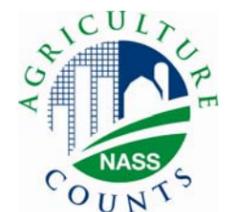


REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)

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



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WEATHER & CROPS



Week Ending: July 19, 2009

Number: 19

Released: July 20, 2009

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 19, 2009

Variable rain showers across the Commonwealth provided short term relief to crops this week, although a more abundant rainfall is needed to improve those that are truly moisture stressed. In general, dry weather throughout the week allowed for the harvest of vegetables and fruits. Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.3. As soybean planting has concluded, producers are actively scouting their fields for pests and weeds and applying post-emergent herbicide treatments where needed. Reports of the corn crop range from poor to excellent, largely dependent on the amount of moisture recently received. Pastures and hayfields remain in good condition, although additional rainfall would be beneficial for both growth and quality.

Week Ending	TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT			
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
July 19, 2009	5	38	55	2
July 12, 2009	3	34	60	3
July 5, 2009	1	23	68	8
June 28, 2009	0	12	81	7
June 21, 2009	0	1	62	37



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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

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	2	10	27	52	9
Livestock	0	2	11	70	17
Hay, Other	0	10	30	51	9
Hay, Alfalfa	0	2	24	50	24
Corn	3	10	26	40	21
Soybeans	2	9	28	49	12
Flue Cured Tobacco	0	0	11	58	31
Burley Tobacco	0	0	3	80	17
Dark Fire-cured Tobacco	0	0	42	58	0
Peanuts	0	3	10	75	12
Cotton	0	3	34	54	9
Potatoes, Summer	0	0	25	45	30
Apples, All	0	1	25	70	4
Peaches	0	6	24	67	3
Grapes	0	2	9	88	1
Oats	0	0	48	52	0

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Silked	78	58	74	73
Corn Dough	29	7	23	26
Soybeans Emerged	99	93	94	95
Soybeans Blooming	16	6	16	23
Peanuts Pegged	71	55	79	65
Cotton Squaring	72	65	83	90
Cotton Setting Bolls	37	14	35	46
Summer Potatoes Harvested	55	25	61	41
Summer Apples Harvested	23	18	18	21
Peaches Harvested	27	15	24	22

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 19, 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 July 18	Mar 1 to July 18 normal	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	86	61	91	54	74	-1	1980	1940	0.34	5.11	-1.27	22.52	-1.95
Norfolk	86	69	92	63	77	-2	2298	2125	1.50	7.55	0.99	22.96	-1.99
Richmond	88	67	94	61	78	0	2279	2122	1.39	6.54	0.49	19.29	-4.52
Roanoke	85	64	91	58	75	-1	2108	NA	0.29	5.87	-0.11	23.36	-0.72
Wash/Dulles	88	63	95	53	76	0	1987	NA	0.04	6.78	0.62	26.59	3.67

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.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

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

CENTRAL

CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)

Soil moisture continues to be good in most of the county. Some areas in eastern Caroline are drying out. Pastures and hayfields are looking good. The corn crop is excellent, and has received good rainfall for the most part. Most corn has silked and is filling out. The soybean crop is planted and doing well. Vegetable farmers are harvesting tomatoes, corn, squash, and peppers. Blackberries are in. Fall vegetable crops (pumpkins and winter squash) have been planted.

NORTHERN

CLARKE (Jacob Grove)

The lack of rainfall is starting to show in pastures and corn. Nearly all small grains are now harvested.

SOUTHWESTERN

MONTGOMERY (Barry Robinson)

Most of the week was dry, allowing for harvest of vegetables and fruits for weekend sales. Producers are saying that some vegetable harvests are later than normal due to cooler than average temperatures this summer. Pasture and hayfields are getting much needed rainfall.

SOUTHEASTERN

DINWIDDIE (Mike Parrish)

It is very dry and all crops are showing signs of moisture stress.

SURRY (Glenn Slade)

Most of the county got about an inch of much needed rain on Friday (7-17). The rain gave crops a boost, and with more rain predicted for this week, spirits on the farm are much better.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence)

Rain on Friday helped our corn crop, which is looking above average now. Soybeans have all been planted and we have a good stand in most places. Farmers are spraying roundup on soybeans now and cleaning the fields of weeds.

EASTERN

ACCOMACK (Jim Belote)

It is very dry. Only a few drops of rain were received; the big rain did not occur. The corn crop is hurting bad - it is at the critical stage of ear development and very dry in most areas. Soybeans can still recover. Tomato and potato harvest is in progress with fairly good yields. Fall planting of crops such as beans and tomatoes is underway. Farmers are actively scouting their soybean crop.

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Parts of area need rain. There have been scattered showers that have helped much of the immediate area, but more rain is needed to finish out the corn crop. Much of the late planted corn is still not out of the woods. Soybeans look okay, but some are beginning to suffer due to hot and dry conditions. Showers fell over most of area at week's end. Vegetable harvest looks good. On-farm activities include scouting for weeds and insects in soybeans, as well as, post-emergent herbicide treatments. Field days and summertime meetings fill the agenda. The corn earworm survey in corn will begin next week.