



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>



United States
Department of
Agriculture

WEATHER & CROPS



Week Ending: June 30, 2013

Number: 17

Released: July 1, 2013

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR JUNE 30, 2013

It was another wet week for the Old Dominion with scattered showers, seasonable temperatures, and high humidity. Between rain showers, farmers harvested small grains and planted late season soybeans. The rain contributed to favorable conditions for the planted crops, except for some low lying cropland which was flooded. Days suitable for fieldwork were 4.7. Farmers continued to make hay between storms. Some of the hay was in poor condition where farmers were unable to bale due to the rain; however, the majority of hay was in good to excellent condition with farmers expecting to make a 2nd cutting soon. Tobacco was ready to be cultivated, but in some areas was delayed due to the wet weather. Virginia's squash, cucumbers, and a few tomatoes, were being harvested and sold at farmers markets. Other farming activities for the week included cultivating peanuts, applying herbicides, and making straw..

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
June 30, 2013	1	2	68	29
June 23, 2013	0	3	68	29
June 16, 2013	1	1	64	34
June 9, 2013	0	1	57	42
June 2, 2013	0	12	77	11

SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
June 30, 2013	0	2	78	20
June 23, 2013	0	3	75	22
June 16, 2013	0	1	71	28
June 9, 2013	0	3	74	23
June 2, 2013	0	8	88	4

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CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	1	1	10	61	27
Livestock	1	1	10	58	30
Hay, Other	3	8	17	52	20
Hay, Alfalfa	0	1	16	59	24
Corn	1	3	12	57	27
Soybeans	1	2	19	62	16
Winter Wheat	1	3	21	60	15
Oats	0	0	4	87	9
Tobacco, Flue-Cured	0	0	16	60	24
Tobacco, Burley	0	1	18	67	14
Tobacco, Dark Fire Cured	0	1	14	78	7
Peanuts	3	6	32	55	4
Cotton	0	19	28	43	10
Apples, All	0	0	6	90	4
Peaches	0	0	14	82	4
Grapes	0	0	2	96	2
Potatoes, Summer	0	0	5	93	2

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Silked	32	10	40	34
Winter Wheat Harvested	63	34	92	80
Soybean Planted	77	68	92	86
Soybean Emerged	67	58	81	75
Burley Tobacco Transplanted	91	81	100	100
Cotton Squaring	56	29	54	37
Cotton Setting Bolls	0	0	4	3
Peanuts Pegged	6	0	28	22
Potatoes, Summer Harvested	26	10	45	25

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base50)		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to June 22	Mar. 1 to June 22 Norm	Last Week	Since June. 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	88	66	92	64	77	4	1547	1497	.47	5.80	2.22	26.24	1.21
Norfolk	92	73	95	71	82	5	1722	1631	.23	2.61	-.91	20.03	.91
Richmond	92	72	96	69	82	6	1743	1644	.64	6.15	2.81	25.03	1.19
Roanoke	87	68	90	66	78	4	1558	na	1.16	6.40	2.89	26.94	1.25
Wash/Dulles	88	67	92	63	77	4	1484	na	.56	4.64	.71	18.63	.90

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 23, 2013

* 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

FAIRFAX

Some strong storms have produced about an inch plus of rain in some parts of Fairfax County.

FREDERICK (Jeanette Smith)

The area has received rain showers almost every day this week. Some were thunderstorms. Temperatures have been mild 70-80's. A few days in the 90's.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Tom Stanley)

Seasonally warm and humid with some showers and thunderstorms this week. Most of the first cutting of grass hay has been taken and abundant rainfall has increased prospects for a second cutting.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan D Poore)

Very wet, this is good for the corn and soybeans. Since not all of the wheat and barley is harvested, the quality of the grain is a concern. Wheat and barley are mature for harvest, but harvesting is between rains. Couple of days then rain again. Tobacco cultivating has been set back due to the wet land.

CAMPBELL

Producers are having trouble harvesting wheat due to rain and high humidity.

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

The wheat harvest continues to slog along; all producers say this has been one of the slowest and most trying harvests of small grain in years. Rain every day or so, with spotty showers and thunderstorms with amounts varying all over daily. Wet conditions in fields are forcing some crops to be driven around. While yields seem to

be generally satisfactory, the problems with harvest are trying. Much of the crop is down and lodged. The straw this year from all reports is unusually tough. Those who did not apply some fungicides are seeing some problems with the lodged and wet crop. Double crop beans are generally going in right behind the combine or the straw baler. One large producer told me his planter was about 70 acres behind the combine, so when the wheat can be harvested the double crop beans are going in. Lots of wet spots in fields where beans did not germinate or drowned out and not just the low spots. Some fields only show a 50% stand. The saving grace is that when the rain quits, the sun comes out and first we have a sauna, and then quickly it converts to a plain long oven. Corn can be seen to grow daily and is beginning to tassel. So the rain is still viewed as a blessing. Pastures are holding up well and it has been the best year for grass since 2003. Hay makers are holding off on second cuttings until there is a break in the weather.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Wheat harvest and double crop soybean planting were the main activities during the week.

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Wheat harvest continues. Yields good to very good and test weight average to slightly below. Early maturing varieties seemed to have missed the major threat of disease and scab, but some later maturing varieties seemed to have been hit pretty hard. It is a real narrow window for fungicide applications to control head scab. Folks need to be ready based on weather conditions and your varieties' resistance. Remember that for next year. Soybean planting continues although getting beans in the ground through wheat straw is quite a trick, but frequent showers are helping. Afternoon thunderstorms this week will be helpful.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)

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

Activities include, wheat harvest, planting soybeans, post herbicide applications to soybeans, vegetable planting, vegetable harvest of squash, cucumbers, and a few tomatoes, straw baling, and some haymaking. Ground moisture is adequate and corn is looking very good right now. Early season yellowing of corn has subsided and the present warm conditions are better suited for corn growth and development.

SOUTHWESTERN

SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)

Wet weather has again slowed hay production. Corn and tobacco are showing signs of water damage, and we are forecast for another week of showers. Strawberries are beginning to drop off; this will probably be the last week of picking. Summer squash and cucumbers picking up, with tomatoes and pepper a couple of weeks off.

SMYTH (Andy Overbay)

Just recorded the wettest June ever with nearly 8 inches of rain at official stations. Much more fell in local areas such as Rich Valley and Atkins, VA.

SOUTHERN

FRANKLIN (Cynthia Martel)

Franklin County saw hot temperatures during this week, with spots receiving rain or not. Rain showers were spotty throughout the county. Farmers were working hard last week to get there corn in the fields and going back through planting for a second time. Those producers harvesting wheat were hard at work as well. Because of all the rain it has been hard to get into the fields to get corn in and wheat out. Another week of 40-60% chances of rain will set farmers back even more.

LUNENBURG (Lindy Tucker)

Keep getting rains but most of them have been light, and the subsoil moisture probably is not as high as it seems. A little progress was made this week with the wheat harvest, but the rains keep delaying harvest. Quality is decreasing as time goes on and more of it is being laid down by the summer storms. Everyone is struggling to get it in out of the way so that they can get in the double crop beans. Soybeans are going in every nook and corner lot, field, etc. For the most part, they look pretty good due to the continued rain. Not too many pest problems reported yet. Recent hay cuttings are very poor in quality as almost all have been rained on at least once. The tobacco looks good. Big differences in stage of growth in the county, but it is coming right along. The livestock and pastures look good thanks to the rains.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)

Rains this week has slowed some field work. The small grains are showing signs of scab and more lodging. Tobacco is having some drowning issues along with some disease and a few issues. Soybeans are being scouted for kudzu bug.

SURRY (Glenn Slade)

Water, water everywhere and crops are still behind schedule. We still have quite a bit of wheat in the field. Some corn and soybeans that were replanted are drowned out again. It's too late to replant cotton and peanuts.

SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells)

Rain continue to keep growers out of the fields to complete wheat harvest and planting double-crop soybeans. Growers continue to apply herbicides to cotton and soybeans. Some growers are cultivating peanut after land-plaster application in between showers.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence)

Soil moisture continues to be good for crops. Corn is growing robustly, soybeans are germinating and giving good stands, summer vegetables are starting to arrive at farmers markets. Hay producers are struggling with sporadic showers that make it difficult to predict safe periods to cut and bale hay. The predictability of weather and thunderstorms is the major challenge facing farmers currently. No major pest problems being cited.

VIRGINIA BEACH (Roy D. Flanagan III)

The good weather last week allowed many farmers to get in and harvest their wheat crop. The late week rains have most of the city too wet for progress of any kind.