



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

USDA/NASS/Virginia Field Office
P.O. Box 1659
Richmond, VA 23218-1659
Phone (804) 771-2493
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/va>

WEATHER & CROPS



Week Ending: November 24, 2013

Number: 36

Released: November 25, 2013

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR NOVEMBER 24, 2013

It was a slightly warmer week than normal for this time of year. Virginia's average highs ranged in the 50s to 60s, and the average lows ranged in the 30s to 40s. A cold front moved in on the weekend which pushed the lows below freezing. Rain fall was scattered and light for the week. Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.2. Farmers continued to make good progress on the soybean harvest; producers were a few days ahead of last year's and the 5 year average's harvest. Small grain seeding was nearing completion; the small grains were in need of rain to help with germination. In a few places, growers were applying lime and fertilizer to the small grain crops. Other farming activities included winterizing equipment, selling produce at Farmer Markets, and hunting deer.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
November 24, 2013	4	34	62	0
November 17, 2013	2	29	68	1
November 10, 2013	1	25	73	1
November 3, 2013	1	17	81	1
October 27, 2013	1	11	86	2

SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
November 24, 2013	4	27	65	4
November 17, 2013	3	23	70	4
November 10, 2013	0	17	79	4
November 3, 2013	1	14	78	7
October 27, 2013	2	9	87	2

IN THIS REPORT:

Crop Condition Percent	pg 2
Crop Progress Percent With Comparisons	pg 2
Weather Summary Table	pg 3
Reporter Comments by County	pg 3,4

Virginia Cooperative Extension Service

Virginia Tech

Virginia State University

Virginia Cooperative Extension
A partnership of Virginia Tech and Virginia State University www.ext.vt.edu



VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	1	7	37	49	6
Livestock	1	3	15	59	22
Hay, Other	3	9	46	38	4
Hay, Alfalfa	0	5	37	56	2
Winter Wheat	1	3	24	63	9
Barley	0	1	44	52	3

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Soybean Harvested	85	73	82	75
Winter Wheat Seeded	89	78	89	86
Winter Wheat Emerged	61	50	75	70
Barley Seeded	97	95	100	100
Cotton Harvested	88	71	93	87
Peanuts Combined	100	96	100	100
Beef Cattle Forage, % Obtained from Pastures	58	59	na	na
Milk Cow Forage, % Obtained from Pastures	18	21	na	na
Sheep Forage, % Obtained from Pastures	67	69	na	na

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 24, 2013

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base50)		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to Nov. 23	Mar. 1 to Nov.23 Norm	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	58	41	70	32	50	4	4060	3962	0.16	3.30	-6.40	37.02	-2.36
Norfolk	64	47	74	40	56	4	4747	4474	0.08	6.12	-3.75	39.37	-2.51
Richmond	63	43	73	36	53	5	4656	4332	0.12	6.12	-3.75	45.03	4.83
Roanoke	57	40	66	30	48	1	4131	na	0.19	4.30	-5.04	46.61	7.77
Wash/Dulles	56	37	68	24	47	3	4046	na	0.15	9.69	0.00	37.55-	-0.37

* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Tom Stanley)

Mild dry conditions marked the week but concluded with the arrival of a cold front where temperatures reached the lower teens over Sunday night. Field crop activities have largely come to an end with only a very low percentage of corn acres yet to be shelled or picked. Forage supplies are good and many livestock are still grazing.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan D Poore)

Topsoil is dry - dry and breezy conditions. Has been good for soybean harvest.

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

The showers of last week were followed by moderate weather...but the weekend brought on frigid temps and brisk winds. I think the brisk weather has terminated the careers of many tillage radishes. Quite a few of mine were slumping on Sunday morning and it was colder Sunday night than it was Saturday night.

NELSON (Michael Lachance)

Deer hunting season beginning, many deer along highways and many dead deer in ditches and shoulders due to traffic. Many people reporting a lack of acorn crop this year.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Another dry week allowed farmers to finish up soybean harvest. Overall harvest weather for corn and soybeans was very good with only minimal delays due to rainfall. The wheat crop needs moisture to help with growth of the emerged crop and to help with emergence of the later planted crop. Farmers began equipment clean up for the winter and few producers were ripping no-till fields to alleviate compaction. Some producers continued to take soil samples.

SOUTHERN

FRANKLIN (Cynthia Martel)

Colder temperatures last week and this week with freezing rain expected. Temperatures where in low 30 and some 20's. Beef cows are still out eating pasture and farmers starting to supply hay for those cold mornings.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)

Some fertilizer and lime is being spread on small grains. Harvesting and planting are being completed as deer hunting season has begun. Some fall calving cows and heifers are being synchronized for breeding.

SOUTHAMPTON

Harvest should be nearly complete for all crops by December 1.

SURRY (Glenn Slade)

Dry conditions gave producers opportunity to get ahead on field work. Soybean and cotton harvest in full swing, small grain seeding winding down. There is a rush to get as much as possible done before a predicted Thanksgiving Week storm.

SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells)

Good fall weather has helped growers to almost finish-up with 2013 crops. Soybean harvest is coming to an end and cotton harvest will come to an end by the end of the month. Some small grain plantings continue. Others are enjoying deer hunting.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence)

Wheat planting is finishing up and soybean harvest continues. Some scattered showers have shortened days for picking, but farmers have made much progress in November. Farm markets are selling fall produce just before Thanksgiving. Many markets will close for the winter or reduce hours of operation at end of month. Temperatures have been mild this past week.