



# WEATHER & CROPS



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## CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 28, 2003

Fair weather returned to Virginia after Hurricane Isabel's passing. However, a cold front mid-week brought a tornado across central Virginia, which caused further damage in that area. About 4 days were suitable for fieldwork last week. Corn harvesting has resumed where field conditions permit. While wind damage to some corn fields was extensive, many other fields survived the storms surprisingly well. The soybean crop was in generally good condition with reports of some fields starting to turn color. Seeding of barley and winter wheat continued where possible. Some vegetable fields were ruined by Hurricane Isabel in the Northern Neck. Isabel's high winds knocked fruit off of some apple trees in Virginia's fruit areas. The last week's damp conditions may affect fruit quality. Some tobacco in barns was lost due to lack of power. Other tobacco was lost when some barns were destroyed in the high winds. Other farming activities included cleaning up downed trees in fields and farmsteads, fixing fences and buildings damaged by Isabel's winds, and getting ready for cotton and peanut harvests.

### TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
September 28	0	1	63	36
September 21	0	6	61	33
September 14	1	7	69	23
September 7	0	5	73	22
August 31	1	15	73	11

### CROP CONDITION PERCENT

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pastures	0	1	15	56	28
Livestock	0	0	10	65	25
Other Hay	0	4	16	63	17
Alfalfa Hay	1	7	20	53	19
Corn for Grain	4	17	23	46	10
Soybeans	3	10	21	48	18
Peanuts	0	12	42	36	10
Cotton	1	2	33	57	7
Apples	1	7	45	41	6
Grapes	2	5	24	69	0

### CROP PROGRESS PERCENT - WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Average
Corn for Grain Dough	95	94	100	100
Corn for Grain Dent	87	84	100	97
Corn for Grain Mature	63	60	92	82
Corn for Grain Harvested	26	21	56	50
Corn for Silage Harvested	73	67	95	85
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	24	15	41	30
Soybeans Harvested	2	1	4	2
Winter Wheat Seeded	7	4	8	6
Barley Seeded	12	6	22	11
Flue Tobacco Harvested	82	68	60	74
Burley Tobacco Harvested	85	65	96	89
Fire Tobacco Harvested	97	88	97	95
Sun Tobacco Harvested	100	90	100	97
Peanuts Dug	10	5	21	21
Cotton Bolls Opening	54	42	80	68
Fall Apples Harvested	53	45	68	54
Winter Apples Harvested	18	10	33	24

**WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 28, 2003**

WEATHER STATION	TEMPERATURE (degrees Fahrenheit)				PRECIPITATION (inches)		
	HI	LO	Average	Departure From Normal	TOTAL	Departure From Normal	Days
Blacksburg	79	44	63	3	1.94	1.10	2
Bremo Bluff	87	46	69	5	2.58	1.78	3
Burkes Garden	75	38	58	3	0.90	0.13	2
Camp Pickett	83	52	68	5	1.40	0.63	1
Chatham	81	48	65	2	2.47	1.56	3
Dale Enterprise	80	45	64	2	1.62	0.88	5
Danville AG	85	55	70	4	2.80	1.96	4
Floyd	80	40	61	2	1.61	0.70	2
Free Union	78	48	65	-2	2.21	1.23	2
Glasgow	82	50	68	4	2.74	1.97	3
Hillsville	79	47	64	4	1.47	0.55	2
Lake Of The Woods	81	50	68	4	2.55	1.71	4
Lynchburg	81	47	67	3	1.38	0.61	2
Mount Weather	75	52	65	4	1.93	1.09	2
Norfolk	86	62	75	7	1.09	0.25	2
Piedmont Rsrch. Stat.	81	50	68	4	2.83	1.99	2
Pulaski	78	44	62	3	0.91	0.21	2
Richlands	80	45	63	8	0.74	-0.03	2
Richmond	84	56	71	5	0.90	0.13	2
Roanoke	82	49	67	4	1.48	0.65	2
Saltville	81	47	65	3	1.32	0.55	3
Somerset	89	49	73	8	1.90	1.06	3
Staunton	79	46	64	4	2.57	1.73	4
Stuart	82	49	67	4	2.26	1.23	2
The Plains	80	47	67	3	3.39	2.62	3
Washington Dulles	81	49	68	5	2.69	1.93	4
Waynesboro	79	48	66	5	2.18	1.34	3
Winchester	80	46	65	4	1.77	1.07	4
Woodstock	82	48	66	3	1.78	1.01	4
Wytheville	79	43	62	2	2.58	1.81	2

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