

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service  
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FOR WEEK OF: October 25 - October 31

**GENERAL**

Wet, cloudy to overcast skies were predominant this week. Some livestock producers were busily getting livestock prepared for sales, while others were tending to cows that are fall calving. Fencing is being replaced and repaired in preparation for return of cattle from mountain pastures.

Temperatures: The warm weather continued for West Virginia. In fact, the state average temperature of 58 degrees was three degrees warmer than last week. The highest temperature was 82 degrees in Romney and Petersburg. The lowest temperature was 34 degrees in Elkins and Marlinton.

Precipitation: It was also a comparatively dry week. Only four sites had over an inch of rain and they were in the north and central sections of the state. The bulk of the rain fell on Thursday and Friday as warm humid air covered the region. Overall, the state average precipitation, at 0.55 inches, was more than an inch lower than last week.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 4.0 last week.

**TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION**

	Very			
	Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
PERCENT				
Current				
Week	--	--	80	20
Last				
Week	--	--	88	12
Last				
Year	--	2	90	8

Farm activities included: plowing, harvesting soybeans, preparing livestock for market and repairing fences

**FRUIT**

Apple harvesting was 89 percent complete compared with 90 percent in 2003. No comparison data is available for the 5-yr. average.

**CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS**

	Very	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
	Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
PERCENT					
Cattle & Calves	--	1	13	79	7
Sheep & Lambs	--	1	9	84	6
Pasture	1	8	31	53	7
Soybeans	--	2	19	77	2

**GRAINS**

Corn was 96 percent matured compared with 90 percent in 2003, but the 5-yr. average was not available. Corn was 62 percent harvested for grain with 36 percent in 2003 and 53 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybean conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were in good condition. The crop was 63 percent harvested compared with 62 percent in 2003 and 61 percent for the 5-yr. average. Wheat was 81 percent planted compared with 78 percent in 2003 and 72 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 48 percent emerged compared to 49 percent last year and 46 percent for the 5-yr. average.

**LIVESTOCK and PASTURE**

Cattle conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep conditions ranged from poor to excellent, with most flocks were reported in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were reported as good.



**HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS**

YEAR	CORN		SOYBEANS	WHEAT		APPLES
	MATURED	HARVESTED	HARVESTED	PLANTED	EMERGED	HARVESTED
2004	96	62	63	81	48	89
2003	90	36	62	78	49	90
5 YR AVG	NA	53	61	72	46	NA

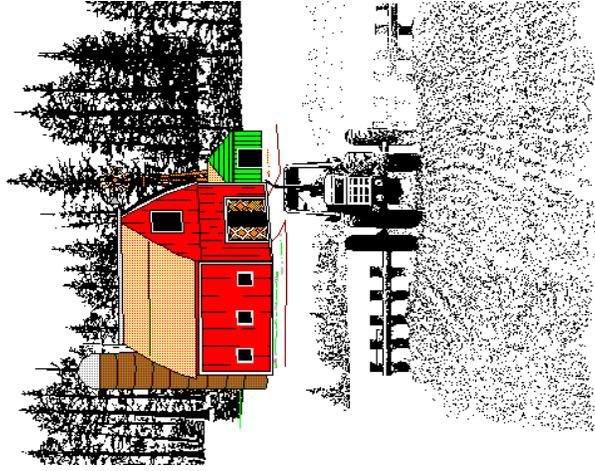
NA-Not Available.

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# WEST VIRGINIA

# CROP-WEATHER

# BULLETIN



West Virginia  
Agricultural  
Statistics

**Top Soil Moisture:** (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

**Days Suitable for Fieldwork:** A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

**Crop Progress Percents:** Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

**General Crop Condition:**

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING 10-31-2004

STATION	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION					SEASON NORM
	HIGH	LOW	WEEKLY AVERAGE	WEEKS DEPARTURE	TOTAL	SINCE APRIL 1 <sup>ST</sup>			
						NORM	2004	2003	
--NORTHWEST--									
WHEELING	73	40	58		1.02		36.83	24.60	
PARKERSBURG	77	44	59	+ 8	0.28	0.66	31.48	38.03	23.85
CRESTON	77	40	59		0.08		35.33	33.73	
--NORTHCENTRAL--									
MORGANTOWN	74	38	58		1.38		31.03	43.18	
CLARKSBURG	74	39	58	+ 9	0.50	0.75	37.94	33.21	24.41
BELINGTON	74	36	56		0.83		35.65	35.73	
WESTON	76	40	58		0.20		35.93	43.62	
--SOUTHWEST--									
WILLIAMSON	79	48	65		0.42		35.99	32.83	
HUNTINGTON	76	44	62	+ 10	0.07	0.70	46.35	35.77	23.60
CHARLESTON	76	40	61	+ 10	0.33	0.66	36.12	32.10	24.18
RIPLEY	76	41	60		0.16		38.45	38.01	
--CENTRAL--									
TERRA ALTA	68	35	54		2.36		36.69	49.70	
ELKINS	74	34	54	+ 8	1.08	0.65	36.22	41.00	25.91
MARLINTON	72	34	53		0.38		31.41	37.56	
BECKLEY	71	37	57	+ 11	0.34	0.56	36.17	38.08	24.05
--SOUTHERN--									
PINEVILLE	74	44	61		0.56		35.88	45.60	
BLUEFIELD	72	38	58	+ 7	0.62	0.56	39.29	32.07	23.34
WHITE SUL SP	75	39	57		0.24		31.55	38.58	
FLAT TOP	71	37	57		0.34		34.23	38.25	
--NORTHEASTERN--									
MARTINSBURG	79	40	57	+ 6	0.02	0.76	31.52	36.57	23.01
ROMNEY	82	43	57		0.50		28.40	34.57	
PETERSBURG	82	44	57		0.35		25.62	36.36	

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

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