

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY, cont.

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY (Matt Lewis):

Continuing wet weather did not allow the soybean harvest to continue this week. With just over half of soybeans harvested so far, the moisture and harvest delay could cause seed quality declines. With the exception of a few wet areas, winter wheat looks excellent due to recent warm weather. While farm equipment sits idle, many farmers are taking the opportunity to book 2007 inputs such as seed and fertilizer. Others are delivering stored grain to local elevators.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY (David Moore):

Things are at a standstill due to rainy and wet conditions. Some late patches of corn were harvested this week. Most small grains are planted. Conditions have been humid and cloudy for the past few days. Soybean harvest has been halted since the end of last week. A couple of producers harvested soybeans this week and dried them. Soil sampling and lime applications, scouting for aphids and weeds in small grain continue. Plans for winter meetings also continue.

ACCOMACK COUNTY (James N. Belote):

Soybean and cotton harvest were delayed by wet weather, as well as wheat planting and field cleanup for stake tomatoes. Farmers are starting to get worried because of the delay. They are usually finished up by Thanksgiving. Farm meetings start in about 2 weeks. Continued harvest delay could affect meeting attendance and pesticide recertification sessions. Further delays could result in some crop quality and yield losses plus farmers ability to pay bills due to delayed cash flow.

ESSEX COUNTY (Keith Balderson):

More heavy rainfall during the week slowed field work. A few soybeans were harvested late in the reporting period. Corn and soybean seed sales for 2007 have begun, and some producers are making their selections.

CAMPBELL COUNTY (Scott Reiter):

Some producers continue to try to make hay to make up for lost production this spring. The wet and cool conditions do not allow for good hay curing. Small grain seeding is still struggling with the wet conditions.

CAROLINE COUNTY (McGann Saphir):

Pastures, hayfields, and small grain crops are looking very good to excellent. Some crop fields are flooded from recent heavy rains. Most soybean fields have been harvested. Those that are left are in land that was too wet to work. Farmers are tidying up fields and hedgerows, fixing fences, hunting and preparing to attend winter meetings.

ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY (Jon Repair):

Rains continue to delay the finish of fall grain harvest and wheat seeding. Flooding on Thursday caused a fair amount of fencing damage; however no major problems were reported. Some hay harvesting is being done between rains. This hay is being harvested wet and wrapped for baling. Hay being made now will hopefully offset hay supplies that were depleted this summer as livestock feeding was needed in August and early September.

MECKLENBURG COUNTY (C. Taylor Clarke, Jr.):

Mecklenburg County has received from 5 to 7 inches of rain in the past 10 days which has halted harvest of soybeans and small grain planting. With current weather forecast there will be very limited field work occurring due to wet soil conditions.



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WEATHER & CROPS



Week of: Nov 13-Nov 19, 2006

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CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 19, 2006

Rainy weather conditions and mild temperatures continued this week throughout most areas of the Commonwealth. Days suitable for field work were 3.1. Most areas experienced above-normal precipitation and warmer-than-normal temperatures. The state received an average of 1.8 inches of rainfall this week. The average high temperature was 70 degrees, with average lows just above freezing. Heavy rainfall and flooding filled many water sources to full capacity, which caused some fence damage, and washed away some recently seeded small grain fields. However, reporters in most areas say pastures, hay fields, and small grain crops look very good. Rains continued to delay harvest efforts and other field work this week. Some producers continued to make hay as the weather allowed to help with feed supplies for the winter months. In areas where pastures are depleting, cattle producers are moving stock to feeding areas and have begun supplemental feeding. Overall, livestock are reported to be in good condition. Farm meetings are scheduled to begin in the coming weeks. Some reporters fear that the delayed harvest and planting efforts will affect meeting attendance, as well as result in declining crop quality and yield potential if rains continue. Other farm activities this week included soil sampling, lime applications, scouting for aphids and weeds, tidying fields, repairing fences, and hunting activities.

Week Ending	TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT			
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
October 22, 2006	0	2	82	16
October 29, 2006	0	1	77	22
November 5, 2006	0	1	84	15
November 12, 2006	0	1	74	25
November 19, 2006	0	0	64	36



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WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 19, 2006

WEATHER STATION	TEMPERATURE (degrees Fahrenheit)				PRECIPITATION (inches)		
	HI	LO	Average	Departure from Normal	TOTAL	Departure from Normal	Days
NORTHERN							
Woodstock	73	32	49	4	1.18	0.55	3
Warrenton	68	34	50	4	1.90	1.09	4
Winchester 7 SE	68	30	48	4	1.03	0.32	5
Dale Enterprises	68	30	48	3	1.83	1.20	5
WESTERN							
Glasgow	73	31	50	5	2.48	1.78	2
Roanoke AP	71	34	51	5	2.25	1.51	2
Waynesboro	65	30	47	4	0.20	-0.50	2
Staunton AG	69	31	48	5	1.78	1.08	3
CENTRAL							
Charlottesville	70	30	51	3	1.37	0.53	3
Piedmont Res ST	70	33	51	5	0.97	0.13	3
Bremo Bluff	72	33	52	5	2.22	1.45	2
Richmond AP	73	37	56	7	3.24	2.49	2
EASTERN							
Eastville	71	44	57	6	1.24	0.54	2
Wallops Island	69	37	56	5	2.37	1.67	3
Williamsburg	73	36	54	4	1.30	0.46	2
Keysville	71	31	51	4	2.18	1.43	3
SOUTHWESTERN							
Blacksburg AG	65	27	44	2	1.42	0.75	2
Wytheville	64	28	44	2	0.86	0.23	3
Saltville	62	31	44	-2	0.85	0.15	2
Richlands	62	31	43	3	0.55	-0.23	2
SOUTHERN							
Stuart	72	30	51	4	2.48	1.64	2
Danville AG	72	31	52	4	1.68	0.96	3
Chatham	70	30	49	3	1.11	0.34	2
Martinsville	70	29	48	2	2.31	1.56	3
SOUTHEASTERN							
Norfolk VA	76	44	58	6	3.05	2.38	3
Oceana	74	38	58	5	2.23	1.50	3
Emporia	71	35	54	6	3.00	2.16	2
Newport News	78	42	59	8	3.62	2.95	2

Departure from normal based on 1961-90 normals.

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

WEATHER & CROPS

Week Of November 13-November 19 2006

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	0	3	16	61	20
Other Hay	2	14	25	46	13
Alfalfa Hay	2	14	31	36	17
Winter Wheat	0	3	23	55	19
Barley	0	1	20	62	17

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT-WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Grain Harvested	95	92	100	100
Winter Wheat Seeded	71	64	85	77
Winter Wheat Emerged	57	39	24	32
Soybeans Harvested	62	55	83	75
Peanuts Combined	98	94	100	98
Cotton Harvested	80	70	86	80

FORAGE PERCENT OBTAINED FROM PASTURES		
Crop	This Week	Last Week
Beef Cattle Forage % Obtained from Pastures	72	80
Milk Cow Forage % Obtained from Pastures	15	22
Sheep Forage % Obtained from Pastures	78	85

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

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

GREENSVILLE COUNTY (Cyndi Estienne):

Continued rains have slowed the progress of harvest in Greensville County.

BRUNSWICK COUNTY (Cynthia L. Gregg):

Rain this week slowed small grain planting and the finishing of harvest. Deer season started this weekend. Minor flooding was a problem last week along with some washing in small grain planted fields. Livestock is getting hay that is of unknown and lesser quality than desired. Some stockpiled grass is coming along nicely and hopefully will provide some extended grazing this fall and early winter.

WYTHE COUNTY (Joseph W. Massey):

Farm work mainly consisted of feeding and some corn harvest. Pastures are almost depleted and supplemental feeding is ongoing. Condition of livestock is good.

LEE COUNTY (Harold Jerrell):

The county received 1.4" of rainfall this week as of Thursday morning.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY (Barry Robinson):

We received another 1"+ of rainfall this past week, benefiting winter crops.

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY (John Welsh):

Heavy rainfall mid-week caused some flash flooding in the county. Field loss is becoming significant in un-harvested corn.

HIGHLAND COUNTY (Rodney Leech):

Heavy rains at mid-week got most streams flowing at full capacity. Producers are preparing for winter feeding by moving stock to feeding areas.