

**REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)**

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

**SOUTHEASTERN**

*Southeastern Continued.*

**BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)**

Some rain has begun to fall in places. Pastures are getting a bit green if rain has fallen on the warm season grasses. Tobacco harvest is going slowly. Hay is iffy at best at this point.

**ISLE OF WIGHT (Janice Spence)**

Scattered showers and storms this week have continued to improve crop conditions in Suffolk and Isle of Wight Counties. In addition, temperatures have been much lower, allowing for better growth of area crops, especially soybeans.

**SOUTHAMPTON (John Rudy)**

Pastures are still suffering and producers are supplementing feeding. Scouting for field pests is on-going. Some corn harvest is happening with very low yields.

**SURRY (Glenn Slade)**

Recent showers got peanuts, cotton, and soybeans growing again, but we still need more rain to get a decent crop.

**SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells)**

Scattered showers fell over most of our area this week. Crops have responded well to the much needed rainfall. Growers continue to scout peanut, cotton and soybean fields for insect pests. Many soybean fields have been treated for corn earworm infestations. Corn harvest will start up very soon.

**CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence)**

We have had two showers totaling 1/2 to 1 inch this week. Soil moisture conditions are good. Some full season soybeans were sprayed this week for worms. Double cropped soybeans have delayed development due to the dry conditions. They are just entering the physiological maturity stage of setting pods and therefore may need protection from worm damage. Vegetables at the Farmers Market are relatively abundant. There is renewed interest in planting wheat this fall with rising wheat prices.



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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**WEATHER & CROPS**



**Week Ending: August 15, 2010**

**Number: 23**

**Released: August 16, 2010**

**WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 15, 2010**

Recent rains and thunderstorms have improved the soil moisture in some areas of the state. Days suitable for field work were 5.9. Corn is being harvested for silage with small ears with little or no kernels. The precipitation has been very beneficial to cotton, soybeans and peanuts. Fruit and vegetable crops are fair to good, and farmers are reporting good demand for local produce. Tobacco harvesting is underway at a slow pace.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
July 18, 2010	52	35	13	0
July 25, 2010	50	38	12	0
August 1, 2010	48	35	17	0
August 8, 2010	35	38	27	0
August 15, 2010	35	37	28	0



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VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	31	32	24	13	0
Livestock	5	11	28	46	10
Hay, Other	25	30	29	15	1
Hay, Alfalfa	11	11	35	37	6
Corn	39	28	21	11	1
Soybeans	13	26	36	25	0
Tobacco, Flue-cured	18	34	21	25	2
Tobacco, Burley	4	11	9	66	10
Tobacco, Dark Fire-cured	6	46	41	5	2
Peanuts	6	12	50	32	0
Cotton	10	28	41	21	0
Apples, All	0	18	73	8	1
Peaches	6	17	30	40	7
Grapes	1	1	7	81	10

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Dough	85	80	79	77
Corn Dent	62	55	44	46
Corn Mature	29	21	3	12
Corn Silage Harvested	46	39	17	19
Soybeans Blooming	80	75	85	81
Soybeans Setting Pods	33	27	60	57
Flue-cured Tobacco Harvested	22	17	33	23
Burley Tobacco Harvested	10	4	3	3
Dark Fire-Cured Tobacco Harvested	10	N/A	20	15
Peanuts Pegged	72	65	93	96
Cotton Squaring	98	93	100	100
Cotton Setting Bolls	74	67	88	96
Cotton Bolls Opening	1	0	14	16
Summer Apples Harvested	60	55	67	62
Peaches Harvested	66	56	75	75

**VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 15, 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 Aug 14	Mar. 1 to Aug 14 Normal	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	90	69	95	61	79	4	2960	2573	0.15	8.15	-1.55	27.87	0.28
Norfolk	89	75	96	73	82	4	3389	2855	0.01	10.92	-0.33	30.56	0.90
Richmond	92	71	98	67	82	5	3370	2820	0.32	3.95	-6.17	20.74	-7.28
Roanoke	90	71	97	65	80	4	3122	NA	0.30	7.95	-1.40	25.29	-1.90
Wash/Dulles	89	69	97	62	79	4	3042	NA	1.73	8.26	-1.02	24.88	-1.03

\* 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**

*Central Continued.*

**CLARKE (Jacob Grove)**

With several scattered storms, almost everyone has gotten rain this week. Much of the corn harvested for silage has had small or no ears even when it had fair stalk growth.

**FLUVANNA (John Thompson)**

We have had small amounts of rain lately, but the damage to corn has long been done. Most of the county's corn is being harvested for silage instead of grain. Pastures and hay fields are yet to see any appreciable growth.

**FAIRFAX (Adria Bordas)**

We are still well behind on our precipitation this year.

**SOUTHWESTERN**

**FREDERICK (Jeanette Smith)**

Peach harvest is almost complete. Other fruits and vegetable gardens are drying up. Approximately 75 percent have stopped producing. Vegetables were small in size. A lot of wildlife damage to gardens.

**MONTGOMERY (Barry Robinson)**

The week ended with some rainfall but it was not significant in most areas. Corn is still struggling; some crops have poor ear formation and may not develop in time for harvest. Hayfields are suffering from heat and dry conditions. Clovers are checking out and grasses stunted due to conditions. Some producers are selling livestock early since their pastures and hay crops are so reduced. There are some areas of the county that are not so negatively impacted. Fruit and vegetable crops are fair to good, especially if irrigated.

**CENTRAL**

**AMELIA (Joan D Poore)**

The scattered rains have been helpful, Crops have improved in areas that have been fortunate to receive rainfall. However, last week had a lot of heat to factor in which did not help the crop situation or the stress to livestock.

**SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)**

There were scattered showers and thunderstorms throughout the county last week.

**CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)**

Moisture conditions are much improved. August has been very wet. Many areas have received over 4" of rain in the last two weeks. Pastures and hay fields have rebounded well. If temperatures stay warm we may get another cutting of hay before winter. Soybeans have put on a "growth spurt". Canopies have filled out and beans are looking much better, even though they are weeks behind normal maturity stages for August. Farmers are scouting for corn ear worms in soybeans and evaluating corn fields to assess whether they are worth harvesting.

**TAZEWELL (John Blankenship)**

Tazewell County, unlike much of the remainder of the state, has had good rainfall with a couple of showers per week throughout the summer.

**SOUTHERN**

**PITTSYLVANIA (Jamie Stowe)**

Dry conditions continue to persist. Tobacco harvest continues, but is slow. Cattle producers are culling herds and feeding winter hay supplies.

**CHESTERFIELD (Joan D Poore)**

Scattered rains have been beneficial, but those not receiving any rain are still in despair. The heat is still a factor absorbing the showers needed. It is too late for rain to benefit the corn. Early soybeans are in bloom, some double crops are blooming and some are not. The heat remains stressful to livestock.