



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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

WEATHER & CROPS



Week Ending: May 27, 2012

Number: 12

Released: May 29, 2012

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR MAY 27, 2012

The majority of the Commonwealth received adequate moisture with scattered showers throughout the week. Despite the rainfall, good progress was made on crop plantings. Flue-Cured and Fire-Cured tobacco was over 90 percent transplanted. Sixty-eight percent of Burley tobacco was transplanted this week, leaving 32 percent remaining to be transplanted. Little progress was made with the small grain harvest. Wet fields contributed to the delay in the small grain harvest. Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.3. Hay production was in full-swing throughout the state. Other activities included providing shelter for livestock, applying nitrogen and insecticides to field crops, and preparing for the small grain harvest.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
May 27, 2012	1	16	74	9
May 20, 2012	0	14	82	4
May 13, 2012	0	13	81	6
May 7, 2012	1	13	78	8
April 29, 2012	1	15	74	10

SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
May 27, 2012	1	18	76	5
May 20, 2012	1	16	82	1
May 13, 2012	2	18	77	3
May 8, 2012	2	22	74	2
April 29, 2012	6	18	73	3

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Virginia Cooperative Extension
Service



Virginia Tech

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A partnership of Virginia Tech and Virginia State University www.ext.vt.edu

Virginia State University



VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	0	3	20	66	11
Livestock	0	2	19	60	19
Hay, Other	1	5	29	56	9
Hay, Alfalfa	0	2	21	61	16
Corn	0	1	13	71	15
Winter Wheat	0	2	17	73	8
Barley	0	2	19	72	7
Tobacco, Flue-Cured	0	0	48	37	15
Tobacco, Burley	0	0	18	80	2
Potatoes, Summer	0	0	7	93	0
Apples, All	16	1	28	54	1
Peaches	1	4	32	59	4
Grapes	0	3	20	75	2
Oats	0	0	27	55	18
Cotton	0	0	35	55	10

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Planted	95	89	90	92
Corn Emerged	86	77	77	79
Winter Wheat Headed	100	98	99	NA
Winter Wheat Harvested	2	1	0	1
Soybeans Planted	39	24	40	33
Soybeans Emerged	24	12	24	19
Barley Harvested	27	22	9	6
Flue Tobacco Transplanted	93	91	86	92
Burley Tobacco Transplanted	68	30	36	47
Fire-Cured Tobacco Transplanted	93	75	59	72
Peanuts Planted	85	78	87	82
Cotton Planted	99	85	99	95

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING May 27, 2012

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to May 26	Mar. 1 to May 26 normal	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	82	58	88	50	70	5	1061	819	0.45	10.11	-0.64	14.94	-2.43
Norfolk	77	64	82	61	71	3	1205	880	0.29	9.90	-0.63	14.37	-3.37
Richmond	82	62	86	54	72	5	1192	926	0.13	7.15	-3.36	12.10	-4.94
Roanoke	82	60	89	52	71	5	1116	NA	0.73	10.01	-0.99	13.91	-3.47
Wash/Dulles	81	62	86	51	71	7	1003	NA	2.39	7.49	-2.63	11.58	-4.50

* 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)

We have had showers off and on all week. Cool temperatures in the AM and in the PM starting to get humid and hot.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Tom Stanley)

A band of rain showers passed through Rockbridge Tuesday with amounts varying from less than .2 inch up to 1.4 inches. Grass hay harvest began in earnest this week as the last of the corn was planted.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan D Poore)

Spotty Showers - very warm and getting a little dry.

APPOMATTOX (Bruce Jones)

Wheat harvest has started unusually early this year. Hay harvest continues at a rapid pace. Many farmers need rain as the rain was hit and miss.

CAMPBELL (Todd Scott)

Winter wheat seems to have a scab fungus in it this year in many fields in Campbell County. The wheat looks good from the road, but when you feel the seed head it is empty.

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

Lots of hay laid down this week and over memorial day weekend. Central Hanover had heavy rains this week and western Hanover had little or none. Arrival of hot weather over the holiday weekend has caused corn to jump.

SPOTSYLVANIA (John Howe)

Needed rain was welcome.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Rainfall patterns have become more summerlike, with scattered showers and thunderstorms resulting in large variations of rainfall amounts within relatively small areas. Soil moisture overall remains good. Corn looks very good overall and many farmers finished side dressing the crop with nitrogen this week. Farmers were also busy planting full-season soybeans and applying post-emergence herbicides to corn. Barley harvest started late in the week. Some slug damage was reported in some full-season soybean fields.

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

The corn is growing rapidly. Wheat and barley are drying rapidly. Ford haymaking weather. Showers ahead

RICHMOND (Kelly J. Liddington)

Waiting for the weather to clear so barley harvest can start.

SOUTHWESTERN

SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)

Hot, dry days have slowed everything down. Spotty, scattered showers have brought little relief, but enough rain to slow farming down some. Vegetable crops are looking good so far, some phytophthora (water mold) found in early settings of yellow squash. Hay making is in full swing, and yields are a little less than normal.

TAZEWELL (John Blankenship)

Beginning Hay Season early and most are more prevalent. Curious to see how this summer plays out.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)

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SOUTHERN

FRANKLIN (Cynthia Martel)

With the beautiful weekend producers were out working like crazy, cutting hay, spraying weeds, and watching the corn grow. This week is going to be another beautiful week. Only chances of rain on Tuesday May 29th and June 1. It is going to be another hot week. Corn is growing great, there might still be a few who haven't planted corn yet, but should get it in the ground this week. With the hot weather, farmers are going to start seeing a drop in milk production and reproduction. Provide plenty of water, feed, shade, and comfort to your cows.

PATRICK (Travis Bunn)

Lost some cherries last week due to a storm passing through that left roughly 4 inches of rain behind. Many cherries busted as a result. Little to no damage to any other fruit crops.

SOUTHEASTERN

SOUTHAMPTON (John Rudy)

Some areas of the county have received excessive amounts of rainfall in very short periods of time over the past two weeks. This has lead to some germination failure and required some replanting. In general crops are doing well with needed rains coming at about the right times. Wheat is doing well and the harvest should be average to above average. Pastures are doing well.

(Southeastern continued.)

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SURRY (Glenn Slade)

Some areas of Surry are muddy due to recent rains and other areas are dry with planting on hold until they get some rain. Crops are growing well with some of the corn twisting in dry areas in the heat of the day. Hopefully we can get general widespread rain in the next few days.

SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells)

Growers have worked around early week showers to finish cotton and peanut planting and stands look good. Round-Up and Orthene applications are being made to cotton. Nitrogen applications are being made to corn and Orthene applications made to peanut. Soybean planting continues along while preparations are being made for the small grain harvest. The crop looks good.

VIRGINIA BEACH (Roy D. Flanagan III)

The rain we had for most of the week brought field work to a halt. Drying weather from Friday on, allowed some farmers to catch up on herbicide applications



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