



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: September 1, 2013**

**Number: 26**

**Released: September 3, 2013**

## WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 1, 2013

Virginia experienced seasonable temperatures this week. Towards the latter part of the week, scattered showers contributed rainfall varying from a light sprinkle up to 2 inches. Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.3. Despite the excessive rainfall this year, some areas were in need of moisture for the late season soybeans. Early planted soybeans and the majority of corn for grain showed promising yields. High moisture for the majority of Virginia has increased disease problems with soybeans; farmers were actively applying fungicides to treat the disease. The majority of the vegetable harvest has slowed down with some growers still harvesting tomatoes, squash, and peppers; pumpkins and sweet potatoes were still growing and will be harvested later. Other farming activities for the week included harvesting and curing tobacco, buying small grain seeds for next year's crop, sampling soil, and signing up for crop cover programs.

### TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
September 1, 2013	1	7	79	13
August 25, 2013	0	9	74	17
August 18, 2013	1	13	70	16
August 11, 2013	0	10	69	21
August 4, 2013	0	11	73	16

### SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
September 1, 2013	0	9	79	12
August 25, 2013	0	8	80	12
August 18, 2013	0	10	71	19
August 11, 2013	1	9	69	21
August 4, 2013	0	9	71	20

#### 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](http://www.ext.vt.edu)

 **VirginiaTech**  
Invent the Future

  
VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

<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	0	2	19	60	19
Livestock	0	2	8	60	30
Hay, Other	1	10	23	49	17
Hay, Alfalfa	0	6	25	56	13
Corn	1	2	9	53	35
Soybeans	1	3	14	63	19
Tobacco, Flue-Cured	0	4	25	56	15
Tobacco, Burley	1	8	35	53	3
Tobacco, Dark Fire Cured	0	3	28	63	6
Peanuts	0	2	6	76	16
Cotton	2	3	3	75	17
Apples, All	0	3	12	84	1
Grapes	2	8	7	82	1

<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 Dough	92	86	93	92
Corn Dent	80	60	79	76
Corn Mature	40	17	45	49
Corn Grain Harvested	9	2	15	12
Corn Silage Harvested	59	29	66	59
Soybeans Blooming	93	87	97	96
Soybeans Setting Pods	72	63	66	79
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	1	n/a	3	3
Tobacco, Flue-Cured Harvested	48	40	39	38
Tobacco, Burley Harvested	22	10	26	22
Tobacco, Dark Fired Cured Harvested	65	39	60	60
Cotton Bolls Opening	16	10	19	21
Apples, Summer Harvested	85	80	72	83
Apples, Fall Harvested	20	16	57	23
Peaches Harvested	90	86	83	86

**VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 1, 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 Aug. 31	Mar. 1 to Aug. 31 Norm	Last Week	Since June. 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	84	63	89	53	74	1	3085	2986	0.51	13.28	1.74	33.72	4.15
Norfolk	84	67	91	58	76	0	3480	3285	0.22	15.85	2.07	33.26	0.97
Richmond	86	66	92	57	76	1	3452	3230	2.08	19.94	7.56	38.82	8.73
Roanoke	85	65	88	57	75	2	3144	na	0.59	21.78	10.38	42.32	12.94
Wash/Dulles	86	67	90	57	76	3	3082	na	0.23	13.87	2.41	27.86	-0.28

\* 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.

#### CENTRAL

##### **AMELIA (Joan D Poore)**

Silage harvest is near complete and with very good yields. Corn for grain harvest, a little early for this area and the moisture is still a little high. All other crops are doing well, however the flue tobacco does not have the weight due to all the summer rains.

##### **CHESTERFIELD (Joan D Poore)**

Crops continue to look good and potential for above average yields. There is no corn in Chesterfield to be harvested as silage, all grain. It is a little early yet for corn harvest to begin in this area.

##### **HANOVER (Jim Tate)**

A veritable drought week by comparison to previous weeks, only two rain events totaling 1.2 inches at my western Hanover home this week. Corn harvest has begun. I have not yet heard any yield results, but have seen combines in the fields. So far none have been mired up to their axles, but I do not know how they avoid it. At my house I am dealing with mud. Horses are having problems with their hooves due to all the moisture, and the big B52 horse flies have been trying to get airborne with the horses and the cattle. I don't think I recall seeing them this bad - huge, fast and numerous. All this and it is hot and steamy, while the temperatures have not been excessive, the humidity has been so oppressive.

##### **NELSON (Michael Lachance)**

Hay being cut but rain making harvest difficult to schedule.

#### EASTERN

##### **ESSEX (Keith Balderson)**

Rainfall amounts were relatively light for the week. Some producers continued to harvest corn as the local basis remained strong for early harvested corn. Producers also continued applying fungicides and insecticides to soybeans. Frogeye leaf spot has been a problem in soybeans this year, especially in fields that were not treated with a fungicide.

##### **MIDDLESEX (David Moore)**

Corn harvest picking up, yields are average to above average. Corn crop suffers somewhat from lack of nutrients, nitrogen specifically, caused by wetter than normal conditions. Some sandy areas especially suffered. Positioning by granaries and start/stop taking of wet grain, in the past week, has given producers some headaches. Soybeans look good. Some folks spraying for a few worms and also some folks making the fungicide/insecticide applications at R3 and R4. Right now, a very good crop is in the making. Folks are making some plans for wheat production, such as buying seed and doing some soil sampling in preparation for the planting season. Vegetable harvest about over for most things. Some late squash, tomatoes, and peppers still to be harvested. Pumpkins and sweet potatoes still waiting for their chance too.

## REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)

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

### WESTERN

#### ROCKBRIDGE (Tom Stanley)

Another week with showers and thunderstorms maintained soil moisture and enhanced corn and soybean development. Some hay was made successfully early in the week. Temperatures were normal to slightly below normal.

### SOUTHERN

#### LUNENBURG (Lindy Tucker)

We need rain.

### SOUTHEASTERN

#### BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)

There are producers cutting fall hay at this time. They are keeping an eye on the crops. Flue Tobacco is being cured and harvested, along with cured tobacco being taken to buying stations. Some soybeans have leaves are beginning to turn yellow. Some tree leaves are beginning to change color as well.

#### PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)

Soybeans have been the focus of this week. Growers are scouting for insects and diseases. A few fields reached threshold for corn earworm and were treated. Some fungicides have been applied where frog eye leaf spot levels have increased. Overall pest problems have been minor this season. Some hay was made early in the week before showers and clouds moved in. Rainfall ranged from 0 in the west to over 2 inches in eastern portions of the county. The drier areas could use some measurable rain for the late planted soybean crop. Other activities included weed control on prevented planted fields, preparing for corn harvest, and signing up for cover crop planting programs.

#### SURRY (Glenn Slade)

Corn harvest has started with very good yields, 150-220 bushels per acre. Some soybean sprays are going out even if worm thresholds are not met. Peanuts and cotton maturing well with good yields anticipated. Pumpkin crop has disease issues and doesn't look too good.

#### CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence)

Almost an inch of rain this week plus heavy dews are creating ideal environment for disease in soybeans. Farmers are starting corn harvest and yields are excellent (150-200 bu./acre). Some spraying for worms in soybeans but infestation is very light thus far.