

WEATHER & CROPS

CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 8, 2005

Unseasonably cool temperatures continued to be the norm in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Although many days were mostly sunny, there were two days in which rain showers fell. Despite the showers, farmers were able to continue fieldwork. Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.0. The cool temperatures have stunted the growth of many small grains, corn, and fruit crops. Many producers in the state are preparing for the first cutting of hay so they can maximize all the available nutrient content. Many farmers are concerned about the weather and temperatures related to the hay curing process. There was a 19% increase in the amount of corn planted compared to the previous week. Due to the cool temperatures, corn is emerging slowly. Vegetable and soybean planting is underway in most areas of the state. The weather did slow insect activity and there have not been any major problems with cereal leaf beetle in barley and wheat at this time. Other farming activities included building and repairing fences, fertilizer application, scouting small grain fields, doing roadwork, and applying herbicides and pesticides.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
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
May 8, 2005	1	22	69	8

CROP CONDITION PERCENT

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pastures	0	4	26	60	10
Livestock	0	1	19	68	12
Hay, (other)	1	4	39	53	3
Hay, (alfalfa)	0	2	33	57	8
Corn	0	5	27	61	7
Winter Wheat	3	10	21	53	13
Barley	1	9	23	55	12
Tobacco Greenhouse	0	0	14	71	15
Summer Potatoes	10	5	35	45	5
Apples, (all)	0	0	52	48	0
Peaches	0	0	32	65	3
Grapes	0	0	13	82	5

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT - WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Average
Corn Planted	73	54	66	65
Corn Emerged	42	21	40	27
Soybeans Planted	8	4	9	7
Winter Wheat Headed	39	10	68	37
Peanuts Planted	10	6	22	33
Cotton Planted	61	22	63	60

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 8, 2005

WEATHER STATION	TEMPERATURE (degrees Fahrenheit)				PRECIPITATION (inches)		
	HI	LO	Average	Departure From Normal	TOTAL	Departure From Normal	Days
NORTHERN							
Woodstock	68	28	47	-14	0.00	-0.76	0
The Plains	69	29	49	-11	0.01	-0.88	1
Winchester 7 SE	69	29	48	-11	0.00	-0.79	0
Dale Enterprise	69	27	47	-12	0.00	-0.75	0
WESTERN							
Glasgow	74	32	51	-10	0.10	-0.70	1
Roanoke AP	74	34	54	-8	0.03	-0.88	2
Waynesboro	68	31	48	-10	0.02	-0.79	1
Staunton AG	71	29	50	-8	0.00	-0.81	0
CENTRAL							
Somerset	71	33	50	-11	0.11	-0.85	2
Piedmont Res ST	71	32	51	-10	0.00	-0.96	0
Bremo Bluff	77	29	52	-9	0.26	-0.60	1
Richmond AP	74	41	55	-9	0.34	-0.48	4
EASTERN							
Eastville	67	45	55	-8	1.52	0.83	4
Wallops Island	68	40	53	-10	0.54	-0.13	3
Williamsburg	76	42	56	-8	1.13	0.19	4
Keysville	76	40	55	-6	0.07	-0.75	3
SOUTHWESTERN							
Blacksburg AG	69	29	48	-9	0.04	-0.87	1
Wytheville	69	31	47	-10	0.04	-0.87	1
Saltville	71	32	50	-9	0.03	-0.97	1
Richlands	71	28	47	-6	0.05	-0.93	2
SOUTHERN							
Stuart	77	35	55	-7	0.00	-1.05	0
Danville AG	78	38	55	-9	0.52	-0.32	3
Chatham	77	33	51	-9	0.03	-0.89	2
Martinsville	76	32	51	-9	0.33	-0.60	3
SOUTHEASTERN							
Norfolk VA	70	44	56	-7	1.58	0.76	3
Oceana	70	43	55	-8	1.88	1.05	4
Emporia	73	42	55	-7	1.27	0.48	3
Newport News	74	42	57	-6	1.16	0.34	3

Departure from Normal based on 1961-90 Normals.

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