



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE



WEATHER & CROPS



USDA/NASS/Virginia Field Office
P.O. Box 1659
Richmond, VA 23218-1659
Phone (804) 771-2493
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/va>

Week Ending: July 13, 2014

Number: 18

Released: July 14, 2014

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR JULY 13, 2014

Virginia experienced diverse weather this week. Thunderstorms brought moderate rainfall to Western and Southern Virginia, and heavy rainfall to parts of Northern and Southeastern Virginia. Most of Central and Southwestern Virginia received very little rain; continual lack of rain in these areas contributed to poor crop conditions. Northern Virginia reported temperatures in the 80s, while the majority of the Commonwealth experienced highs in the upper 90s to 100 degrees. Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.8. For regions that received significant rain this week, crops were doing well, but in some cases the rain delayed the small grain harvest and double crop soybean plantings. Growers in the dry regions of Virginia worried that irreversible damage was done to the corn, and will soon hurt the soybeans yield. Pastures were poor in these areas; in some cases livestock producers began to supplementing feed with hay. Other farming activities for the week included starting the peach harvest, extracting honey, making hay, irrigating tobacco, finishing the small grain harvest, and applying herbicides to soybeans and cotton.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
July 13, 2014	13	31	53	3
July 6, 2014	13	31	53	3
June 29, 2014	8	28	59	5
June 22, 2014	4	25	61	10

SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
July 13, 2014	9	30	59	2
July 6, 2014	11	25	60	4
June 29, 2014	3	24	68	5
June 22, 2014	3	23	69	5

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

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	2	6	22	58	12
Soybeans	0	5	21	68	6
Tobacco, Flue-Cured	3	9	37	31	20
Tobacco, Fire-Cured	2	8	44	39	7
Tobacco, Burley	1	3	38	52	6
Cotton	0	0	1	97	2
Peanuts	0	0	2	92	6
Livestock	1	4	19	60	16
Pasture and Range	6	14	32	42	6
Hay, Alfalfa	0	9	32	54	5
Hay, Other	3	19	31	42	5
Potatoes, Summer	0	0	0	99	1
Apples, All	1	1	40	58	0
Grapes, All	0	9	32	52	7
Peaches	17	17	26	39	1

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Cotton Squaring	80	43	77	76
Cotton Setting Bolls	4	0	0	15
Peanuts Pegging	35	25	38	47
Corn Silking	60	34	66	66
Corn Dented	2	n/a	n/a	n/a
Soybeans Planted	94	88	91	97
Soybeans Emerged	84	75	83	90
Soybeans Blooming	16	7	6	8
Soybeans Setting Pods	4	n/a	0	0
Winter Wheat Harvested	86	73	88	97
Oats Harvested	89	81	82	n/a
Potatoes Summer Harvested	45	20	71	55
Apples, All	1	n/a	n/a	n/a
Peaches	10	n/a	19	21

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING July 13, 2014

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base50)		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar 1. To July 12	Mar. 1 to July 12 Norm	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	87	62	93	52	74	-1	1974	1791	1.03	4.08	-1.43	25.10	1.65
Norfolk	88	70	95	62	79	0	2151	1961	3.75	7.12	1.52	26.75	2.66
Richmond	92	69	100	60	80	2	2201	1962	0.05	3.48	-1.71	19.52	-3.44
Roanoke	87	65	94	55	76	0	1999	n/a	0.67	4.40	-0.77	19.98	-3.25
Wash/Dulles	87	65	92	57	76	1	1745	n/a	0.82	6.02	0.55	30.36	8.04

* 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)

Peach harvest is started. They did get hit by frost/freeze in March. We have been receiving thunderstorms daily and temperatures this week in the 80's.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas A Stanley)

Some significant isolated thunderstorms this week brought as much as 1/2-inch of rain to the northern half of the Rockbridge in a week that was otherwise dry. Crop conditions are good and most farms are current on hay making and field work.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan Poore)

It's amazing how quickly conditions can get so dry. Many areas of the county's corn is drying up at critical time of corn pollinating. The later planted corn has a slight advantage if these areas can get some rain. The earlier soybeans seem to be holding their own, but later planted seem more stressed. Reports of some producers feeding hay (already) and the 2nd hay cutting yield will be very low.

CAROLINE (Mike Broaddus)

Still very dry here. Some parts of counties have not had significant rainfall for past 6 weeks. Corn and soybeans are now starting to suffer.

CENTRAL continues

CHESTERFIELD (Joan Poore)

The hot and dry has taken over the spring moisture - quickly. The corn and hay is the most stressed, soybeans need some rain, but for now are holding fair. The early soybeans appear to be holding better than the later ones. Need for rain is apparent.

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

Hot dry weather continues to be the norm. Temperatures again bouncing around a hundred degrees while there have been scattered showers, and all around us even general rain, we continue to be dry. Zero rain at my western Hanover home over the last week. Eastern Hanover may have had some. Corn is rolling and dry at this time of silking. Pastures are beginning to dry up; those who had adequate grass are still in good shape, but those who are overstocked (the majority) will soon face the need to feed hay unless rain happens.

SPOTSYLVANIA (John Howe)

Hot, dry week. Some thunder storms - but they did very little to improve the general moisture situation.

SOUTHWESTERN

CARROLL (Steve Pottorff)

Conditions continue to be dry. Very little rain fell in the county during the week. Pasture conditions continues to decline.

GRAYSON (Kevin Spurlin)

Corn for silage looks very good considering the spotty precipitation. Stunted pasture and hay land is not recovering with the scattered showers. Wind has followed the few showers from spring to mid-summer, and grassland forage is taking a beating. Hay yields are 50-66% of normal, and livestock owners are running out of grass in many pastures.

SOUTHERN

FRANKLIN (Cynthia Martel)

The majority of the county received significant amounts of rainfall over the past week, but it won't be enough to turn around some of the drought damaged corn in the south side portion of the county. Wheat harvest is completed; test weight and yield were above average this year. Double crop soybeans are finished as well. Continued rains are going to be needed to get any decent tonnage from our silage crop.

LUNENBURG (Lindy Tucker)

We got a little of the much-needed rain this week, but are still hoping for more. Wheat is finished and double-crop beans are mostly in. The tobacco is growing and most growers have laid pipe and are irrigating; some black shank here and there. Peaches look good. Cattle are slick and fat for the most part, though the pastures could use some water. Grapes are much better this year, less disease pressure. All in all, not too shabby.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia Gregg)

The rain last week was helpful; we could have used more, but we will take it. The small grains are in and double crop soybeans are planted and emerging. Most of the summer test plots are in at this time. Tobacco producers are irrigating fields.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence Jr.)

Heavy rains last week were mostly 3-4 inches, coverage of most of area in Hampton Roads. Very timely for later planted corn, still pollinating and also helpful for early planted corn which has pollinated, but still filling kernels. Soybean planting is almost complete with good germination. Wheat harvest was good with average to above average yields. Grain quality was good. Few pest or disease problems to report to date. Local vegetable produce is now abundant after a very late spring.

DINWIDDIE (Mike Parrish)

Hot and dry.

SUSSEX (Kevin Wells)

Very needed rain fell over the area the week to help the corn crop that's in the process of making now. Peanut and cotton crop like very good. Plant growth regulators applications are being made to cotton along with minor nutrients. Herbicide applications are being made to cotton and soybean.

VIRGINIA BEACH CITY (Roy D. Flanagan)

Buckets of rain late last week kept the last of the soybeans from being planted and kept sprayers sitting still. Two pre-plant Strawberry meetings are planned for next week, July 21 in Virginia Beach and July 22 in Charlottesville; contact your local Extension office for details.