



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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WEATHER & CROPS



Week Ending: October 27, 2013

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WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR OCTOBER 27, 2013

It was a cold week for the Old Dominion. Temperatures averaged about 2 to 7 degrees below normal for this time of year. Most of central Virginia experienced the season's first frost this week. Temperatures were even cooler in the western counties where there were reports of light snow. Most counties located east and south were warmer and have not received a killing frost. Precipitation for the week was light, with most areas experiencing no rain. Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.0. The corn harvest was nearing completion with only 12 percent of the crop not harvested. Work on the soybean harvest began in earnest. The soybean harvest was slightly behind last year; residue from previous weeks' rainfall contributed to the delay. Good progress was made on the peanut harvest. Other farming activities for the week included harvesting apples, harvesting cotton, planting small grains, and making hay.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
October 27, 2013	1	11	86	2
October 20, 2013	0	7	89	4
September 29, 2013	11	30	58	1
September 22, 2013	3	26	68	3
September 15, 2013	3	27	68	2
SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
October 27, 2013	2	9	87	2
October 20, 2013	0	11	84	5
September 29, 2013	4	33	59	4
September 22, 2013	2	30	66	2
September 15, 2013	2	20	74	4

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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	1	6	31	54	8
Livestock	1	2	12	63	22
Hay, Other	2	6	32	54	6
Hay, Alfalfa	0	5	27	58	10
Soybeans	0	5	27	57	11
Barley	0	0	36	60	4
Cotton	2	3	19	57	19
Apples, All	0	1	3	95	1
Grapes					

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Grain Harvested	88	82	95	89
Corn Silage Harvested	99	94	99	100
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	88	79	94	92
Soybean Harvested	24	11	34	30
Barley Seeded	83	69	88	89
Winter Wheat Seeded	33	19	46	44
Winter Wheat Emerged	11	7	19	19
Cotton Harvested	29	10	42	52
Apples, Fall Harvested	91	82	99	95
Apples, Winter harvested	83	49	90	81
Peanuts Dug	99	86	83	85
Peanuts Combined	69	50	53	61

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 27, 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 Oct. 26	Mar. 1 to Oct. 26 Norm	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	60	35	70	24	47	-7	3902	3814	.58	2.78	-4.00	36.50	0
Norfolk	62	44	68	37	53	-6	4517	4275	0	5.06	-1.96	38.32	-78
Richmond	65	42	74	32	54	-2	4434	4140	.01	5.63	-1.40	44.54	7.43
Roanoke	59	36	66	27	48	-7	3977	na	0	3.28	-3.15	45.59	9.70
Wash/Dulles	59	37	67	29	48	-5	3902	na	.01	9.10	-2.46	36.95	2.10

* 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 colder. Still have some apple harvesting going on. I heard the crop of apples was great this year, but the price is low. Producers have started to harvest corn and soybeans; the rains in the past weeks have delayed this harvest. Went in the 20's last night, this morning it was 37 degrees. Frost was not a heavy frost.

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

Cool and mostly dry week. We had our first frost on Thursday night / Friday morning followed the next night by our first freeze. I had a quarter of an inch of ice in water troughs. Not all of the flies are done yet however as the horses were still fighting them on Sunday.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Tom Stanley)

A series of frosts with a hard freeze Saturday morning brought the growing season to an abrupt end this week. Some very light shower activity mid week was the only precipitation during an otherwise dry week.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan D Poore)

A cool crisp and dry week. First frost of the season Saturday morning (Oct 26, the low was around 30 degrees. Corn and soybean harvest continues. All tobacco was harvested before the frost.

AMHERST

Temperatures cooled significantly leading into the week. Light frost on the morning of Friday October 25.

CHESTERFIELD (Joan D Poore)

A cool, crisp and dry week. First frost of the season was Saturday October 26. Soybeans harvest continues.

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)

Below average temperatures during the latter part of the week resulted in a killing frost, bringing the growing season to an end. Wheat planting and soybean harvest were the primary activities during the week. Soybean yields have been variable and overall yields are expected to be about average. Some producers were also busy planting cover crops.

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Corn harvest continues and is almost over. Wheat planting continues and will shift into full swing this week. Folks continue to do land prep for planting. Some soybeans being harvested. Yields are good to very good. Most vegetable harvest is over. Haymaking continues. Frost is likely in the next week to 10 days,

SOUTHWESTERN

GRAYSON (Kevin Spurlin)

Many feeder calves left the county last week, and some late season hay was made. Hay quality was good for this time of year. Late week saw low temperatures in the teens and some minor accumulating snowfall.

SOUTHERN

FRANKLIN (Cynthia Martel)

Franklin County was cold last week, no rain but had frost on cars in the morning. Cattle gearing up for cold months and farmers trying to get last of their crops off fields or planted for spring. Saw one beef farmer baling his last round of hay from this season. Still too wet in the mornings for soybeans to be harvested. Hopefully this week farmers will be able to getting rolling on that.

LUNENBURG (Lindy Tucker)

The pastures sure could use some rain. The soybeans sure could use the drying weather. Cows look pretty good, many pastures are waning without the rain and hay is being fed. Winter grains are going in. Soybean harvest is beginning. We have had a few lighter frosts, but nothing heavy.

SOUTHEASTERN

SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells)

Fall harvest is in full swing. Soybean harvest has gotten underway, cotton harvest will get started in a few days and peanut harvest is almost complete with good yields. Small grain planting is underway.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence)

Overcast sky with light showers continued to keep farmers from harvesting soybeans or planting wheat. No frost yet. Plenty of fall produce at local markets. Strawberry plants are setting well with plenty of soil moisture and mild temperatures ,