



WEATHER & CROPS



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CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 18, 2005

It was another dry week for the Commonwealth. The anticipated rain from Hurricane Ophelia was much less than expected. This made the fourth consecutive week that Virginia received less than average rainfall. The average temperature for the week was 74 degrees, which was 6 degrees above normal for this time of year. Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.8. Some farmers began feeding their livestock hay due to the drought stricken pastures. The dry conditions have aided farmers with the corn harvest, with some farmers reporting slightly better than average corn yields. However, there are also reports of some counties seeking disaster declarations due to the drought like conditions. Single crop soybeans fared better than double crop beans; the double crop beans showed signs of stress caused by the heat and dryness. Other farming activities for the week included scouting crops for insects and diseases, completing the vegetable harvest, and over seeding pastures.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
August 14, 2005	7	27	62	4
August 21, 2005	4	29	63	4
August 28, 2005	7	29	62	2
September 4, 2005	8	39	52	1
September 11, 2005	18	49	33	0
September 18, 2005	28	49	23	0

CROP CONDITION PERCENT

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pastures	18	31	34	17	0
Livestock	1	6	32	54	7
Hay, (other)	18	27	35	20	0
Hay, (alfalfa)	7	23	40	28	2
Corn	4	18	27	38	13
Soybeans	6	24	31	33	6
Tobacco, Flue-Cured	1	12	37	50	0
Tobacco, Burley	0	9	18	45	28
Peanuts	0	9	23	68	0
Cotton	6	11	22	57	4
Apples, (all)	0	0	60	39	1
Grapes	0	2	20	72	6

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT - WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year
Corn Dent	89	80	95	91
Corn Mature	73	57	83	72
Corn Grain Harvested	19	9	34	31
Corn Silage Harvested	80	65	78	66
Soybeans Setting Pods	99	93	100	97
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	31	16	23	17
Winter Wheat Seeded	2	0	6	3
Barley Seeded	15	7	9	5
Flue-Cured Tobacco Harvested	63	47	89	70
Burley Tobacco Harvested	75	42	71	73
Dark Fire-Cured Tobacco Harvested	87	82	99	89
Cotton Opening Bolls	84	75	81	51
Fall Apples Harvested	69	63	55	41
Winter Apples Harvested	4	0	9	12

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 18, 2005

WEATHER STATION	TEMPERATURE (degrees Fahrenheit)				PRECIPITATION (inches)		
	HI	LO	Average	Departure From Normal	TOTAL	Departure From Normal	Days
NORTHERN							
Woodstock	92	54	73	6	0.34	-0.43	2
The Plains	89	54	74	6	0.40	-0.37	3
Winchester 7 SE	90	50	72	6	0.85	0.15	1
Dale Enterprise	89	50	70	5	0.17	-0.60	1
WESTERN							
Glasgow	90	52	73	6	0.02	-0.72	1
Roanoke AP	90	53	74	7	0.19	-0.59	1
Waynesboro	86	50	70	6	0.44	-0.33	1
Staunton AG	89	52	71	7	0.03	-0.74	1
CENTRAL							
Somerset	89	53	73	6	0.45	-0.34	3
Piedmont Res ST	88	55	75	7	1.95	1.16	2
Bremo Bluff	95	50	76	8	0.05	-0.72	1
Richmond AP	95	56	79	10	0.00	-0.77	0
EASTERN							
Eastville	90	61	77	7	0.00	-0.77	0
Wallops Island	89	55	76	4	0.69	-0.01	1
Williamsburg	92	58	78	8	0.01	-1.01	1
Keysville	93	54	75	7	0.00	-0.84	0
SOUTHWESTERN							
Blacksburg AG	87	46	68	5	0.00	-0.81	0
Wytheville	86	43	66	2	0.00	-0.70	0
Saltville	88	49	69	4	0.05	-0.72	1
Richlands	86	48	69	9	0.00	-0.77	0
SOUTHERN							
Stuart	90	52	73	7	0.49	-0.56	2
Danville AG	92	56	76	6	0.85	0.08	2
Chatham	87	49	71	4	0.44	-0.45	2
Martinsville	89	48	71	4	0.19	-0.72	1
SOUTHEASTERN							
Norfolk VA	92	68	78	7	1.33	0.42	2
Oceana	92	67	78	5	1.20	0.14	1
Emporia	92	58	78	10	0.88	0.01	2
Newport News	94	54	78	6	0.01	-0.90	1

Departure from Normal based on 1961-90 Normals.

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