



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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WEATHER & CROPS



Week Ending: September 8, 2013

Number: 27

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WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 8, 2013

The Old Dominion experienced seasonable temperatures and light, isolate, rain showers this week. Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.6. The clear weather was ideal for farmers who made 2nd or 3rd cuttings of hay. Clear weather also contributed to progress made with the corn harvest. The corn yield looked favorable. Early planted soybean yield also looked favorable; the early crop began showing signs of yellowing with 4% of the total soybean crop dropping leaves. The recent lack of rain had growers of double crop soybeans concerned. Other farming activities for the week included waiting in lines at granaries, harvesting sweet potatoes, and spraying soybeans with insecticides and fungicides.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
September 8, 2013	0	17	78	5
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

SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
September 8, 2013	0	13	84	3
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

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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	0	3	20	61	16
Livestock	0	1	9	64	26
Hay, Other	0	7	20	56	17
Hay, Alfalfa	0	5	20	52	23
Corn	1	4	11	49	35
Soybeans	0	2	15	67	16
Tobacco, Flue-Cured	0	7	24	58	11
Tobacco, Burley	1	6	32	57	4
Peanuts	0	0	14	77	9
Cotton	0	2	3	85	10
Apples, All	0	1	5	94	0
Grapes	2	4	10	83	1

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Dough	94	92	95	96
Corn Dent	82	80	84	84
Corn Mature	53	40	60	64
Corn Grain Harvested	18	9	24	22
Corn Silage Harvested	63	59	70	67
Soybeans Blooming	96	93	99	99
Soybeans Setting Pods	85	72	77	88
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	4	1	6	8
Tobacco, Flue-Cured Harvested	56	48	48	45
Tobacco, Burley Harvested	36	22	38	34
Tobacco, Dark Fired Cured Harvested	79	65	77	73
Cotton Bolls Opening	35	16	29	32
Apples, Summer Harvested	97	85	77	92
Apples, Fall Harvested	24	20	67	29
Apples, Winter harvested	10	n/a	17	5
Peaches Harvested	94	90	87	91

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 8, 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.

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base50)		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to Sep. 7	Mar. 1 to Sep. 7 Norm	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	85	60	89	53	72	1	3237	3143	.02	na	na	33.74	3.35
Norfolk	85	68	92	60	77	2	3664	3463	.35	na	na	33.61	.34
Richmond	87	66	92	59	77	3	3631	3396	.06	na	na	38.88	7.78
Roanoke	85	61	88	54	73	1	3301	na	0	na	na	42.32	12.10
Wash/Dulles	85	60	92	49	72	0	3236	na	.22	na	na	28.08	-1.17

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

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

NORTHERN

FREDERICK (Jeanette Smith)

Frederick is starting to get dry. In need of some precipitation.

CENTRAL

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

We are in the midst of a comparative drought. It has been over a week since we have had any rain. A neighbor made hay last week and made a nice crop, and it dried for four days without getting rained on. Temperatures have been all over the board with highs in the low nineties and lows in the low fifties. These are the days when I don't know whether to put on shorts or long johns. Some of my winter mud holes have finally dried up, just in time for fall rains. Corn is starting to dry down across the county now and some harvesting has begun. Some early beans are even beginning to yellow a bit. Pests seem to be problematic in beans and I saw sprayers rolling the last two weeks in bean fields.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

A dry week allowed producers to make good progress on harvesting the corn crop. Yields have been good to very good, resulting in long lines at the granary. Some hay was also cut and baled during week. The dry weather provided some of the best hay making weather we have experienced all year. Lack of topsoil moisture is hurting some of the soybean crop.

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Conditions are drying out some now and late planted soybeans could use some rain. Corn harvest continues; yields are average to very good. Many fields will have a very good average, but corn ran out of nitrogen in many places and was plagued by early season cool and damp conditions which will affect many fields in lower middle peninsula. Corn kernels were damaged by too much water also. Soybeans continue to look good, but the lack of rain and drying conditions we are experiencing will have negative effect on yield. Producers continue to scout for insects and diseases and are making insecticide and fungicide applications as needed. Sweet potato harvest has begun. Yield and quality looks good. Few tomatoes, cantaloupes, squash and watermelons left to harvest.

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)

A week of clear weather permitted farmers in the Rockbridge region to make some excellent quality second and third cutting hay this week. Moderate temperatures allowed corn and soybeans to progress toward maturity. Crops, pastures, and hayfields are all in very good shape.

SOUTHERN

FRANKLIN (Cynthia Martel)

Franklin County had wonderful weather last week and farmers were out in full force, chopping corn silage, and cutting hay fields. Animals looking good, the abundance of grass has helped out this summer.

LUNENBURG (Lindy Tucker)

Still waiting on rain. Some pastures are looking overgrazed now. Beans are really looking good, especially full season. Steady harvesting tobacco.

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)

Tobacco harvest is still going strong. Early soybeans are progressing. Areas could use a little rain. Fall hay harvest is also going strong.

SOUTHWESTERN

GRAYSON (Kevin Spurlin)

Some of the warmest, driest conditions of the summer have come as we end August and start September. Hay production has rebounded, and field conditions are improving as corn silage harvesting rapidly approaches.

SMYTH (Andy Overbay)

Due to wet weather, some gray leaf spot in beginning to show up in SW corn fields. Rapid dry down could put producers in a pinch to make the highest quality silage.

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.