



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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WEATHER & CROPS



Week Ending: September 29, 2013

Number: 30

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WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 29, 2013

It was a dry week for the Old Dominion; most areas experienced light showers or no rain at all. The majority of temperatures ranged between upper 70s and low 40's, with a few reported lows in the 30s. Overall, Virginia was about 2 to 5 degrees below normal for this time of year. Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.4. The dry weather was ideal for harvesting; good progress was made on corn and late season hay. The recently planted small grains were not doing as well, rain was needed for germination. The soybean harvest had just begun; concerns about Soybean Rust were still prevalent. Other farming activities for the week included spraying defoliant on cotton, harvesting tobacco, testing soil, and applying lime, fertilizers, and bare ground herbicides.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
September 29, 2013	11	30	58	1
September 22, 2013	3	26	68	3
September 15, 2013	3	27	68	2
September 8, 2013	0	17	78	5
September 1, 2013	1	7	79	13

SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
September 29, 2013	4	33	59	4
September 22, 2013	2	30	66	2
September 15, 2013	2	20	74	4
September 8, 2013	0	13	84	3
September 1, 2013	0	9	79	12

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

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VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	4	6	27	55	8
Livestock	0	1	9	62	28
Hay, Other	1	13	23	54	9
Hay, Alfalfa	5	8	25	39	23
Soybeans	0	4	22	57	17
Peanuts	0	0	26	62	12
Cotton	2	2	16	65	15
Apples, All	0	0	3	96	1
Grapes	0	6	7	85	2

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Mature	91	79	93	91
Corn Grain Harvested	66	53	77	60
Corn Silage Harvested	82	80	89	89
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	36	22	31	44
Soybean Harvested	2	0	2	2
Barley Seeded	34	19	30	27
Winter Wheat Seeded	9	7	8	13
Tobacco, Flue-Cured Harvested	83	79	80	72
Tobacco, Burley Harvested	93	77	87	84
Cotton Bolls Opening	78	65	84	79
Apples, Fall Harvested	55	43	84	58
Apples, Winter harvested	33	25	53	31
Peanuts Dug	22	12	18	11
Peanuts Combined	4	0	2	3

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 29, 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 Sep. 28	Mar. 1 to Sep. 28 Norm	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	73	52	77	48	63	-2	3577	3517	0.00	0.48	-2.94	34.20	1.00
Norfolk	73	59	75	52	66	-4	4086	3914	0.47	0.93	-2.79	34.19	-1.79
Richmond	76	54	79	50	65	-2	4028	3802	0.00	1.39	-2.26	40.30	6.44
Roanoke	73	53	76	49	63	-2	3648	na	0.03	1.14	-2.42	43.45	10.54
Wash/Dulles	73	47	78	41	60	-5	3578	na	0.02	1.66	-1.87	29.51	-2.22

* 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)

Weather has been cool this week. Temperatures in morning in 30's and during day 70's and 80's. Corn silage is almost complete. Hay and pastures are good.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Tom Stanley)

A second dry week with seasonally warm temperatures is beginning to adversely impact soil moisture levels after a summer with abundant moisture. Corn Silage and late season hay harvesting progressed rapidly with dry conditions and low humidity. Most corn is still drying-down and only a limited amount of high moisture corn grain has been harvested.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan D Poore)

A dry week - temperatures mild, below normal, daytime 70's, night low 50's. Heavy dew in the mornings. Corn harvest slowed back with the rain Sat night Sept 21st, due to moisture in the corn.

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

Corn harvest yields have been reported as excellent, ranging from 180 – 200+ bushels/acre. Talked to one producer who recorded 313 on one plot that was not a test plot. His test plot went 287. Also, some full season soybeans have already been harvested, with yields of 67 b/a. Been sampling for Asian Soybean Rust for the past week. September has broken the trend of the year by being abnormally dry. Folks doing harvest activity love it, but small grains and cover crops are going to need some moisture soon. Also this dry weather is not helping grazers who wish to stockpile some fescue as grass is not growing at a great rate. I have not needed to mow my lawn for over three weeks now and was mowing every five days.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)

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

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Another dry week allowed producers to continue to make good progress on the corn harvest. Yields have been very good. Other activities included preparation for small grain planting, including soil testing and application of lime, fertilizer, and burn-down herbicides. Aerial seeding of cover crops also continued. We need a good soaking rain to help with germination of fall seeded crops.

SOUTHEASTERN

MECKLENBURG

It is dry, tobacco harvest is winding down, most all producers will finish in next 10 days.

SURRY (Glenn Slade)

Corn harvest about 70% complete. Peanut digging underway with combines ready to roll this week (9/30). We need a shower to soften ground and help fill double-crop soybeans. Cotton defoliation should start this week also.