

CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 17, 2005

The Commonwealth of Virginia experienced variable temperatures during the week ending April 17, 2005. The week began with unseasonably warm temperatures, but by week's end some areas experienced a light frost. Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.0. Many farmers were able to make good progress on corn planting. Apple producers reported that apple buds are beginning to open. Some farmers were able to finish topdressing wheat with nitrogen. Although the Commonwealth dealt with a late week frost, Virginia's strawberry crop—with many new crowns emerging—was showing signs of being strong. Some producers are still behind schedule on the application of fertilizer on forages. Greenhouse plant conditions remained good. Other farming activities included peach tree pruning, orchard spraying for early season diseases and insects, lambing and calving, building and repairing fences, fertilizing pasture ground, seeding, scouting small grains, and manure spreading.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
April 3, 2005	0	1	51	48
April 10, 2005	0	1	61	38
April 17, 2005	1	5	66	28

CROP CONDITION PERCENT

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pastures	1	8	31	49	11
Livestock	0	3	25	61	11
Hay, (other)	1	4	43	47	5
Hay, (alfalfa)	0	3	42	53	2
Winter Wheat	4	11	21	52	12
Barley	2	7	24	56	11
Tobacco Greenhouse	0	0	10	77	13
Tobacco Plantbeds	0	0	27	71	2
Summer Potatoes	5	15	45	30	5
Apples, (all)	0	0	22	78	0
Peaches	1	1	44	51	3
Grapes	0	0	42	53	5

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT - WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Average
Corn for Grain Planted	18	8	22	23
Corn for Grain Emerged	3	NA	NA	NA
Winter Wheat Headed	1	0	3	NA
Tobacco Plantbeds Seeded	100	99	100	100
Cotton Planted	3	NA	NA	NA
Summer Potatoes Planted	77	70	82	92

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 17, 2005

WEATHER STATION	TEMPERATURE (degrees Fahrenheit)				PRECIPITATION (inches)		
	HI	LO	Average	Departure From Normal	TOTAL	Departure From Normal	Days
NORTHERN							
Woodstock	73	26	48	-6	0.06	-0.57	1
The Plains	73	24	48	-6	0.07	-0.69	1
Winchester 7 SE	74	25	48	-3	0.00	-0.70	0
Dale Enterprise	73	28	49	-4	0.05	-0.51	2
WESTERN							
Glasgow	80	29	51	-5	0.32	-0.31	2
Roanoke AP	79	31	52	-4	0.33	-0.41	2
Waynesboro	74	28	48	-4	0.07	-0.56	1
Staunton AG	74	28	49	-2	0.14	-0.49	2
CENTRAL							
Somerset	74	31	50	-5	0.12	-0.58	1
Piedmont Res ST	72	35	51	-4	0.02	-0.68	1
Bremo Bluff	79	26	51	-5	0.24	-0.41	2
Richmond AP	74	35	52	-5	0.08	-0.56	1
EASTERN							
Eastville	62	33	48	-8	0.13	-0.50	2
Wallops Island	63	35	47	-9	0.04	-0.48	1
Williamsburg	72	37	52	-6	0.27	-0.36	1
Keysville	82	32	54	-2	0.27	-0.43	2
SOUTHWESTERN							
Blacksburg AG	79	26	48	-3	0.63	-0.21	2
Wytheville	79	25	48	-2	1.06	0.36	2
Saltville	79	31	52	1	1.14	0.30	2
Richlands	79	30	52	6	1.19	0.35	2
SOUTHERN							
Stuart	81	32	53	-2	0.43	-0.55	2
Danville AG	82	35	52	-5	0.20	-0.52	1
Chatham	78	28	48	-6	0.10	-0.67	2
Martinsville	78	25	51	-4	0.19	-0.63	2
SOUTHEASTERN							
Norfolk VA	65	42	49	-8	0.55	-0.15	2
Oceana	67	34	48	-9	0.87	0.24	2
Emporia	78	36	52	-4	0.53	-0.16	2
Newport News	70	36	52	-5	0.18	-0.52	1

Departure from Normal based on 1961-90 Normals.

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