



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE



WEATHER & CROPS



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Week Ending: October 6, 2014

Number: 30

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WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR OCTOBER 5, 2014

Most of the Old Dominion experienced a few scattered, light showers with most areas receiving less than an inch of rainfall. The temperatures returned to the norm for this time of year as temps ranged from normal to 3 degrees above the norm this week. Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.9. These light rains did little to help the state as some areas are very dry and have not seen rain in a little over a month now. Some places have even received their first frost. These issues have livestock producers still worried about the chance of a feed shortage as pastures continue to be dry, forcing some to begin feeding hay. Peanut digging and harvesting are in full swing as the rains continue to ease up. Other farming activities for the week included corn silage chopping, cotton defoliation, and planting winter crops.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
October 5, 2014	9	32	55	4
September 28, 2014	13	26	57	4
September 21, 2014	9	25	59	7
September 14, 2014	1	19	67	13

SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
October 5, 2014	11	29	57	3
September 28, 2014	11	26	60	3
September 21, 2014	8	24	64	4
September 14, 2014	2	22	72	4

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**Virginia Cooperative Extension
Service**

Virginia Tech

Virginia State University

CROP CONDITION PERCENT

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	0	5	27	55	13
Soybeans	1	6	21	62	10
Cotton	0	0	1	79	20
Peanuts	0	0	2	88	10
Livestock	2	6	28	53	11
Pasture and Range	8	20	30	37	5
Hay, Alfalfa	3	16	35	41	5
Hay, Other	6	18	38	36	2
Apples, All	0	2	38	55	5

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Cotton Bolls Opening	88	79	N/A	87
Cotton Harvested	0	0	N/A	9
Peanuts Dug	24	10	N/A	26
Peanuts Harvested	12	2	N/A	10
Corn Dented	98	94	N/A	99
Corn Mature	90	85	N/A	94
Corn for Grain Harvested	57	48	N/A	71
Corn for Silage Harvested	96	93	N/A	92
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	46	39	N/A	56
Soybeans Harvested	5	1	N/A	5
Winter Wheat Seeded	14	9	N/A	17
Barley Seeded	38	28	N/A	40
Flue-Cured Tobacco Harvested	80	70	N/A	81
Fire-Cured Tobacco Cut	95	93	N/A	100
Burley Tobacco Stripped	93	89	N/A	95
All Apples Harvested	47	42	N/A	N/A

Due to a lapse in federal funding in October 2013, the Crop Progress reports for the weeks ending October 6, 2013 and October 13, 2013 were canceled. Therefore, previous year estimates for the corresponding weeks will not be available. Five-year average estimates will reflect the years 2009-2013 using published estimates for 2009-2012 and imputed estimates for 2013.

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING October 5, 2014

* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

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. 4	Mar. 1 to Oct. 4 Norm	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	75	55	79	36	65	3	3690	3582	0.44	1.93	-2.45	35.92	2.04
Norfolk	75	61	79	56	68	0	4269	3997	0.15	9.31	4.77	41.73	5.13
Richmond	78	58	82	44	68	3	4251	3880	0.26	1.54	-2.98	27.21	-7.23
Roanoke	77	55	83	44	66	3	3743	n/a	0.27	1.49	-2.76	30.06	-3.71
Wash/Dulles	72	54	80	36	63	1	3439	n/a	0.30	1.18	-3.03	37.38	4.88

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

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

NORTHERN

FREDERICK (Jeanette Smith)

Frederick is abnormally dry.

WESTERN

AUGUSTA (Matt Booher)

Augusta county as a whole has had no real rain to speak of since August. As a result, fall pasture growth has been nonexistent. Weaned-calf gains have been poor, cow condition is declining rather than increasing going into mid-fall. Where this has not occurred, it is the direct result of feeding hay and other supplemental feeds. Hay is already in short supply due to last year's hard winter and late spring. I am expecting most farmers will begin feeding hay 30-45 days earlier than normal due to the lack of stockpiled pasture. On a positive note, the dry weather has helped facilitate corn silage harvest. In some cases it has caused some corn to dry too quickly, and I have heard reports of a higher than normal amount of silage being made too dry. Any small grains that have been planted have not emerged, even on August plantings.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan Poore)

After some mid-week -light showers, less than 1/4 inch, much cooler temperatures arrived but not any frost. Upper 30's, low 40's over the weekend. Breezy Saturday will help with drying corn. Hay is pretty much over for the season

CHESTERFIELD (Joan Poore)

A light mid-week shower, cooler temperatures, but no frost. Breezy Saturday and a cool weekend. Hay cutting is pretty much over for the season.

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

Harvest activity is ongoing....the dry conditions aid those efforts. We had three rain events last week and none of

them brought any significant moisture....two events yielded a bit under 15/100 each at my western Hanover home and the third was less than 1/10. We are exceedingly dry....Stockpiling fescue has been unfruitful due to lack of moisture. Corn yields continue to run below desired levels but there is a crop to be harvested....some beans look good...some beans look rough...late beans have been moisture challenged...

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Corn harvest continued during the week and most of the crop has been harvested. Producers were also busy soil sampling and planting cover crops. Some barley was planted but acreage will be low due to very low prices. Some producers also got a final cutting of hay.

SOUTHWESTERN

GRAYSON (Kevin Spurlin)

The county saw the first major frost of the season this week. Some last hay and the final acres of corn silage were harvested this past week. A very limited amount remains. Pumpkin harvest is in full swing.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia Gregg)

Light rain early in the week slowed work some. Cooler temperatures over the weekend slowed some progress and started other such a speeding up the yellowing of leaves on full season soybeans.

SUSSEX (Kevin Wells)

Light showers fell over the area the first of the week. Growers have moved along with peanut digging and harvesting and yields are good. Some will begin with cotton defoliation. The cotton crop is ready in some areas depending on soil type, the variety and rainfall.