



NATIONAL  
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# WEATHER & CROPS



**Week Ending: October 21, 2012**

**Number: 33**

**Released: October 22, 2012**

## WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR OCTOBER 21, 2012

A week of warm, dry weather permitted continued advancement for the harvest of soybeans, cotton, and peanuts. Producers also made progress of the plantings of small grains and cover crops. Days suitable for field work were 5.6. With the prolonged dry weather, soil moisture in a few areas is beginning to be depleted. This could potentially create a problem for fall planted crops. Otherwise, the dry weather has been great for harvest activities across the State. So far, yield reports for soybeans have been good.

### TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
October 21, 2012	2	24	73	1
October 14, 2012	1	21	74	4
October 7, 2012	1	14	74	11
September 30, 2012	2	23	74	1
September 23, 2012	2	19	74	5

### SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
October 21, 2012	2	25	71	2
October 14, 2012	2	25	70	3
October 7, 2012	2	24	72	2
September 30, 2012	3	27	69	1
September 23, 2012	4	23	70	3

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Virginia Cooperative Extension  
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Virginia State University



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<b>CROP CONDITION PERCENT</b>					
<b>Crop</b>	<b>Very Poor</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
Pasture	1	7	25	62	5
Livestock	0	3	19	59	19
Hay, Other	2	12	27	51	8
Hay, Alfalfa	1	3	24	55	17
Soybeans	0	2	19	62	17
Barley	0	0	15	79	6
Peanuts	0	0	2	76	22
Cotton	0	0	6	70	24

<b>CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS</b>				
<b>Crop</b>	<b>This Week</b>	<b>Last Week</b>	<b>Last Year</b>	<b>5 Year Avg.</b>
Corn Harvested	93	91	86	84
Corn Silage Harvested	98	96	100	100
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	93	74	78	85
Soybeans Harvested	21	8	14	22
Winter Wheat Seeded	32	27	39	29
Winter Wheat Emerged	12	8	8	9
Barley Seeded	85	72	74	75
Tobacco, Flue Harvested	94	91	92	91
Peanuts Dug	75	60	59	73
Peanuts Combined	45	19	39	51
Cotton Bolls Opening	100	99	96	97
Cotton Harvested	26	14	48	44
Apples, Fall Harvested	99	97	87	88
Apples, Winter Harvested	87	74	71	68
Oats for Grain	64	54	75	58

**VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 21, 2012**

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 Oct. 20 normal	Mar. 1 to Oct. 20 normal	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	69	42	74	38	56	0	4087	3767	0.40	3.53	-2.66	26.07	-9.64
Norfolk	74	52	79	48	63	2	4807	4219	0.68	3.85	-2.46	36.53	-1.92
Richmond	73	47	79	44	60	2	4630	4085	0.20	5.30	-1.08	30.68	-5.84
Roanoke	70	45	73	39	58	2	4294	NA	0.09	4.80	-1.12	29.62	-5.64
Wash/Dulles	69	45	74	37	58	2	4180	NA	0.71	5.95	0.06	26.00	-8.21

\* 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.

**NORTHERN**

**FREDERICK (Jeanette Smith)**

We have had cool temperatures in the evening s with temperatures in the mid 50-60's during the day. We have also been getting some rainfall.

**CENTRAL**

**HANOVER (Jim Tate)**

The prolonged fall dryness continues. After much bally-hooing and misery decrying from our city dwelling brethren over the awful rain, we had a whole tenth of an inch Thursday night. Water is not too far from getting critical. Many good sized, high volume perennial streams in the county are now intermittent. Normally wet and swampy areas are now dry and solid. Soil moisture is rapidly being depleted, creating difficult conditions for fall planted crops.

**EASTERN**

**ESSEX (Keith Balderson)**

It was a good week for planting wheat, and much of the crop has been planted. Farmers also are making good progress on harvesting the soybean crop. Reported yields have been good.

**SOUTH EASTERN**

**VIRGINIA BEACH (Roy D. Flanagan III)**

The weather is cooperating with farmers right now allowing for soybean harvest to be underway quite well and wheat seeding has also started without any issues. Recently planted strawberries are also agreeing with the recent weather and sweet potato harvest is complete for many growers with the rest finishing up this week.

**REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)**

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