



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: July 8, 2012

Number: 18

Released: July 9, 2012

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR JULY 8, 2012

Another week of high temperatures and dry conditions was felt across most of the state. Some storms were seen, but constant high temperatures countered any soil moisture accumulated. Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.3. Farmers continued to clean up downed trees, fences, and some buildings from the recent wind storm and assess crop damage. Vegetable and fruit producers appear to have been hit the hardest, with damage to fruit trees and some vegetable crops being reported as a total loss. Both barley and winter wheat harvest were completed, with soybeans planting almost complete as well. Several days of triple digit temperatures are taking a toll on both crops and livestock and the constant heat has caused ponds to turn over producing fish killoffs.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
July 8, 2012	29	48	23	0
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

SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
July 8, 2012	19	51	30	0
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

IN THIS REPORT:

Crop Condition Percent	pg 2
Crop Progress Percent With Comparisons	pg 2
Weather Summary Table	pg 3
Reporter Comments by County	pg 3,4

Virginia Cooperative Extension
Service



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	9	25	43	21	2
Livestock	1	4	29	52	14
Hay, Other	9	23	37	27	4
Hay, Alfalfa	4	13	31	49	3
Corn	13	25	39	18	5
Soybeans	2	12	59	22	5
Tobacco, Flue-Cured	9	25	36	27	3
Tobacco, Burley	1	15	39	44	1
Tobacco, Dark Fire	2	17	61	18	2
Peanuts	0	1	39	60	0
Cotton	0	1	17	82	0
Apples, All	17	0	26	55	2
Peaches	1	6	45	43	5
Grapes	0	0	25	74	1
Oats	0	0	33	62	5

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Silked	54	45	59	49
Corn Dough	6	2	7	4
Soybeans Planted	98	93	94	93
Soybeans Emerged	89	83	87	81
Soybeans Blooming	1	0	5	3
Winter Wheat Harvested	100	94	91	92
Barley Harvested	100	99	100	99
Peanuts Pegged	40	29	29	39
Cotton Squaring	65	55	79	63
Cotton Setting Bolls	7	5	1	9
Potatoes, Summer Harvested	75	48	42	29
Apples, Summer Harvested	15	12	11	7
Peaches Harvested	18	10	6	7

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 8, 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 July 7	Mar. 1 to July 7 normal	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	97	69	100	66	83	9	1966	1692	1.34	3.05	-1.71	18.45	-4.32
Norfolk	94	76	99	73	85	7	2266	1853	0.00	5.24	0.44	21.70	-1.63
Richmond	99	75	104	71	87	10	2212	1858	0.00	4.26	-0.22	16.57	-5.52
Roanoke	98	71	102	68	85	10	2093	NA	0.00	3.27	-1.27	17.76	-4.72
Wash/Dulles	97	72	101	68	84	9	1959	NA	0.23	2.05	-2.83	14.86	-6.99

* 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)

Strong storms have provided needed rain, as well as, caused downed trees and some crop losses. The high heat has impacted livestock production.

FREDERICK (Jeanette Smith)

Temperatures have been in the 100's. We had a bad storm on June 29th, at night, with winds of 90 mph. Fruit trees were damaged by high winds. Many trees damaged properties. The Fourth of July brought high winds and thunderstorms again. Hardly any rain with this storm.

MADISON (Brad Jarvis)

The extreme heat and lack of moisture is causing a rapid decline in crop conditions.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Tom Stanley)

The recovery from the wind storm of 6/29/12 took up much of the week with farmers hauling water to livestock due to power outages, clearing debris and making repairs to fences and some buildings. Dry and extremely hot conditions occurred the entire week but pasture and crop fields remain in fair to good condition.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan D Poore)

The triple digit temperatures this past week has severely damaged the corn crop. This is a repeat of 2010 for the corn crop - probably 10 to 15 % production. The lack of rainfall does not help, but the extreme high temperatures have caused the most damage. Soybeans – some look fairly strong, some the foliage is drying up, and others are just extremely wilted. There is a possibility for the soybeans to recover if there is rainfall soon and lower temperatures. Hay and pastures are drying up fast. Livestock is also feeling the effects of the heat.

CHESTERFIELD (Joan D Poore)

The triple digit temperatures have affected the corn to the point there most likely won't be any grain to harvest. Lack of rain has been a factor as well, but mostly the extreme heat. Soybeans are suffering, but with some rainfall and lower temperatures, they may potentially make an average. Hay and pastures are drying up to no quality at all.

(Central Continued)

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

Corn in this county is for the most part toast. A full week of 100 degree plus temperatures and no rain right at the critical time of tasseling has pretty much doomed yields. While riding around and looking on Saturday corn everywhere was firing from the bottom and twisted up tight. Losses from last week's storms were most severe in the vegetable growing region of eastern Hanover. Several large producers report total loss of all vegetable crops mostly from the hail and winds. This includes tomatoes, peppers, eggplants and corn, etc. Some people are still without power. Grass has gone dormant and even the warm season grasses don't have enough moisture to continue growth. We are beginning to see widespread well failures. It has been a rough week.

PRINCE EDWARD (Jennifer Bowen)

Temperatures exceeded 100 degrees every day leaving crops and pastures in poor condition. Beef producers are feeding hay due to pastures not producing because of the temperatures and lack of rain.

SPOTSYLVANIA (John Howe)

Very hot and very dry conditions continued during the week. All days have been over 90° F. The hot dry conditions are unfavorable for corn, which is at a critical stage of development.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Another week of extreme heat and no rainfall until Sunday evening continued to take its toll on corn, soybeans, pastures, and hay fields. Rainfall Sunday ranged from a trace to over 1 inch. For field crops, field work was limited during the week due to dry conditions. Summer vegetable harvest was in full swing during the week.

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

It is hot and getting dry. This area is below average for rainfall this year. The heat is taking toll on corn and soybeans. Several days over 100 degrees with no appreciable rainfall in sight. Activities include post application of herbicides on beans, wheat harvest, scouting crops, watching corn curl up, harvesting veggies - corn, cantaloupes, tomatoes, peppers, and squash. Haymaking continues and is one of the bright spots right now, but the possibilities of a next cutting are slim.

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)

Spotty storms last week gave a little water to some crops, however the heat and humidity did prove to be stressful for corn, soybeans and even livestock. Some spotty storms produced hail with some tree damage. Irrigation is on going with tobacco crops. Heat, humidity and storms have caused a few pond turnovers therefore several fish kills have been reported.

DINWIDDIE (Mike Parrish)

It is very dry!

MECKLENBURG (Taylor Clarke)

Heat and lack of rain are taking a toll on crops.

SURRY (Glenn Slade)

Several days of triple digit temperatures are taking a toll on crops and livestock. Hopefully we will get some relief with rain and lower temperatures this week, July 9-13. Corn is in a critical reproductive stage. Soybeans, peanuts, and cotton are also in need of rain.

SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells)

Send the rain! The crops have gone backwards in just a few days. We have had a few popcorn showers and hail.

VIRGINIA BEACH (Roy D. Flanagan III)

The dry weather enabled farmers to complete soybean planting. Most acreage had enough moisture to germinate the seed, but some farmers planted in dry soil hoping the forecasted rain will bring what the seed needs. Send rain!

SOUTHWESTERN

SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)

We received approximately 1/2 inch rain, breaking a hot dry trend. More rain is needed to turn around pasture and second cutting hay growth. Some producers are already feeding hay to supplement pastures.

(Southwestern Continued)

SMYTH (Andy Overbay)

Recent storms have caused widespread wind damage, but have also brought much needed moisture back to Smyth County. Rainfall continues to be spotty and the county's conditions are more favorable in southern and eastern sections. Pasture is a major concern. Smyth County pastures are having a tough time recovering from the depletion attributed to extreme heat in the past weeks. New growth is being grazed as quickly as it emerges in pastures without rotation. Rested ground is beginning to regain lush cover.

SOUTHERN

FRANKLIN (Cynthia Martel)

Franklin County is still recovering from the horrible storm that came through. Power outages and tons of down trees still plague the area. Please report crop damage, animal death or structure damage to your insurance companies and extension office. It is going to be a little cooler this week and hopefully some much needed rain after the last 2 hot weeks. Corn is looking great! Soybeans are growing! But we are seeing some cows on pasture looking skinny. Pastures are being over grazed and nothing will grow back this season.

LUNENBURG (Lindy Tucker)

We are still waiting on rain. Things are getting pretty bad. This week before us may determine whether crops fail or not.

PATRICK (Travis Bunn)

Crop losses from last week were more severe for fruit producers than any others. Most losses from livestock producers were fencing and one report of structure damage so far. There were a few small incidences of hail damage from vegetable producers.

