

**REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)**

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

**SOUTHERN**

**PITTSYLVANIA (Stephen Barts, Jamie Stowe)**

Rain has delayed tobacco cultivation. Some tobacco has only been plowed once. Producers have been spraying for budworms. Wheat is starting to develop some smut and scab and producers are concerned about getting the wheat cut. Corn plantings are looking good. Producers are still struggling to get hay cut, cured and out of the field. Pasture lands look great.

**SOUTHEASTERN**

**SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells)**

We have been getting plenty of rainfall recently and rain amounts range from 4-8 inches in the last week. Fields are wet and wheat harvest is slowed due to wet fields. Weed control in soybeans and cotton is slowed along with some nitrogen applications on corn. The corn crop looks very good. Some soybeans have drowned areas and replanting may be needed.

**CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence)**

We received a severe storm this week with 2-4 inches of rain, damaging hail, and heavy wind caused crop damage in a small area of Chesapeake. Several thousand acres were affected. Two hundred acres of corn was blown down and shredded by hail and 1,000 acres soybeans were destroyed as well. Not a lot of wheat was affected by the storm; however, no harvest has begun because of frequent rains. Wheat yields will likely be hurt by excess rain these past few weeks. Scattered showers continue to hamper planting of soybeans and harvest of wheat this week.

**VIRGINIA BEACH (Cal Schiemann)**

More than 3 inches of rain fell during the week. Dry conditions are needed as farmers are ready to begin wheat harvest. Strawberry harvest came to a close on a mixed season. Low customer turnout in the beginning of the season due to cool weather and rain caused a lot of early berries to rot. The second half of the season had better weather, good production and lots of u-pick customers.



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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**WEATHER & CROPS**



**Week Ending: June 14, 2009**

**Number: 14**

**Released: June 15, 2009**

**WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING JUNE 14, 2009**

Severe rain showers late in the week plagued producers throughout the Commonwealth, creating considerable delays in hay harvest, the spraying and fertilizing of row crops, and affecting quality of wheat, barley and hay. Days suitable for fieldwork were 3.8. In some areas small grain harvest began, with yields being reported as average to good. Heavy rainfall has caused lodging in some crop fields and subsequent harvest may be difficult. Producers are still struggling to get hay cut, cured and out of the fields, as the wet weather has been intermittent. Some areas in the southeastern portion of the state received a severe thunderstorm this week, with excessive rain, damaging hail and heavy winds, which caused isolated crop damage and may lead to replanting in some areas.

Week Ending	TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT			
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
June 14, 2009	0	1	67	32
June 7, 2009	0	0	63	37
May 31, 2009	0	5	74	21
May 24, 2009	1	10	80	9
May 17, 2009	0	1	74	25



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CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	0	2	14	57	27
Livestock	0	1	7	71	21
Hay, Other	0	5	35	43	17
Hay, Alfalfa	0	0	23	57	20
Corn	0	2	19	59	20
Winter Wheat	1	7	28	53	11
Barley	0	1	24	69	6
Flue Cured Tobacco	0	1	47	40	12
Burley Tobacco	0	0	7	69	24
Dark Fire-cured Tobacco	0	6	38	49	7
Peanuts	0	0	9	80	11
Cotton	0	2	23	64	11
Potatoes, Summer	0	0	10	40	50
Apples, All	0	0	17	83	0
Peaches	0	10	36	54	0
Grapes	0	1	5	92	2
Oats	0	1	14	85	0

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Planted	97	93	100	100
Corn Emerged	93	88	98	98
Soybeans Planted	55	45	52	59
Soybeans Emerged	45	35	40	47
Winter Wheat Harvested	4	3	19	12
Barley Harvested	19	14	56	43
Burley Tobacco Transplanted	87	80	98	94
Dark Fire-cured Tobacco Transplanted	100	91	97	99

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 14, 2009													
City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar 1 to June 13	Mar 1 to June 13 normal	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	83	61	88	54	72	3	1202	1144	1.12	3.10	1.52	20.51	0.98
Norfolk	84	68	88	60	76	4	1404	1238	0.59	4.14	2.61	19.55	-0.39
Richmond	87	65	90	57	76	4	1382	1269	0.53	3.44	1.92	16.20	-3.08
Roanoke	84	63	89	57	74	4	1269	NA	1.15	3.02	1.40	20.51	0.98
Wash/Dulles	85	65	89	60	75	6	1162	NA	1.44	5.47	3.63	25.28	6.56

1/ Formula used: GDD = (daily maximum (86°) + daily minimum (500)); where 86° is used if the maximum exceeds 86° and 50° is used if the minimum falls below 50°. \* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. NA = not available. T=trace. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

### REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

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#### NORTHERN

##### SHENANDOAH (Bobby Clark)

We received hail damage to some crops both last week and this week.

#### CENTRAL

##### CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)

A lot of barley has lodged. Producers will be challenged to harvest it well. Some barley has been harvested. Wheat is still green and needs to cure. Soil moisture conditions are excellent to excessive. Pastures and hayfields are responding well.

##### NELSON (Michael LaChance)

The first cutting is nearly complete. Late afternoon thunderstorms are making it important to maintain a tight fungicide program on fruit crops.

##### ORANGE (Steve Hopkins)

Wet conditions are creating significant delays in hay harvest, spraying and fertilizing of row crops, and will start to delay small grain harvest.

#### EASTERN

##### ACCOMACK (Jim Belote)

Wheat harvest has started. Yields are average to above average. Heavy rains at the end of the week have delayed crop harvest and all field work. Corn and soybeans planted are in good shape as well as the tomato crop. Most full season soybeans are planted and up due to warm soils. Farmers are very optimistic on having a good year even though inputs are still quite high in price and crop prices are lower than last year.

##### MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Heavy rains fell last week and halted much of the field operations. Barley harvest was interrupted. Yields are average to good with quality substantially affected by weather. Early soybeans look good and farmers are wrapping that up. Dribble of Nitrogen and herbicide treatments to corn continue. Field prep for soybean planting continues and folks are getting ready for wheat harvest. Wheat quality has also been affected by recent wet weather. The crop should yield average to good. Corn looks very good right now since side dressing, recent rains and hot weather. Vegetable planting continues. Most things look good. Tomatoes are ripening and will be available soon.

#### SOUTHWESTERN

##### GRAYSON (Kevin Spurlin)

Spotty showers continue to benefit soil moisture levels, but have slowed hay making. Hay fields are becoming overmature and difficult to mow and cure.

##### MONTGOMERY (Barry Robinson)

More rain this week kept producers out of their fields. There are still problems with wheat harvest and corn planting due to wet conditions. Insect and disease pressures are increasing across all crops.

##### WYTHE (Duane Farthing)

Due to wet weather, finishing corn planting has been tough. I do not know if there will be anymore planted now, as it is late. Also, hay that was not cut back in May is over ripe. Farmers are not able to cut, dry and bale, as it is raining every day or every other day.