



# WEATHER & CROPS



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## CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 25, 2005

Drought like conditions persisted this week in Virginia, excluding the southeastern part of the State. The southeastern region experienced needed rainfall, with some areas reporting up to 4 inches of rain. The average temperature was high for this time of year, with most of the State 6 to 10 degrees warmer than normal. Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.6. Overall, the dry weather continued to worsen field crops and pastures. Livestock was fed extra to compensate for poor pasture conditions. In some areas, farmers used unharvested hayfields as pastureland. The double crop soybeans have been more susceptible to the drought like conditions; with some producers anticipate lower than average yields. The corn harvest has slowed slightly due to the high cost of fuel. Farmers are giving corn more time in the field to dry rather than expend the fuel on drying. Some grain elevators will not accept corn because it is too wet. Other farming activities for the week included curing tobacco, planting strawberries, sampling soil, spreading lime, and harvesting squash, pumpkins, and sweet potatoes

### TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
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
September 25, 2005	38	42	19	1

### CROP CONDITION PERCENT

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pastures	26	32	30	12	0
Livestock	1	8	30	53	8
Hay, (other)	18	37	34	10	1
Hay, (alfalfa)	7	30	43	18	2
Corn	4	11	30	41	14
Soybeans	7	24	33	32	4
Peanuts	1	2	33	59	5
Cotton	0	10	30	55	5
Apples, (all)	10	10	51	29	0
Grapes	0	0	10	79	11

### CROP PROGRESS PERCENT - WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year
Corn Dent	96	89	98	95
Corn Mature	87	73	89	77
Corn Grain Harvested	34	19	39	40
Corn Silage Harvested	92	80	87	78
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	49	31	39	29
Soybeans Harvested	2	0	2	1
Winter Wheat Seeded	4	2	9	5
Barley Seeded	22	15	16	12
Flue-Cured Tobacco Harvested	75	63	94	78
Burley Tobacco Harvested	88	75	83	85
Dark Fire-Cured Tobacco Harvested	94	87	100	95
Peanuts Dug	9	0	28	17
Peanuts Combined	3	0	9	7
Cotton Opening Bolls	93	84	85	60
Cotton Harvested	5	0	6	4
Fall Apples Harvested	73	69	63	55
Winter Apples Harvested	7	4	12	22

**WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 25, 2005**

WEATHER STATION	TEMPERATURE (degrees Fahrenheit)				PRECIPITATION (inches)		
	HI	LO	Average	Departure From Normal	TOTAL	Departure From Normal	Days
<b>NORTHERN</b>							
Woodstock	91	55	71	6	0.24	-0.53	1
The Plains	90	55	71	6	0.19	-0.58	1
Winchester 7 SE	89	53	70	7	0.00	-0.70	0
Dale Enterprise	89	54	70	7	0.00	-0.77	0
<b>WESTERN</b>							
Glasgow	93	59	73	9	0.04	-0.73	1
Roanoke AP	92	60	74	9	0.00	-0.80	0
Waynesboro	89	55	70	8	0.16	-0.67	1
Staunton AG	89	55	70	9	0.00	-0.83	0
<b>CENTRAL</b>							
Somerset	91	57	72	7	0.34	-0.49	3
Piedmont Res ST	91	58	73	7	0.27	-0.56	1
Bremo Bluff	98	60	76	11	0.28	-0.49	1
Richmond AP	98	64	78	11	0.05	-0.72	2
<b>EASTERN</b>							
Eastville	89	62	76	7	0.17	-0.55	2
Wallops Island	88	58	74	5	0.00	-0.70	0
Williamsburg	92	62	77	9	0.47	-0.48	3
Keysville	93	60	76	11	0.02	-0.83	1
<b>SOUTHWESTERN</b>							
Blacksburg AG	87	52	69	8	0.00	-0.84	0
Wytheville	87	51	69	8	0.45	-0.29	1
Saltville	91	52	71	9	0.00	-0.77	0
Richlands	89	52	71	14	0.00	-0.77	0
<b>SOUTHERN</b>							
Stuart	91	58	73	8	0.25	-0.80	1
Danville AG	93	63	76	9	0.01	-0.80	1
Chatham	89	58	72	8	0.27	-0.64	1
Martinsville	89	56	72	8	0.50	-0.41	1
<b>SOUTHEASTERN</b>							
Norfolk VA	90	66	77	7	1.43	0.56	2
Oceana	90	63	76	6	0.77	-0.19	1
Emporia	92	63	77	11	1.10	0.26	2
Newport News	92	61	77	8	0.79	-0.08	2

Departure from Normal based on 1961-90 Normals.  
 Precipitation Days=Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.