rain was steady, but not excessive. Flooding was minimal with most of the rain soaking in.

MONTGOMERY (Barry Robinson)

Most the area received approximately 3-5 inches of rain last week, greatly improving the soil moisture situation, and that of pastures, hayfields and winter grain crops (if in the ground). But predicted killing frosts will greatly slow rejuvenation of forages, so rebound may not be as strong as hoped.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)

Brunswick County got much needed rain as did much of Virginia. There were 4 inches or more that fell. Cooler temperatures helped with some grass growth along with the rain. Some planted small grains are sprouting after the rain. The livestock and producers both enjoyed the rain.