

**REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)**

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

**SOUTHERN**

**FRANKLIN (Beverly Cox)**

Most of the county received 5 to 6 inches of rain last week which delayed corn silage harvest during the week.

**PITTSYLVANIA (Stephen Barts, Jamie Stowe)**

Significant rainfall during the week has benefitted the tobacco crop. Most producers are between lugs and cutter harvest. Tobacco grades have been better than expected. Cattle producers continue to cull herds due to lack of feed supplies and are currently feeding winter supplies.

**SOUTHEASTERN**

**BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)**

The rain this week was helpful. Seeing earworm infestations in soybeans. Spraying has started by several producers and local agribusiness. Most corn is being harvested as silage.

**MECKLENBURG (Clark)**

Most of the county received good rains this week which should improve tobacco and soybean crops.

**PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)**

Rainfall covered the county this week with variable amounts. Most areas received nearly 2 inches from several storm events. This is most welcome to the soybean crop as most plants are now developing pods. Peanuts should also respond very well as late pegs develop and mature. Soybean producers are still

**PRINCE GEORGE (continued)**

scouting fields for corn earworm and treating later planted fields. Moth trap counts have increased sharply this week indicating that another wave of corn earworms are likely within the next week. Vegetable growers are preparing for fall crops as summer vegetables yields were greatly reduced by heat and drought.

**SOUTHAMPTON (John Rudy)**

Soil moistures are improving, but we are still in need of continued rains to keep crops coming along. Growers are scouting peanut, cotton and soybean fields for insect pests.

**SURRY (Glenn Slade)**

Spotty showers bought drought relief to some areas. Soybean and cotton insect sprays are going out. Crop insurance adjusters are busy determining corn yields before it is destroyed, or cut for forage.

**SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells, Sussex ANR Agent)**

Thunderstorms moved through most of our area this week with some heavy rain amounts and crops like tobacco, late planted soybean, peanut and even cotton will benefit from the much needed moisture. Growers continue to scout late planted soybean, peanut, cotton and grain sorghum for corn-earworm infestations. A lot of fields have already been treated.

**CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence)**

Additional rain has helped vegetables, pastures and soybeans this week. Some high moisture corn harvest began this week. Corn silage harvest is complete. A lot of worm spraying activity has taken place with most acreage already sprayed a first time this year.



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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**WEATHER & CROPS**



**Week Ending: August 22, 2010**

**Number: 24**

**Released: August 23, 2010**

**WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 22, 2010**

Rainstorms have brought relief to many counties but caused some flooding in a few places. Days suitable for field work were 4.8. Soybeans responded extremely well to the much needed moisture along with millet, peanuts, alfalfa and mixed hay. Dark tobacco harvest is well underway and farmers continued to apply herbicides to the late planted soybeans. Earworm infestations have been seen throughout the state in some soybean fields. In some areas, farmers are preparing the drought stricken corn fields for cover crops and small grains. Vegetable growers are busy harvesting tomatoes, melons, and peppers while others are preparing their fields for next year's crops.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
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
August 22, 2010	19	29	49	3



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VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	24	29	28	18	1
Livestock	3	12	30	45	10
Hay, Other	21	29	28	21	1
Hay, Alfalfa	6	13	30	42	9
Corn	32	30	24	12	2
Soybeans	10	19	36	34	1
Tobacco, Flue-cured	17	27	21	25	10
Tobacco, Burley	8	11	12	57	12
Tobacco, Dark Fire-cured	4	43	43	8	2
Peanuts	5	10	50	35	0
Cotton	8	27	45	20	0
Apples, All	5	20	57	15	3
Grapes	1	1	16	68	14

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Dough	89	85	83	83
Corn Dent	69	62	60	59
Corn Mature	44	29	27	25
Corn Harvested	8	0	N/A	N/A
Corn Silage Harvested	62	46	44	35
Soybeans Blooming	90	80	90	90
Soybeans Setting Pods	55	33	70	70
Flue-cured Tobacco Harvested	27	22	43	32
Burley Tobacco Harvested	17	10	7	8
Dark Fire-Cured Tobacco Harvested	38	10	38	23
Peanuts Pegged	91	72	99	99
Cotton Setting Bolls	91	74	98	99
Cotton Bolls Opening	4	1	18	26
Summer Apples Harvested	85	60	74	79
Fall Apples Harvested	12	N/A	N/A	N/A
Peaches Harvested	75	66	79	82

**VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 22, 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 21	Mar. 1 to Aug 21 Normal	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	86	69	92	64	78	4	3148	2742	1.23	9.38	-1.04	29.10	0.58
Norfolk	88	74	92	71	81	4	3599	3043	1.84	12.76	0.50	32.40	1.55
Richmond	89	72	96	69	81	5	3570	2999	1.85	5.80	-5.35	22.59	-6.37
Roanoke	86	70	89	65	78	3	3316	NA	3.05	11.00	0.82	28.34	0.29
Wash/Dulles	86	69	90	65	77	2	3229	NA	1.60	9.86	-0.20	26.48	-0.54

\* 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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**CENTRAL**

**EASTERN**

**AMELIA (Joan D. Poore)**

Very nice rains this past week were beneficial to all crops except for corn (too late). Almost all soybeans have bloomed except for the very late double cropped that were planted around the 1st of July. Early soybeans are looking good, pods are filling out. Millet, alfalfa, mixed hay and pastures are improving with the rains. Everyone did not receive the same amounts, but moisture has been county wide this past week. It has not been a good week for hay curing, but it can stand another week of growth. Tobacco is improving with weight and quality with the moisture and reasonable temperatures.

**ESSEX (Keith Balderson)**

Widespread rainfall of 1.5 to 3 inches during the week helped to restore topsoil moisture. The soybean crop has responded to the moisture with good growth in fields with good stands. Pastures and hay fields are perking up also, but the hot dry summer has taken its toll. Farmers continued to treat soybean fields for corn earworms, and a significant acreage has been treated twice. Corn harvest began with very poor yields of less than 20 bushels per acre to 60 bushels per acre reported.

**SOUTHWESTERN**

**APPOMATTOX (Bruce Jones)**

Farmers were applying herbicides to late planted soybeans. Dark tobacco harvest is well underway.

**MONTGOMERY (Barry Robinson)**

Most of the area received around 2 inches of rain from Sunday through Thursday - very helpful to all crops except those nearing final harvest (increase disease pressure and fruit rots). Corn is rebounding fairly well as well as hayfields and pastures; though it could be too late to help hay come back before second cutting time.

**CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)**

Continued weekly rains have improved pastures and hayfields tremendously. Soybean fields are looking much better, although plants are just beginning to flower well and put on pods. Maturity levels are well behind normal for August. Farmers are disking down drought stricken cornfields and preparing to plant small grains and cover crops in those areas. Vegetable farmers are preparing fields and plants for next year's strawberry crop and harvesting tomatoes, melons, and peppers. Pumpkins are putting on fruit for Jack-o'-lanterns.

**SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)**

Over 8 inches of rain fell in two days last week, with 3 inches on Wednesday and 5+ inches falling in less than a 4 hour period on Thursday. Localized flooding occurred in the Fort Blackmore and Fairview areas of the county, resulting in damage to silage corn, standing and cut tobacco, vegetables, and both standing and baled hay.

**CHESTERFIELD (Joan D. Poore)**

The rains have made an improvement to soybeans, hay and pasture. It is too late for the corn crop this year. All early soybeans have bloomed and have pods developing. Later double crop soybeans are in bloom or starting to catch up due to the dry and extreme heat when planted. They have potential now to produce a decent crop at harvest provided that conditions continue to improve.

**TAZEWELL (John Blankenship)**

Raining so much we can't get 2nd cutting of hay dry.