

WEATHER & CROPS

CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 20, 2003

Wet conditions persisted this week for most of Virginia. Moisture from last week carried over and delayed field work for the first half of this week. By the end of the week some farmers began planting, while others were still hindered by the wet soil. Days suitable for fieldwork were 3.7. Some regions of Virginia experienced warm weather and clear skies, which has encouraged foliage growth. A few farmers used light tillage to break the soil crust and facilitate faster drying. Other farming activities included application of fertilizer, strawberries blooming one to two weeks late, and scouting for the cereal leaf beetle and powdery mildew.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
April 20	0	1	57	42
April 13	0	0	55	45
April 6	0	4	68	28
March 30	0	4	58	38

CROP CONDITION PERCENT

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pastures	1	7	30	50	12
Livestock	1	7	24	59	9
Other Hay	1	9	21	61	8
Alfalfa Hay	0	3	24	60	13
Winter Wheat	4	12	34	42	8
Barley	0	10	34	49	7
Tobacco Greenhouse	1	2	20	55	22
Tobacco Plantbeds	7	8	40	45	0
Summer Potatoes	15	20	35	30	0
Apples	0	0	58	37	5
Peaches	7	0	36	49	8

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT - WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Average
Corn Planted	17	8	41	29
Corn Emerged	1	NA	NA	NA
Winter Wheat Headed	4	1	19	4
Summer Potatoes Planted	85	70	100	99

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WEATHER STATION	TEMPERATURE (degrees Fahrenheit)				PRECIPITATION (inches)		
	HI	LO	Average	Departure From Normal	TOTAL	Departure From Normal	Days
Blacksburg	79	34	54	3	0.84	0.00	2
Bremo Bluff	89	32	54	-2	0.69	0.01	2
Burkes Garden	74	31	52	5	0.98	0.14	2
Camp Pickett	84	38	56	0	0.61	-0.08	2
Chatham	83	35	55	2	0.39	-0.38	3
Dale Enterprise	82	35	53	1	0.47	-0.09	3
Danville AG	85	41	58	1	0.24	-0.48	1
Floyd	78	29	51	0	1.12	0.28	2
Free Union	87	38	56	-1	0.64	-0.12	2
Glasgow	86	37	57	2	0.59	-0.05	2
Hillsville	80	32	55	3	2.31	1.54	3
Lake Of The Woods	85	37	55	-1	0.49	-0.21	1
Lynchburg	84	38	57	2	0.28	-0.42	2
Mount Weather	80	31	52	3	0.48	-0.34	2
Norfolk	83	42	57	-1	0.15	-0.55	1
Piedmont Rsrch. Stat.	85	37	55	1	0.64	-0.06	2
Pulaski	80	34	54	3	1.39	0.75	3
Richlands	78	33	56	9	0.74	-0.10	2
Richmond	85	40	58	0	0.13	-0.54	1
Roanoke	83	40	58	3	0.77	0.00	2
Saltville	80	33	56	4	2.12	1.28	2
Somerset	84	36	55	0	0.50	-0.20	2
Staunton	81	37	54	3	0.55	-0.08	3
Stuart	83	40	57	3	1.64	0.66	3
The Plains	84	36	53	-2	1.19	0.42	2
Washington Dulles	85	36	56	3	0.64	-0.06	1
Waynesboro	83	34	51	-1	0.56	-0.07	2
Winchester	83	32	52	0	0.55	-0.15	2
Woodstock	84	36	54	-2	0.45	-0.18	1
Wytheville	78	32	53	3	1.42	0.71	2

Departure from Normal based on 1961-90 Normals.

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