



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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WEATHER & CROPS



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WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR JANUARY, 2012

Ample amounts of rain have fallen throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. Unseasonably mild temperatures have kept the grounds from freezing in many areas. Wheat growers have been applying fertilizer and herbicides. Lime spreading, soil sampling, equipment repair, input purchases, and some deep tillage activities continued. Many producers are getting greenhouses ready for tobacco and plowing their land.

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	0	4	26	55	15
Small Grain and Winter Grazing Crops	0	1	20	64	15

FORAGE PERCENT OBTAINED FROM PASTURES		
Crop	This Month	Last Year
Beef Cattle Forage % Obtained from Pastures	22	37
Milk Cow Forage % Obtained from Pastures	13	15
Sheep Forage % Obtained from Pastures	40	52

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**Virginia Cooperative Extension
Service**



Virginia Tech



Virginia State University



VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 29, 2012

City	Temperature						Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Last Week	Since Dec 1	Dec. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	54	30	64	24	42	8	0.17	6.84	0.68	2.23	-0.70
Norfolk	60	42	69	37	51	11	0.47	3.36	-2.97	1.80	-1.47
Richmond	58	36	71	31	47	11	0.37	3.76	-2.30	1.73	-1.25
Roanoke	55	34	64	30	44	8	0.26	5.88	0.39	1.69	-0.95
Wash/Dulles	50	33	64	28	42	10	0.23	6.31	0.68	1.85	-0.68

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

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

NORTHERN

FREDERICK (Jeanette Smith)

We had about 1/2 inch of snow last weekend, rainfall is adequate. Producers are feeding winter feed. Temperatures between low 30's and 50's.

ROCKINGHAM (Matthew Yancey)

This winter continues to be quite mild. A few good rains with over one inch of rain in Elkton, Virginia. Average temperature is 36 degrees F.

WESTERN

ROANOKE (Sheri Dorn)

1.96" precipitation for the month. Day and night temperatures are warmer than average.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan D Poore)

At least once a week most areas of the county receive rainfall of .10 to .60 tenths. Nothing real significant, but enough to keep the soil moist. Temperatures have been above average for most of January - a few morning lows - but overall warm compared to the past two winters.

CHESTERFIELD (Joan D Poore)

The county has received rainfall at least once a week of about .10 to .60 tenths each week. Moisture remains adequate - temperatures have been above normal for January with a few morning lows that rebounded nicely. Overall the winter has been mild for December and January.

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

Unseasonably warm temperatures and I would say above average precipitation. Or perhaps is it the lack of cold weather to freeze the ground and it has made for sloppy conditions.

There has been some small growth of cool season grasses in January. Small grains got a good start in the fall but have not demonstrated growth in January. However wet conditions are very limiting to early nitrogen applications on small grain. We are having rain storms march thru again this morning after a cold and drizzly weekend and then a couple of sunny days with highs in the 60's. La Nina winters are nice if we can continue to avoid an ice storm.

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

Wet ground conditions continue. The winter crops that got planted look good due to unseasonably warm conditions. Temperatures have consistently been higher than average throughout the month. Grazers who manage their pasturage are doing well. Traditional management livestock owners have been feeding forages for a while.

EASTERN

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Small grain looks fair. It is undecided about the weather. A lot of small grain looks like it needs N. Fluctuating temperatures have given it a pale look. Some wheat has tillered well. Later planted wheat is in need of some N to begin tillering. Lime spreading, soil sampling, equipment repair, input purchases, and some deep tillage are the activities of the week. Fields are still wet in most cases. We have had ample rains this fall and winter.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)

Some rains have been much appreciated this month. We have had a little minor flooding from some. The small grains are having a bit of insect and fertility issues in places. Many soil samples are getting done at this time. Producers are getting greenhouses ready for tobacco. Some are getting land plowed as well.

PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)

Wheat growers have been active applying some early fertilizer and herbicides. The late seeding of some wheat has growers trying to push the development of more tillers with the mild weather.

SOUTHAMPTON (John Rudy)

Temperatures and precipitation have been above normal for most of the past month. Farmers are working on equipment and planning cropping for the upcoming growing season. Producers and landowners are visiting the FSA County office for 2010 Disaster Applications and DCP signup.

SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells)

Small grains have gotten off to a slow start even though growers have applied some nitrogen to jump start it. Other jobs include taking soil samples, planning for the upcoming growing season, attending production programs and pesticide recertification programs.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence)

Warmer than usual and drier fields have allowed farmers to catch up on field tasks such as mowing ditch banks, drainage improvements and repair tillage.

SOUTHEASTERN

GRAYSON (Kevin Spurlin)

This winter has continued unseasonably mild with plenty of moisture. Most livestock operations have used up stockpiled grass, and are now using hay stocks.



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