

**REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)**

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

**SOUTHERN**

**FRANKLIN (Beverly Cox)**

Large rainfall last week once again prevented harvesting of hay and small grain silage crops. Hay quality will be marginal to poor with harvesting of mature crops. Wet fields are increasing slug populations and causing more corn replants. Wet spots in fields are also making stands uneven, with spots of short yellow corn next to healthy, green plants.

**SOUTHEASTERN**

**BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)**

Hard rain, some wind and spotty hail in the north end of the county produced minor flooding with potential drowning of some tobacco and row crops, including corn and soybeans on Thursday and Friday. The remainder of the county received rain on Thursday with harder rains Friday. Minor flood and rain totals were collected on Friday morning with some spots getting up to 4 inches of rain. Many farmers are checking on crops, as small grains are drying down for harvest.

**DINWIDDIE (M. Parrish)**

Rust, glum blotch and smut are showing up in several wheat fields this week. Thrip damage is still a concern in cotton.

**PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)**

This week started with crops under drought stress. Corn had started to twist during the afternoon hours. By late week rains had refreshed soil moisture for spring crops. Farmers finished side dressing corn by mid week. Cotton received a spray for thrips and weed control early in the week. Peanut acreage is surprising higher than first thought but still about 50% of 2008 acres. Tobacco was sprayed for the first budworms of the season. A little wheat was harvested to try out combines for the season, but moisture levels are still too high for harvest this week.

**SURRY (Glenn Slade)**

It was a good work week until heavy rains hit Friday night (6/5/09). Some areas got 2 to 3 inches. Crops are growing well, but we don't need too much rain now to lower wheat test weights and slow harvest.

**SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells)**

With recent heat and rainfall the crops are beginning to grow now. Topdressing corn and soybean planting is coming to the end. Wheat harvest is approaching very soon. Insect and weed control continues on cotton, soybeans, peanuts and tobacco. Hay cutting is in full gear as showers have slowed things down. Heavy rainfall has been reported in most areas of the county.

**CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence)**

There was a lot of acres of soybeans planted during the first part of week into good soil moisture. Germination was very fast. Rain Thursday evening across most of area has stopped planting. Wheat is drying down quickly and should be ready for harvest next week.



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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**WEATHER & CROPS**



**Week Ending: June 7, 2009**

**Number: 13**

**Released: June 8, 2009**

**WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING JUNE 7, 2009**

Additional rainfall swept through the Commonwealth this week, putting a halt to hay harvest and spring planting activities. Days suitable for fieldwork were 3.4. The rain had a variable effect on producers, largely dependent upon location and quantity. In a few areas, there were reports of localized storms causing damage to hay fields, fences and barns. Less immediate damage has materialized in the form of diminishing hay quality and increasing reports of pests and diseases in vegetable and crop fields. For some producers, however, these recent showers have been beneficial, supplementing drought-stressed crops and aiding in no-till soybean planting. Wheat is starting to dry down and producers have been working on combines in anticipation of the impending wheat harvest.

Week Ending	TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT			
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
June 7, 2009	0	0	63	37
May 31, 2009	0	5	74	21
May 24, 2009	1	10	80	9
May 17, 2009	0	1	74	25
May 10, 2009	0	0	64	36



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CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	0	1	13	67	19
Livestock	1	3	17	61	18
Hay, Other	0	4	27	59	10
Hay, Alfalfa	0	2	19	64	15
Corn	0	3	25	62	10
Winter Wheat	1	5	25	59	10
Barley	0	3	21	68	8
Flue Cured Tobacco	0	0	21	69	10
Burley Tobacco	0	0	1	91	8
Dark Fire-cured Tobacco	0	0	13	87	0
Peanuts	0	0	5	95	0
Cotton	0	0	28	70	2
Potatoes, Summer	0	0	10	45	45
Apples, All	0	0	21	73	6
Peaches	0	3	37	58	2
Grapes	0	0	16	84	0
Oats	0	0	33	67	0

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Planted	93	91	99	100
Corn Emerged	88	81	92	94
Soybeans Planted	45	36	46	51
Soybeans Emerged	35	21	35	38
Winter Wheat Harvested	3	2	4	4
Barley Harvested	14	13	13	20
Flue-cured Tobacco Transplanted	100	98	99	100
Burley Tobacco Transplanted	80	78	83	80
Dark Fire-cured Tobacco Transplanted	91	85	79	92
Peanuts Planted	99	86	99	98
Cotton Planted	100	97	100	100

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 7, 2009													
City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation thru June 6				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar 1 to June 6	Mar 1 to June 6 normal	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	80	58	90	53	69	2	1047	995	2.18	1.98	1.25	19.39	0.57
Norfolk	82	65	93	62	74	3	1221	1077	3.55	3.55	2.84	19.01	-0.19
Richmond	80	63	94	59	72	2	1203	1113	2.95	2.91	2.19	15.68	-2.76
Roanoke	80	60	91	53	70	2	1104	NA	2.05	1.87	1.11	19.22	0.38
Wash/Dulles	77	58	91	48	68	1	988	NA	4.19	4.03	3.16	23.92	6.21

1/ Formula used: GDD = (daily maximum (86°) + daily minimum (500)); where 86° is used if the maximum exceeds 86° and 50° is used if the minimum falls below 50°. \* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. NA = not available. T=trace. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

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#### NORTHERN

##### CULPEPER (Carl Stafford)

We received about 6 inches of rain in one week. With saturated soils, prospects for planting additional corn diminish with each passing day. Growers that can will switch to beans.

##### PAGE (Bill Whittle)

Heavy rains hit this week. Hay making is at a standstill. A lot of hay on the ground will be low quality mulch. Tornado and heavy winds have flattened hay in one section of the county. One poultry house and one storage barn were completely destroyed and the roof torn off another hay/machinery barn. 1-2 miles of fence were severely damaged by downed trees. Good news- ponds are full!

#### CENTRAL

##### AMHERST (William Seay)

Hay harvest continues between rain showers. Most producers report a better than average crop yield.

##### CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)

Excellent soil moisture has benefitted corn, pastures, and hay fields, but slowed the curing of barley and wheat. Farmers are ready to start combining small grains and getting double crop soybeans planted. Strawberry harvest is pretty much over. The crop was decent but not great.

#### EASTERN

##### ACCOMACK (Jim Belote)

Much needed rainfall has arrived. The precipitation will make for excellent no-till soybean planting conditions. The timely rains for potato, snapbean and corn crops have greatly stimulated growth. The tomato crop looks good and on schedule and the laying of plastic and planting of fall tomatoes has begun. Farmers are applying post emergence herbicides in corn and scouting all crops. Wheat is turning color and starting to dry down and barley is close to harvest.

##### NEW KENT (Paul Davis)

Activities included: Harvesting barley, side dressing corn, planting full-season soybeans, cutting and baling hay, bush hogging around fields and scraping dirt roads. Producers have been working on combines for wheat harvest and spraying post-emergence corn herbicides.

#### SOUTHWESTERN

##### GRAYSON (Kevin Spurlin)

It will be the best hay crop in years if farmers can now get it made. Curing times are long due to humid conditions and wet soils. Corn is off to a great start. Those waiting on double crop small grains for feed are having trouble getting them harvested and corn planted.

##### MONTGOMERY (Barry Robinson)

We received heavy rains again this week. Some hay and grain crops are lodging and fields were too wet to work most of the week. Disease issues are increasing in wheat, vegetables and ornamental crops.

##### SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)

A localized storm moved through the Rye Cove area of the county last night, causing damage to hay fields, fences, and barn roofs. Damage assessments are indicating losses in the range of \$40,000. Strawberries are dwindling, and will be harvested for approximately one more week. Yellow squash and zucchini are coming into production with tomatoes and cucumbers beginning to set fruit. Cattle and sheep producers are experiencing good first-cutting hay yields.