

WEATHER & CROPS

CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 1, 2005

Dry and cool weather conditions were the norm in the Commonwealth during the week of April 25 – May 1, 2005. It was an excellent week for farmers to work outside. Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.0. The dry conditions delayed corn planting in some areas of the state while some producers reported that a small percentage the corn crop is beginning to emerge. The cool temperatures have kept grasses from their spring growth spurt. Producers in some areas of the state reported that the hay is very short and heading. Farmers in other areas reported that alfalfa and grass hay is approaching harvest height. Tobacco farmers are treating fields for transplanting. Many farmers are looking forward to planting more corn, cotton, beans, soybeans, and peanuts next week. Other farming activities for this week included building and repairing fences, lambing, calving, clipping pastures, doing roadwork, scouting small grain fields, fertilization, and applying herbicides and pesticides.

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
April 24, 2005	0	7	75	18
May 1, 2005	0	14	73	13

CROP CONDITION PERCENT

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pastures	1	4	30	53	12
Livestock	0	2	20	65	13
Hay, (other)	0	5	38	52	5
Hay, (alfalfa)	0	3	43	47	7
Winter Wheat	3	10	24	50	13
Barley	1	8	22	56	13
Tobacco Greenhouse	0	5	16	61	18
Summer Potatoes	5	10	45	35	5
Apples, (all)	0	0	42	58	0
Peaches	0	1	41	53	5
Grapes	0	0	23	72	5

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT - WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Average
Corn Planted	54	35	55	52
Corn Emerged	21	6	21	18
Soybeans Planted	4	0	3	2
Winter Wheat Headed	10	5	25	21
Peanuts Planted	6	0	6	11
Cotton Planted	22	9	37	30
Summer Potatoes Planted	98	87	99	100

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 1, 2005

WEATHER STATION	TEMPERATURE (degrees Fahrenheit)				PRECIPITATION (inches)		
	HI	LO	Average	Departure From Normal	TOTAL	Departure From Normal	Days
NORTHERN							
Woodstock	70	33	50	-9	1.00	0.32	3
The Plains	71	33	52	-6	0.80	-0.03	3
Winchester 7 SE	71	31	51	-6	0.52	-0.25	3
Dale Enterprise	67	35	50	-7	0.61	-0.05	2
WESTERN							
Glasgow	70	39	53	-7	1.16	0.43	3
Roanoke AP	72	43	55	-5	0.41	-0.42	5
Waynesboro	67	36	51	-5	0.90	0.17	2
Staunton AG	65	35	51	-5	0.82	0.09	3
CENTRAL							
Somerset	69	38	53	-6	0.90	0.07	4
Piedmont Res ST	70	39	54	-5	0.99	0.16	3
Bremo Bluff	74	34	54	-5	0.27	-0.49	4
Richmond AP	76	43	59	-3	0.84	0.10	2
EASTERN							
Eastville	77	47	59	-1	1.04	0.41	3
Wallops Island	70	45	57	-3	1.24	0.66	4
Williamsburg	78	44	61	1	0.44	-0.35	2
Keysville	73	40	57	-3	0.85	0.08	2
SOUTHWESTERN							
Blacksburg AG	67	31	48	-7	0.47	-0.40	4
Wytheville	67	29	46	-8	0.76	-0.06	3
Saltville	64	30	48	-9	1.90	0.96	6
Richlands	64	29	46	-6	1.86	0.94	6
SOUTHERN							
Stuart	69	34	53	-6	0.62	-0.38	4
Danville AG	71	38	55	-7	0.94	0.17	4
Chatham	70	32	52	-6	1.00	0.13	4
Martinsville	67	36	52	-7	0.91	0.04	4
SOUTHEASTERN							
Norfolk VA	80	42	60	-1	0.39	-0.36	3
Oceana	79	43	60	1	0.20	-0.52	2
Emporia	77	40	56	-4	0.85	0.14	3
Newport News	82	47	62	2	0.10	-0.65	2

Departure from Normal based on 1961-90 Normals.

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