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The 2007 Census of Agriculture is your chance to share your voice. Your response provides vital information that impacts decisions about community development, funding availability, farm policy and other key issues. By actively participating in the Census, you join with other voices to make positive changes.

Look for the Census in your mailbox in early January 2008. Complete and return it by February 4, 2008. Remember, when you lend your voice, you help ensure a better future for your operation, your family and your community.

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

www.agcensus.usda.gov



**National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service**

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WEATHER & CROPS



Week of: Nov. 12 – Nov. 18, 2007

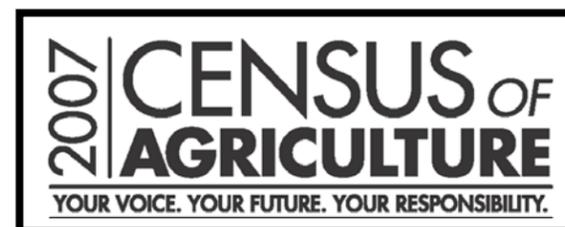
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CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 18, 2007

The Commonwealth endured another cool week with some areas receiving frost. Days suitable for work were 5.5. Topsoil moisture was generally adequate. Pastures and hayfields continue to try and regenerate, but frost and colder temperatures have considerably slowed their efforts. Livestock have been able to take advantage of better pasture conditions, though many are still being culled in case of a long and hard winter. The soybean harvest is very close to completion with yields being reported as average, although better than expected. The cotton harvest has also drawn to a close. With the increase in topsoil moisture, small grain plantings have increased. Other activities this week include small grain scouting, liming, soil sampling, and some field prep for wheat planting.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
November 18, 2007	20	35	45	0
November 11, 2007	12	35	52	1
November 4, 2007	15	32	52	1
October 28, 2007	1	25	71	3
October 21, 2007	56	38	6	0



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CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pastures	32	30	28	10	0
Livestock	5	15	32	40	8
Other Hay	44	21	28	7	0
Alfalfa Hay	28	23	35	14	0
Winter Wheat	2	9	31	52	6
Barley	2	8	26	56	8

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 18, 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 Nov. 17	Mar. 1 to Nov. 17 Normal *	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	59	37	70	28	48	1	4285	3938	0.19	6.41	-2.61	33.90	-4.62
Norfolk	61	44	76	32	53	0	4905	4440	0.21	6.07	-3.12	30.32	-11.21
Richmond	62	41	76	31	51	2	4841	4299	0.63	5.36	-4.04	34.42	-5.14
Roanoke	61	40	73	29	50	2	4687	NA	0.06	6.53	-2.29	27.10	-11.06
Wash/Dulles	57	38	69	27	47	1	4379	NA	1.08	6.23	-2.79	23.89	-13.43

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

EASTERN

ACCOMACK (Jim Belote)

Farmers are planting as much wheat as they can, as they are optimistic for 2008. Soybean yields are average and better than expected. Happy Thanksgiving!

KING GEORGE (Regina Prunty)

The soybean harvest is being completed. Pastures are beginning to show some recovery from summer drought. Wheat planting is under way.

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Soybean harvest was delayed until late week and weekend due to showers. Wheat planting continues with more wheat going in after soybeans. Producers continue to make supply and seed purchase decisions for 2008. Farm activities include small grain scouting, liming, soil sampling, and some field prep for wheat planting.

WESTMORELAND (Sam Johnson)

Showers and cloudy weather slowed soybean harvest and small grain planting. We received about 3/4 inch across the area. Some late broccoli harvest continues as farmers are still soil sampling and lining up crop fertilizer needs.

NORTHERN

ROCKINGHAM (Tracy Tomascik)

Field conditions were good with light rains throughout week. Soybean and corn harvests are nearing completion. Livestock sales were good with slightly high numbers of cull cows being moved.

SOUTHWESTERN

MONTGOMERY (Barry Robinson)

Some light rain was received last week. Hayfields and pastures have improved. Last of the winter grains and cover crops are almost planted.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)

The soybean harvest is close to complete. Small grains that can be planted are being planted, providing the producer could find the seed. Deer season opened Saturday and many folks are hunting. Hay is being fed to livestock pretty much daily. Cows are falling in body condition and selling is continuing of cattle and other livestock.

CENTRAL

CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)

Soybean harvest is almost complete. Farmers are harvesting the last fields and planting small grain and cover crops. Many cover crops are being planted late as producers waited for adequate soil moisture to plant. Farmers are cleaning up and storing harvesting equipment and shopping for seed and fertilizer for next year. Soybean yields were better than expected averaging between 25 and 45 bu/A. Many farmers have been selling their soybeans right off the field, as prices continue to be strong. Others are storing beans, expecting the prices to improve even more.

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT-WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Soybeans Harvested	83	78	61	65
Winter Wheat Seeded	87	82	70	74
Winter Wheat Emerged	40	37	54	26
Cotton Harvested	95	90	79	76
Beef Cattle Forage	27	35	NA	NA
Milk Cow Forage	12	11	NA	NA
Sheep Forage	36	54	NA	NA