



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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WEATHER & CROPS



Week Ending: July 1, 2012

Number: 17

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WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR JULY 1, 2012

The Commonwealth suffered another dry week with a high wind storm damaging crops, power lines and structures in some places. In a few areas, storms brought golf ball size hail and wind gusts up to 70 mph. Crop damage assessments are underway. Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.2. The continuation of high temperatures and dry weather did little to improve crop conditions this week, although some progress was made on small grain harvest and soybean planting. Unfortunately, the weekend storms brought little relief by way of rainfall, and not much has improved. A lot of corn is in the silking stage, but the heat is preventing pollination, which may lead to yield losses. The growth of forages and soybeans has stalled, although for now, cotton and peanuts are looking good despite the high temperatures.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
July 1, 2012	26	36	38	0
June 24, 2012	6	37	56	1
June 17, 2012	2	42	55	1
June 10, 2012	1	29	68	2
June 3, 2012	1	10	78	11

SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
July 1, 2012	14	43	43	0
June 24, 2012	5	32	62	1
June 17, 2012	3	27	69	1
June 10, 2012	1	21	76	2
June 3, 2012	1	13	83	3

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Virginia Cooperative Extension
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Virginia Tech

Virginia Cooperative Extension
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	8	19	34	36	3
Livestock	2	5	25	53	15
Hay, Other	13	17	35	31	4
Hay, Alfalfa	3	10	32	49	6
Corn	8	16	21	44	11
Soybeans	1	10	30	51	8
Tobacco, Flue-Cured	8	12	44	28	8
Tobacco, Burley	1	18	38	42	1
Tobacco, Dark Fire	1	30	58	11	0
Peanuts	0	0	15	85	0
Cotton	0	0	18	82	0
Potatoes, Summer	0	0	7	93	0
Apples, All	16	1	23	49	11
Peaches	1	7	33	51	8
Grapes	0	1	7	81	11
Oats	0	0	26	73	1

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Silked	45	8	44	33
Corn Dough	2	0	0	1
Soybeans Planted	93	86	88	86
Soybeans Emerged	83	72	77	73
Winter Wheat Harvested	94	78	83	78
Barley Harvested	99	97	99	95
Peanuts Pegged	29	25	24	26
Cotton Squaring	55	45	54	35
Cotton Setting Bolls	5	0	0	2
Potatoes, Summer Harvested	48	30	29	18
Apples, Summer Harvested	12	8	0	1
Peaches Harvested	10	0	0	0

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 1, 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 June 30	Mar. 1 to June 30 normal	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	92	59	103	50	76	3	1772	1525	0.17	1.71	-2.09	17.11	-4.82
Norfolk	88	69	100	63	78	1	2046	1667	1.09	5.24	1.48	21.70	-0.44
Richmond	92	65	103	57	79	3	1998	1679	0.88	4.26	0.71	16.57	-4.67
Roanoke	93	63	104	54	78	4	1890	NA	0.00	3.27	-0.40	17.76	-3.89
Wash/Dulles	90	61	102	51	76	3	1755	NA	0.38	1.82	-2.22	14.63	-6.27

* 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

CLARKE (Jacob Grove)

There was some storm damage, mainly to fences and more mature corn.

FREDERICK (Jeanette R. Smith)

This week was hot and dry. Temperatures ranged from 80-100's. We are still short on rainfall.

ROCKINGHAM (John Welsh)

Extreme heat and dry weather continue to be persisting themes. The week's end saw significant rolling in corn fields and pastures have started to brown. Weather events over the weekend resulted in a widespread loss of power throughout the county. This coupled with high heat indices has resulted in a significant loss of poultry. Some structural damages occurred as a result of high wind.

SHENANDOAH (Bobby Clark)

We received a severe storm Friday night, June 29. Not sure about damage at this time.

WESTERN

BOTETOURT (Andy Allen)

High temperatures in the high 90's and 100's. Grass is turning brown quickly.

CRAIG (Andy Allen)

Pastures are becoming short due to dry conditions and high temperatures.

ROCKBRIDGE (Tom Stanley)

Extremely hot temperatures and damage from a fast moving storm Friday night highlighted farm conditions this week in Rockbridge. Wind speeds up to 70 m.p.h. struck suddenly and briefly Friday night downing trees and power lines but brought little rain. Temperatures in the 90s most of the week and touching the triple digits Saturday hindered storm clean-up efforts and other field work.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan D Poore)

It was very dry and extremely hot this week. We had 4 days of triple digit temperatures while approximately 70% of the corn planted in the county is in the silking stage. The heat is

(Central continued)

preventing pollination. Friday night - a severe storm rolled through with extremely high winds - but no rain.

APPOMATTOX (Bruce Jones)

Some corn was blown over during the storm on Friday evening. Conditions are very dry and crops are suffering. Some tobacco is being irrigated.

CAMPBELL (Todd Scott)

On Friday June 29th severe wind storms hit the area coupled with 4 days of heat over 100 degrees in the sun. Livestock, crops and families have been struggling. Many of the storms have knocked out power in the area. I suspect we will see some crop damages from the heat and wind storms.

CHESTERFIELD (Joan D Poore)

It was extremely hot and dry this week. Triple digit temperatures did not help the crops last week as dry as it was. A severe thunderstorm rolled through Friday and Saturday night, leaving some areas with some rain but not widespread. Most rain fell in the city and not the rural areas. The storm had a lot of wind, but no significant damage has been reported.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Heat and no substantial rainfall took a big toll on crops, especially corn this week. Much of the crop was in the pollination stage, and the severe stress will result in large yield losses. The growth of forages and soybeans are pretty much at a standstill.

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Weather is hot and soil is drying. Corn looks very good due to recent showers, but the heat will take a toll this coming weekend. Yield potential is still good. A lot of corn is silking and tasseling right now, a good shower would help a lot. Soybeans are holding their own and look very good. Wheat harvest is winding down and double crop soybean planting is not far behind. Some double crop soybeans are up, but most are not. Haymaking continues with good quality and quantity. Vegetables are looking good but need continued irrigation or rain. Some sweet corn is ready as well as a few tomatoes and cantaloupes. Farm activities include: soybean planting, wheat harvest, post emergent herbicide applications on soybeans, haymaking, straw baling, sweet corn picking, farm clean up and fix up, and scouting crops.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)

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

SOUTHEASTERN

MECKLENBURG (Taylor Clarke)

Tobacco coming in top, producers are irrigating. The storms produced spotty rain in very small amounts. The hail damaged 500 plus acres at 20 to 100 percent.

PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)

The extreme heat and lack of moisture is taking its toll on crops. Corn yields will be impacted greatly as we are right in the middle of ear development. Some sweet corn was observed where ears are failing to grow under rain fed conditions. Pasture and hay growth has been greatly curtailed with much of the area turning brown already. Soybeans are starting to show signs of stress and reduced growth. Cotton and peanuts are looking good even through the high temperatures.

SURRY (Glenn Slade)

The storms over the weekend did only minor damage, some trees down and power was lost for only a short period of time. We did get some much needed rainfall.

VIRGINIA BEACH (Roy D. Flanagan III)

Spotty showers have brought enough moisture to keep most of the soybeans germinating and growing normally. These same showers have caught hay and wheat straw on the ground with some hay being caught twice by rain. A few dry days this week would be perfect for those areas to finish up getting those crops off the ground. Wheat harvest should finish up early with double crop soybeans concluding by the end of this upcoming week. Vegetables seem to be coming off at a normal schedule.

SOUTHWESTERN

SMYTH (Andy Overbay)

Oppressive heat and dry conditions have taken a tremendous toll on crops in the past week. Some hay feeding has begun with beef herds and some herd sell offs are beginning to occur. Without sustained rain in the coming weeks, crop failures will be a real possibility.

TAZEWELL (John Blankenship)

We are ending the 3rd week with no rain.

WASHINGTON (Phil Blevins)

The weather is extremely dry. Pastures are almost depleted and some livestock producers are beginning to feed hay.

SOUTHERN

FRANKLIN (Cynthia Martel)

It is going to be another very hot week, please take extra care with animals and yourself in the heat. Livestock will need a lot of clean fresh water, feed, and shade. Last Friday night's storm hit Franklin County very hard leaving a large number of farms running off of generators. As of Monday, I am sure there are still farms without power.

LUNENBURG

G (Lindy Tucker)

We need rain! We keep getting "storms" with high winds, but no rain. Some people are still out of power from Friday night's wind gusts. Temperatures have been reaching over 100 degrees for several days. Everything not under some kind of irrigation is burning up. The corn looks terrible. Soybeans look dry, but are holding on. Tobacco looks great still; tops are starting. Peaches under irrigation are looking good. Cases of Downy mildew with homeowners and small vegetable producers were reported. People are concerned about how the lack of winter will affect everything this year.



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