

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)

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

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)

Some vegetable crops from gardens are showing problems with downy mildew. Some tomatoes have early blight and Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus. Tobacco is beginning to bloom. Small grains are being harvested; double crop beans are being planted. Some early corn is already silking and tasseling. We are in need of rain. Pastures are beginning to need water. Hay has been cut and some is better quality depending upon what growth stage it was cut.

PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)

Wheat harvest has progressed very well this week. Overall yields are lower than last years with a range of 35-80 bushels per acre. This lower yielding wheat has contributed to the faster wheat harvest this year. Double-crop soybeans are being planted timely to utilize available moisture. Soybean growers continue to apply post emergence herbicides to full season plantings. Corn has begun tasseling this week with some silking taking place. Tobacco has started to bloom and topping will take place next week. Vegetable harvest is in full swing with cucumbers, squash, and snap beans being harvested. Some sweet corn and cantaloupe will be ready late in the week.

DINWIDDIE (Mike Parrish)

Test weights are low for small grains - 52 to 56 on the low samples, good fields are running around 59 to 61.

SURRY (Glenn Slade)

All crops are growing well but corn could use some rain during silking. Wheat harvest is winding up with double crop beans going in. Peanuts and cotton are being sprayed with herbicides and fungicides.

SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells)

Wheat harvest is in full swing and yield is good. Soybean planting behind wheat is good as many take advantage of good soil moisture. Topdressing of nitrogen on flue-cured tobacco and cotton is underway along with weed control in cotton, soybeans and peanuts. The corn crop looks great at this time.



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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WEATHER & CROPS



Week Ending: June 28, 2009

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WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING JUNE 28, 2009

Producers across the state took advantage of clear, dry weather this week to advance the harvest of small grains and the planting of double-crop soybeans. Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.4. As wheat harvest made good progress, producers quickly followed with double cropped soybeans to utilize the current surplus of soil moisture. Reports of wheat yields are lower than last year, but still remain average to good. The corn crop looks very good and for the most part, progress appears to be in the silking and tasseling stage. Additional rainfall should benefit the crop tremendously. Vegetable farmers also utilized the sunny weather this week, harvesting summer crops such as cucumbers, squash, onions and snapbeans and preparing for the harvest of sweet corn for the upcoming holiday. Tobacco is beginning to bloom and topdressing of nitrogen is underway in some areas.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
June 28, 2009	0	12	81	7
June 21, 2009	0	1	62	37
June 14, 2009	0	1	67	32
June 7, 2009	0	0	63	37
May 31, 2009	0	5	74	21



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CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	0	2	16	60	22
Livestock	1	3	15	56	25
Hay, Other	0	7	30	54	9
Hay, Alfalfa	0	2	17	65	16
Corn	1	2	15	48	34
Soybeans	0	1	12	65	22
Winter Wheat	0	2	38	53	7
Flue Cured Tobacco	0	0	9	75	16
Burley Tobacco	0	0	3	72	25
Dark Fire-cured Tobacco	0	0	1	99	0
Peanuts	0	0	11	75	14
Cotton	0	2	22	63	13
Potatoes, Summer	0	0	3	85	12
Apples, All	0	1	22	70	7
Peaches	0	2	35	61	2
Grapes	0	0	26	74	0
Oats	0	0	25	75	0

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Silked	18	4	15	20
Soybeans Planted	83	62	79	78
Soybeans Emerged	71	49	68	68
Winter Wheat Harvested	66	18	66	56
Barley Harvested	85	55	93	90
Peanuts Pegged	16	9	20	21
Cotton Squaring	25	10	23	38
Summer Potatoes Harvested	5	0	29	9

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 28, 2009													
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 June 27	Mar 1 to June 27 normal	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	88	62	90	60	75	2	1528	1450	0.00	3.71	0.40	21.12	-0.21
Norfolk	84	70	90	67	77	1	1759	1579	0.11	5.81	2.55	21.22	-0.43
Richmond	88	69	92	67	78	3	1749	1595	0.26	4.32	1.22	17.08	-3.74
Roanoke	89	66	91	64	77	3	1618	NA	0.00	4.54	1.28	22.03	0.85
Wash/Dulles	86	66	91	62	76	3	1501	NA	0.00	6.61	2.92	26.42	5.94

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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CENTRAL

CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)

Grain farmers are finishing up the small grain harvest and planting double-crop soybeans into wheat and barley stubble. The corn crop looks excellent. Corn is taller and tasseling earlier than many producers can remember ever happening. We have also received some pollinating showers. One more good rain will make the early corn crop. Vegetable farmers are preparing to begin harvesting tomatoes which are still green, but will ripen soon, with sun and drier weather. Pumpkin growers are preparing to put out seed and transplants for the Jack-O-Lantern trade. Eggplants are being transplanted. Squash, onions, and other early summer crops are being harvested. Fruit growers are still harvesting blueberries.

SOUTHWESTERN

GRAYSON (Kevin Spurlin)

A week of dry, breezy conditions allowed farmers to catch up on hay making. Hay quality is better than usual for this time of year because of significant understory growth. Yields have been outstanding. Burley tobacco was late getting transplanted, but conditions have allowed it to catch up quickly. Beef producers are weaning fall born calves in preparation for post-holiday sales.

EASTERN

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

The week has been good for harvesting wheat and planting soybeans. Wheat yields have been average to good with many fields going in the 60 bushel range with some less and some more. This is not the crop of 2008. Double crop soybean planting continues and there are still some full season beans to be planted due to prolonged wet conditions in some areas. Corn looks very good and still needs intermittent showers to bring it along. Vegetables are improving each day. Cucumbers, squash and the occasional tomato and pepper plants are being harvested. Sweet corn is about on schedule for next week and the 4th. Farm activities included: wheat harvest, soybean planting, post emergent herbicide treatments for soybeans, baling straw, corn Nitrogen sidedressing, haymaking, vegetable harvest and vegetable planting.

MONTGOMERY (Barry Robinson)

It was a very warm dry week, which allowed winter grain harvest to be nearly completed. Vegetable disease and insect problems are increasing. Blueberry harvest is going well.

SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)

The weather cooperated well this week, with haying being the biggest activity of the week.