

WEATHER & CROPS

CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 5, 2004

It was a typical late autumn week for the Commonwealth. Although the average temperature dropped 6 degrees from last week's average; it was still slightly warmer than normal for this time of year. Most of Virginia experienced about ½ inch of rain. Days suitable for fieldwork were 4.4. Some farmers experienced trouble when trying to find storage space for their soybeans due to above average yields for corn and beans. This has hampered progress made on the soybean harvest. In some areas of Virginia, pastures are in remarkably good conditions for this time of year. Farmers are preparing for next year by attending meetings and ordering seeds. Other farming activities included building fence, feeding livestock supplement hay, winterizing farm equipment, applying insecticides and pesticides, paperwork, and hunting deer.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
December 5, 2004	0	0	72	28
November 28, 2004	0	0	72	28
November 21, 2004	0	1	81	18
November 14, 2004	0	2	74	24
November 7, 2004	0	1	79	20

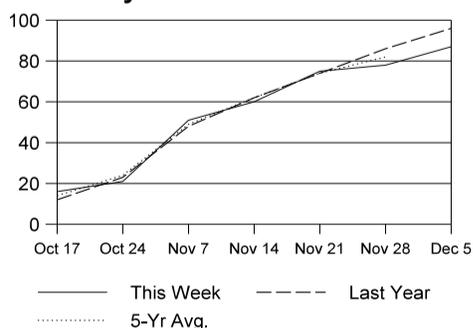
CROP CONDITION PERCENT

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pastures	0	5	31	51	13
Livestock	0	1	13	67	19
Other Hay	3	3	37	45	12
Alfalfa Hay	3	3	35	48	11
Winter Wheat	1	1	17	70	11
Barley	1	1	23	60	15

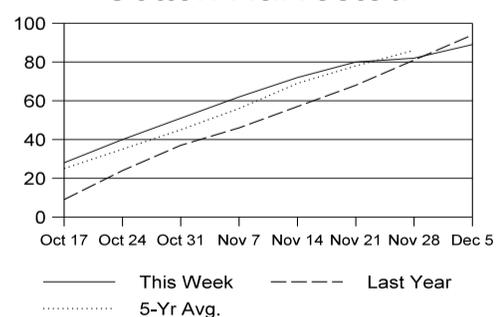
CROP PROGRESS PERCENT - WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Average
Beef Cattle Forage, % Obtained from Pastures	81	82	N/A	N/A
Milk Cow Forage, % Obtained from Pastures	18	23	N/A	N/A
Sheep Forage, % Obtained from Pastures	80	85	N/A	N/A
Soybeans Harvested	87	78	96	N/A
Winter Wheat Seeded	94	90	99	N/A
Winter Wheat Emerged	80	71	N/A	N/A
Cotton Harvested	89	82	94	N/A

Soybeans Harvested



Cotton Harvested



Last weekly report for the year. Weekly reports will restart April 4, 2005.

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 5, 2004

WEATHER STATION	TEMPERATURE (degrees Fahrenheit)				PRECIPITATION (inches)		
	HI	LO	Average	Departure From Normal	TOTAL	Departure From Normal	Days
NORTHERN							
Woodstock	52	22	40	-2	0.45	-0.11	1
The Plains	55	20	39	-2	0.35	-0.41	1
Winchester 7SE	54	19	39	2	0.45	-0.18	3
Dale Enterprise	52	22	39	0	0.49	-0.07	2
WESTERN							
Glasgow	59	27	44	4	0.46	-0.24	1
Roanoke AP	58	30	46	5	0.44	-0.26	1
Waynesboro	58	24	41	3	0.45	-0.15	1
Staunton AG	53	26	41	4	0.65	0.05	2
CENTRAL							
Somerset	59	22	42	2	0.51	-0.25	2
Piedmont Res St	57	27	43	3	0.38	-0.38	2
Bremo Bluff	62	23	42	1	0.63	-0.07	3
Richmond AP	64	30	48	5	0.27	-0.43	2
EASTERN							
Eastville	64	32	47	0	0.06	-0.71	2
Wallops Island	65	29	47	1	0.15	-0.48	3
Williamsburg	64	31	48	3	0.12	-0.65	1
Keysville	62	30	46	5	0.21	-0.49	2
SOUTHWESTERN							
Blacksburg AG	53	22	40	3	0.60	-0.03	2
Wytheville	56	21	38	1	0.54	-0.09	1
Saltville	56	23	40	0	1.20	0.48	1
Richlands	58	21	38	4	1.16	0.39	2
SOUTHERN							
Stuart	58	26	44	3	0.57	-0.26	1
Danville AG	62	26	45	2	0.17	-0.53	2
Chatham	59	23	42	0	0.34	-0.43	1
Martinsville	58	22	42	2	0.09	-0.68	2
SOUTHEASTERN							
Norfolk VA	67	32	49	2	0.01	-0.69	1
Oceana	68	31	48	-1	0.04	-0.66	1
Emporia	63	31	47	4	0.06	-0.71	1
Newport News	66	33	50	3	0.06	-0.64	2

Departure from Normal based on 1961-90 Normals.

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