

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)

The lack of rain and excessive heat has taken toll on most of the crops. Excessive temperatures are also causing some producers to sell livestock.

DINWIDDIE (Mike Parrish)

High temperatures are interrupting peanut blooming and pegging.

PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)

Rainfall fell across most of the county this week. Rainfall totals were highly variable from 0.3 to 2.5 inches. The corn crop is estimated at an 80% loss at this time. Soybeans are hanging on but will need much more moisture through August to make a decent crop.

SOUTHAMPTON (John Rudy)

Rains this week have been of little help. Topsoil and subsoil moisture is nonexistent. The heat consumes the moisture almost as fast as it comes down. Corn losses continue to mount. Soybeans are drying in the fields. Cotton still blooming out of top and boll load is pretty much set. Peanuts are not wilting as bad and showing some potential. Heat seems to be moving crop maturity ahead of normal. Pastures are dry with supplemental feeding. More livestock is being culled.

SURRY (Glenn Slade)

Drought continues, with peanuts, cotton, and soybeans in critical stage for moisture. Pastures are dried up with corn being cut for silage.

SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells)

There have been some extremely hot dry field conditions. The corn crop is lost, but with good rainfall now will help us save the peanut, tobacco, soybean and cotton crops. Many of us will be presenting information to local government for disaster declarations.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Extremely hot and dry conditions continued to take a toll on crops and livestock.

KING GEORGE (John Howe)

Hot dry conditions continued this week. Row crops continue to suffer from excessive heat and drought conditions. Pasture resource are about to run out and farmers will need to feed hay if they haven't started yet. Second cutting of hay will be short too adding stress to available feed supplies.

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Some showers fell last week over parts of the area, but too late for corn. Showers did freshen up soybeans, some hay and pasture land.

SOUTHWESTERN

MONTGOMERY (Barry Robinson)

There was above average temperatures late in the week dried up the scattered storm showers earlier in the week. Hayfields and pastures need rain soon. Corn is starting to show signs of drought stress. Crops not irrigated are exhibiting stunting and smaller fruit size.

PULASKI (Jason Pratt)

There was another week of hot temperature with very little to no rain.



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

USDA/NASS/Virginia Field Office
P.O. Box 1659
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WEATHER & CROPS



Week Ending: July 25, 2010

Number: 20

Released: July 26, 2010

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 25, 2010

Record breaking temperatures followed by hit and miss precipitation have been the norm for the week across the Commonwealth. Days suitable fieldworks were 6.3. The excessive heat has been hard on crops and livestock. The corn crop has continued to suffer with ear and kernel formation problems reported in some fields. The effects of the weather have become evident on the soybean crop now with many double cropped fields with poor or no stands. Pasture resources are limited and farmers are feeding hay in some areas. Tobacco producers are continuing to irrigate.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
June 27, 2010	29	46	25	0
July 4, 2010	47	36	17	0
July 11, 2010	55	35	10	0
July 18, 2010	52	35	13	0
July 25, 2010	50	38	12	0



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Virginia Cooperative Extension
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VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	37	34	21	8	0
Livestock	2	11	33	45	9
Hay, Other	28	31	30	11	0
Hay, Alfalfa	4	22	41	29	4
Corn	41	30	20	8	1
Soybeans	27	38	28	7	0
Tobacco, Flue-cured	43	31	15	11	0
Tobacco, Burley	8	8	17	55	12
Tobacco, Dark Fire-cured	37	24	28	10	1
Peanuts	9	12	46	33	0
Cotton	5	32	39	24	0
Apples, All	11	21	54	9	5
Peaches	5	9	41	39	6
Grapes	0	0	37	31	32

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Silked	87	82	82	82
Corn Dough	41	24	47	37
Corn Dent	18	N/A	8	7
Soybeans Emerged	96	92	100	99
Soybeans Blooming	38	14	31	33
Soybeans Setting Pods	7	N/A	2	4
Flue-cured Tobacco Harvested	7	N/A	N/A	N/A
Peanuts Pegged	53	42	80	79
Cotton Squaring	80	75	83	91
Cotton Setting Bolls	55	49	46	58
Summer Potatoes Harvested	90	60	72	59
Summer Apples Harvested	44	14	32	23
Peaches Harvested	46	36	38	33

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 25, 2010													
City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50)		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to July 24	Mar. 1 to July 24 Normal	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	95	69	100	67	82	7	2436	2095	0.09	4.06	-3.19	23.78	-1.51
Norfolk	98	77	105	74	88	8	2774	2293	0.46	4.95	-2.66	24.59	-1.56
Richmond	99	74	105	72	86	8	2771	2283	0.47	1.89	-5.11	18.68	-6.22
Roanoke	92	73	97	70	83	6	2559	NA	0.38	6.10	-0.67	23.44	-1.23
Wash/Dulles	93	72	99	68	83	7	2484	NA	1.08	4.46	-2.40	21.08	-2.60

* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

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NORTHERN

FAIRFAX (Adria Bordas)

There has been some high temperatures. The tomatoes are ripening fast, melons all at once and herb crops are bolting.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan D Poore)

The excessive heat this past week has been critical to crops and livestock.

APPOMATTOX (Bruce Jones)

The excessive heat and dry winds were detrimental to all crops. Tobacco farmers are still irrigating but water availability is now a concern. Cattle farmers are feeding hay. Corn silage harvest will begin soon.

BEDFORD (Scott Baker)

High temperatures and spotty rainfall continue to take a toll on agriculture conditions. The corn for silage crop is significantly reduced and many livestock producers are providing supplemental feed.

CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)

We got some much needed rain showers last week that brought temporary relief to the soybean crop. Soybean canopy has filled out better, but fields are weeks behind normal development stages. Most beans are not yet blooming.

CHESTERFIELD (Joan D Poore)

The excessive heat has been critical to the yield and production of corn and soybeans. The silking stage of corn has past and yields will be very low.

FLUVANNA (John Thompson)

a lack of appreciable rainfall has almost doomed the corn crop. Beans are very slow to grow, and late planted beans had a poor germination.

CENTRAL (continued)

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

Temperatures remain hot. Temperature at Richmond airport was 105 on 7/24/10.

NELSON (Michael Lachance)

Drought conditions are developing.

SPOTSYLVANIA (John Howe)

Hot and dry conditions continued this week. Row crops continue to suffer from excessive heat and drought conditions.

WESTERN

AUGUSTA (Tom Stanley)

Some scattered thunderstorms helped some parts of the Valley region this week but drought stress persists on virtually all crops.

ROCKBRIDGE (Tom Stanley)

Scattered thunderstorms brought some relief for parts of the county, but drought conditions persist for most of the county.

SOUTHERN

PITTSYLVANIA (Stephen Barts, Jamie Stowe)

Dry conditions continue to persist despite scattered showers. Tobaccos are producers continuing to irrigate.