



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 20, 2014

Number: 19

Released: July 21, 2014

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR JULY 20, 2014

Parts of Virginia remained dry with only light rain this week; the accumulative rainfall was less than one half of an inch. However, the majority of Northern, Eastern, and Southeastern Virginia reported much needed rainfall. Temperatures for the week were seasonable to slightly cooler than normal for this time of year. Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.7. Soybean conditions varied by early and late plantings; the time of planting contributed to how the dry conditions have affected the crop. Farmers spent the week sampling for Corn Earworms. In some areas, farmers noticed more than normal Japanese beetle pressure in the corn. Other farming activities included making hay, harvesting sweet corn, squash, and cucumbers, and applying post-emergence herbicides.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
July 20, 2014	11	33	55	1
July 13, 2014	13	31	53	3
July 6, 2014	13	31	53	3
June 29, 2014	8	28	59	5
SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
July 20, 2014	13	33	51	3
July 13, 2014	9	30	59	2
July 6, 2014	11	25	60	4
June 29, 2014	3	24	68	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	1	8	23	56	12
Soybeans	0	4	23	66	7
Tobacco, Flue-Cured	3	12	34	31	20
Tobacco, Fire-Cured	2	9	44	37	8
Tobacco, Burley	1	3	38	52	6
Cotton	0	0	1	95	4
Peanuts	0	0	2	89	9
Livestock	1	4	23	56	16
Pasture and Range	6	15	34	39	6
Hay, Alfalfa	0	12	30	52	6
Hay, Other	3	20	32	41	4
Potatoes, Summer	0	0	0	99	1
Apples, All	0	1	33	65	1
Grapes, All	0	9	41	43	7
Peaches	15	17	29	38	1

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Cotton Squaring	86	80	83	84
Cotton Setting Bolls	24	4	22	34
Peanuts Pegging	51	35	56	63
Corn Silking	75	60	79	80
Corn Dough	26	n/a	18	28
Corn Dented	6	2	n/a	n/a
Soybeans Planted	97	94	95	99
Soybeans Emerged	92	84	89	96
Soybeans Blooming	23	16	15	19
Soybeans Setting Pods	5	4	2	2
Winter Wheat Harvested	96	86	95	99
Oats Harvested	92	89	87	n/a
Potatoes Summer Harvested	50	45	80	72
Apples, All	2	1	n/a	n/a
Peaches	27	10	34	33

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING July 20, 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 19	Mar. 1 to July 19 Norm	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	85	64	92	56	74	-1	2142	1966	0.04	4.12	-2.41	25.14	0.50
Norfolk	86	71	94	68	79	0	2343	2153	0.27	7.39	0.62	27.02	1.77
Richmond	91	70	99	64	80	2	2396	2149	0.24	3.72	-2.48	19.76	-4.33
Roanoke	83	63	93	54	73	-3	2156	n/a	0.45	4.85	-1.21	20.43	-3.60
Wash/Dulles	84	64	90	55	74	-2	1911	n/a	0.56	6.58	0.32	30.92	7.85

* 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. Some rainfall here and there.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan Poore)

Very dry. Those spotty rain showers have evaporated. Early corn in the drier areas is drying up fast. Later planted corn in some areas is fair. Early soybeans seem to be holding their own. Later planted soybeans are becoming stressed; double crop soybeans in some areas are dying. Hay crop - just not much there. Not as critical as 2012 at this same time and certainly not as bountiful as 2013.

CAMPBELL (Todd Scott)

Rain in Campbell is difficult. The southern part of the County is very dry. The northern part has received some rain.

CAROLINE (Mike Broaddus)

Other than a few tenths of an inch this week, there still has been no substantial rain to irrigate the crops.

CHESTERFIELD (Joan Poore)

Very dry. Those spotty showers that were popping up have evaporated. Corn is the most affected, early soybeans are holding their own, later planted soybeans are not fairing so well.

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

Highly variable weather; insignificant showers were widely scattered a day or two the past week, but most areas are still hot and dry. Temperatures moderated as was the humidity over the past weekend, but corn is still struggling. A good bit of second cutting grass hay was made this past week.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Rainfall of a half inch or more followed by cooler temperatures helped crop conditions stabilize. The corn crop has been hurt significantly and pasture and hay growth have slowed down. Full season soybeans on sandier soils are also showing stress from the hot and dry conditions. Some post-emergence herbicides were applied to soybeans. Several growers have reported high levels of Japanese beetles in corn; however, the crop has pollinated and silk clipping should not be a concern at this point in eastern Virginia.

GLOUCESTER (David Moore)

Good rain fell in some areas in region. Still a little dry in most places, but corn for the most part will make a respectable crop even though it has experienced some stressful times. Corn to the north and to the east is not as good. Most corn has tasseled and made ears and is close to denting in some early planted fields. Soybeans look good. Double crop stands look good and are beginning to take shape. Folks are post treating for weeds and micronutrients. No insect activity yet. Corn Earworm survey begins this week and numbers are average to below. Some hay being made. Sweet corn winding down as well as squash and cukes. Cantaloupes in full swing and water melons not far behind. Pumpkins beginning to grow.

SOUTHWESTERN

CARROLL (Steve Pottorff)

Conditions continue to be very, very dry.

GRAYSON (Kevin Spurlin)

The week held some needed rain and unseasonably cooler weather.

WASHINGTON (Phil Blevins)

Rains last 2 weeks have been very helpful.

SOUTHERN

FRANKLIN (Cynthia Martel)

The rain has been spotty throughout the county. The upcoming week of rain will help out a lot.

SOUTHEASTERN

PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)

Rainfall varied across the county this week from 0.1 to 1.2 inches. Dry weather in July has reduced corn yield potential for 2014. Some drier areas will be significantly hurt based on field observations this week. Light showers over the last 2 weeks have helped soybean germination behind wheat. Major field work has slowed down. Other activities for the week included spraying soybeans with herbicides, cutting hay, mowing, and treating Johnsongrass and other weeds around fields.

SUSSEX (Kevin Wells)

Scattered showers fell over the area this week and it was timely for our crops. Growth regulators are being applied to cotton at this time.