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United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service

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# WEATHER & CROPS



Week of: Nov. 19 – Nov. 25, 2007

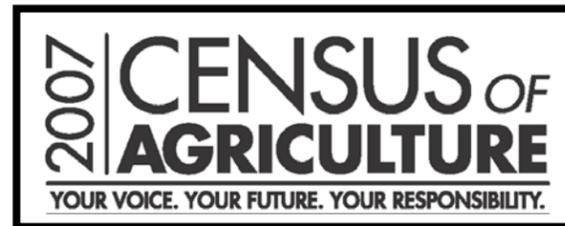
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## CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 25, 2007

The Commonwealth experienced typical autumn weather this week. Days suitable for work were 6.1. Topsoil moisture was generally short this week. Pastures and hayfields have shown some regrowth in some areas, allowing many producers to feed less hay to their livestock. Livestock are still being culled in case of a harsh winter. The soybean harvest is very close to completion with yields being reported as average, although better than expected. Small grain plantings continue as the weather allows. Other activities this week include drying grain, cleaning up harvesting and planting equipment, and beginning to attend pesticide re-certification classes.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
November 25, 2007	29	39	31	1
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



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CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pastures	36	39	20	5	0
Livestock	2	14	34	42	8
Other Hay	58	20	18	4	0
Alfalfa Hay	36	25	28	11	0
Winter Wheat	0	2	35	61	2
Barley	0	0	38	55	7

**VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 25, 2007**

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/ 2/		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	60	34	73	19	47	2	4285	3938	0.00	6.41	-3.30	33.90	-5.51
Norfolk	62	44	78	37	53	2	4905	4440	0.00	6.07	-3.88	30.32	-11.79
Richmond	62	38	76	27	50	3	4841	4299	0.01	5.37	-4.57	34.43	-5.60
Roanoke	62	37	74	21	49	3	4687	NA	0.00	6.53	-2.93	27.10	-11.61
Wash/Dulles	56	36	76	20	46	3	4379	NA	0.00	6.23	-3.65	23.89	-14.03

1/ Formula used: GDD = (daily maximum (86<sup>o</sup>) + daily minimum (50<sup>o</sup>))/2-50<sup>o</sup>; where 86<sup>o</sup> is used if the maximum exceeds 86<sup>o</sup> and 50<sup>o</sup> is used if the minimum falls below 50<sup>o</sup>.  
 2/ No further data for growing degree days.  
 \* 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.
Soybeans Harvested	88	83	73	75
Winter Wheat Seeded	90	87	81	83
Winter Wheat Emerged	69	40	65	34
Cotton Harvested	100	95	89	84
Beef Cattle Forage	23	27	NA	NA
Milk Cow Forage	9	12	NA	NA
Sheep Forage	46	36	NA	NA

**EASTERN**

**MIDDLESEX (David Moore)**

Wheat planting is all but over. Soybean harvest progress was good toward the weeks end due to dry and cool conditions. Yields are still good to very good even in double crop fields and quality has remained good for the most part. Producers are now making marketing, planting and purchasing decisions. Wheat and soybean prices are very good now. Corn prices are also higher than normal, but cost of inputs for next year's crops are also up. Producers should do some calculations on their individual break-even costs.

**WESTERN**

**HIGHLAND (Rodney Leech)**

Fence and building repairs, hunting, and feeding livestock are the chief activities this week. The hard freeze has halted any chance of late fall growth and rye cover crops are fair to average.

**SOUTHWESTERN**

**SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)**

Thanksgiving week provided some cooler temperatures with showers. Leaves have mostly dropped and fall appears to have come in to stay. Most farmers are planning for next spring and looking for alternatives and options due to expected high costs of fertilizer. Cover crops have been slow to germinate and stands are weak.

**SOUTHEASTERN**

**VIRGINIA BEACH (Cal Schiemann)**

Dry weather continues to slow planting of small grain. Moisture is needed for germination. The soybean harvest is proceeding rapidly.

**CENTRAL**

**CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)**

Pastures continue to recover from the extreme drought conditions of summer. Livestock are finding fairly good late-season grazing conditions. Most small grain and cover crops have been planted and are doing fairly well. Soil moisture is adequate, but we are still in need of a lot more moisture to replenish the soil, and ground water reserves. Farmers are drying and hauling soybeans and corn to market, marketing cattle, cleaning up harvesting and planting equipment, and beginning to attend pesticide re-certification classes.