



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE



WEATHER & CROPS



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Week Ending: August 3, 2014

Number: 21

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WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR AUGUST 3, 2014

It was a cool and wet week for the Old Dominion. Temperatures were about 3 to 7 degrees below normal for this time of year. Rainfall varied based on location, but most places received one or more inches. Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.3. The cool weather and rain improved crop conditions, except in some cases where it was too late for corn. Cattle and pasture conditions also benefited from the cooler than normal temperatures. Virginia's vegetables were reported in good condition, with favorable yields for the tomato crop. At some locations, farmers were making their 2nd and 3rd cutting of hay. Other farming activities included spraying growth inhibitors on cotton, applying fungicides, herbicides, and insecticides to crops, and preparing for the corn harvest.

| TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| Week Ending | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
| August 3, 2014 | 6 | 24 | 65 | 5 |
| July 27, 2014 | 8 | 25 | 62 | 5 |
| July 20, 2014 | 11 | 33 | 55 | 1 |
| July 13, 2014 | 13 | 31 | 53 | 3 |
| SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT | | | | |
| Week Ending | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
| August 3, 2014 | 4 | 29 | 66 | 1 |
| July 27, 2014 | 6 | 33 | 60 | 1 |
| July 20, 2014 | 13 | 33 | 51 | 3 |
| July 13, 2014 | 9 | 30 | 59 | 2 |

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Virginia Cooperative Extension
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| CROP CONDITION PERCENT | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
| Corn | 1 | 9 | 23 | 55 | 12 |
| Soybeans | 0 | 4 | 22 | 65 | 9 |
| Tobacco, Flue-Cured | 3 | 7 | 33 | 30 | 27 |
| Tobacco, Fire-Cured | 1 | 5 | 47 | 39 | 8 |
| Tobacco, Burley | 1 | 2 | 29 | 60 | 8 |
| Cotton | 0 | 0 | 1 | 95 | 4 |
| Peanuts | 0 | 0 | 2 | 89 | 9 |
| Livestock | 1 | 4 | 21 | 59 | 15 |
| Pasture and Range | 6 | 15 | 33 | 41 | 5 |
| Hay, Alfalfa | 0 | 7 | 31 | 56 | 6 |
| Hay, Other | 4 | 17 | 36 | 39 | 4 |
| Apples, All | 0 | 1 | 38 | 60 | 1 |
| Grapes, All | 0 | 8 | 33 | 50 | 9 |
| Peaches | 15 | 17 | 29 | 38 | 1 |

| CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Crop | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5 Year Avg. |
| Cotton Squaring | 94 | 91 | 98 | 96 |
| Cotton Setting Bolls | 59 | 50 | 60 | 66 |
| Peanuts Pegging | 81 | 77 | 79 | 79 |
| Corn Silking | 91 | 85 | 88 | 92 |
| Corn Dough | 65 | 54 | 58 | 63 |
| Corn Dented | 26 | 17 | 20 | 31 |
| Soybeans Blooming | 45 | 40 | 56 | 56 |
| Soybeans Setting Pods | 21 | 16 | 17 | 22 |
| Flue-Cured Tobacco Harvested | 9 | 2 | 16 | 12 |
| Potatoes Summer Harvested | 82 | 75 | 92 | 91 |
| All Apples Harvested | 17 | 15 | n/a | n/a |
| Peaches Harvested | 42 | 38 | 58 | 51 |

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING August 3, 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 Aug 2 | Mar. 1 to Aug 2 Norm | Last Week | Since June 1 | June 1 dep. from normal * | Jan. 1 to date | Jan. 1 dep. from normal * |
| Lynchburg | 78 | 60 | 83 | 54 | 69 | -6 | 2448 | 2306 | 0.98 | 9.00 | 0.59 | 30.02 | 1.13 |
| Norfolk | 81 | 70 | 87 | 65 | 75 | -4 | 2714 | 2529 | 1.42 | 11.20 | 1.95 | 30.83 | 1.11 |
| Richmond | 83 | 66 | 89 | 63 | 75 | -3 | 2761 | 2508 | 2.32 | 8.14 | -0.33 | 24.18 | 0.92 |
| Roanoke | 78 | 61 | 84 | 55 | 70 | -6 | 2473 | n/a | 0.72 | 6.98 | -0.95 | 22.56 | 0.87 |
| Wash/Dulles | 80 | 59 | 85 | 48 | 69 | -7 | 2217 | n/a | 0.08 | 6.72 | -1.18 | 31.07 | 1.26 |

* 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)

This week's the weather has been cool. We have had temperatures in the evenings in the 50's. Some scattered rains and a thunderstorm. Crops are looking good thus far.

PRINCE WILLIAM (Paige Thacker)

Spotty rain this past week, not significant.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas A Stanley)

Unusually cool temperatures this week with rain Friday through Sunday. Some second and third hay cuttings were successfully made early in the week. Pasture conditions are very good for this time of year and cattle have benefited from the cooler than normal temperatures.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan Poore)

A gentle rain started early Friday morning, with off and on rainfall throughout the weekend, cloudy and low temperatures. This soaking rain will be beneficial to hay and pastures, as well as soybeans and corn. The temperatures were lower than average during the past 4 days.

AMHERST (John Benner)

First of August and night of 31 of July saw a large and needed rainstorm for the area.

APPOMATTOX (Bruce Jones)

Most locations in Appomattox received approximately 1 inch of rain last week. Farmers can easily get back in most fields today.

CAROLINE (Mike Broaddus)

Like last week, Caroline and King George Counties have had one small rain (app .2 in) which was just enough to maintain the crop and soil conditions. The only changes are in the corn, which is maturing now at a very fast rate due to lack of soil moisture.

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

We had a nice week of weather human comfort wise, Goldilocks weather, and even better it ended with a rainy weekend. At my Western Hanover Home we had 1.1 inches of rain Friday thru Saturday. Generally the further east the heavier the rain, so I think the whole county had at least an inch. Too late for most corn but will help with other crops.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Widespread rainfall Friday night helped to restore soil moisture and will be very beneficial to soybeans, pastures, and hay crops. Activities included scouting soybeans for insects and diseases. Some producers applied fungicides to soybeans. Producers also started getting equipment ready for corn harvest.

GLOUCESTER (David Moore)

Nice rain fell at end of last week and finished making some corns. Soybeans are loving life right now. Early soybeans are receiving a mix of insecticide, fungicide and nutritional right now as many are at growth stage R2-3. Double crop soybeans are getting above the straw and are receiving a shot of glyphosate and, in some cases, nutritional. Corn ears seem to be smaller than usual. Looking for an average to slightly above average corn crop. Field days are being planned and scheduled. Don't forget AG-EXPO on Thursday, August 7, 2014 in Lottsburg on Virginia's Northern Neck. Veggies are doing well. Might be one of the better tomato years that

(Continued – Gloucester County)

we've had in a while. Squash peppers, tomatoes, cantaloupes, etc. all coming in strong. Pumpkins beginning to bloom.

SOUTHWESTERN

CARROLL (Steve Pottorff)

Most of the county received much needed rain. However, more is needed and conditions continue to be drier than normal.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia Gregg)

Some light rain late in the week and over the weekend slowed tobacco harvest. Some fields greened up with the rain and cooler temperatures. Tobacco and soybeans along with other crops are doing well right now, we are hoping for no bad weather.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence Jr.)

Corn continues to show good potential for a bumper crop. Mild July temperatures and regular rains have contributed to good ear growth, quality stalks and leaves. Soybeans are starting to flower. Good leaf area growth thus far full season beans. Double crop soybeans have good stands. Local produce abundant and in high demand at local markets.

MECKLENBURG (Taylor Clarke)

Flue-cured tobacco harvest is beginning with about 40-50 percent of producers priming, when weather breaks most will start.

SURRY (Glenn Slade)

Crops are growing well, with fungicide sprays going out on peanuts and growth regulators and insecticides on cotton. Late weeds being sprayed for in soybeans.