



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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WEATHER & CROPS



Week Ending: September 2, 2012

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WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 2, 2012

Virginia continued to experience diverse weather conditions. Scattered rain showers flooded some cropland while other parts of Virginia suffer from drought like conditions. However, the majority of the Commonwealth did experience some precipitation over the weekend. Most of Virginia's crop conditions improved due to the rain. In general, the temperature was about 4 to 5 degrees warmer than normal for this time of year, which was accompanied with high humidity. Days suitable for field work were 5.2. The corn harvest was well underway, with 66% of corn for silage harvested and 17% of corn for grain harvested. Corn yields varied greatly depending on the location and the total rainfall for the season. Farmer's activities this week included spraying insecticides and fungicides, planting strawberries, and planning for the small grain plantings.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
September 2, 2012	2	23	66	9
August 26, 2012	3	27	64	6
August 19, 2012	8	33	55	4
August 12, 2012	5	32	58	5
August 5, 2012	18	31	50	1

SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
September 2, 2012	5	28	61	6
August 26, 2012	5	35	55	5
August 19, 2012	9	36	54	1
August 12, 2012	5	45	48	2
August 5, 2012	16	45	38	1

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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	3	14	31	47	5
Livestock	1	6	27	55	11
Hay, Other	6	24	27	37	6
Hay, Alfalfa	2	7	23	54	14
Corn	16	22	23	30	9
Soybeans	1	5	23	59	12
Tobacco, Flue-Cured	4	11	52	27	6
Tobacco, Burley	2	14	36	37	11
Tobacco, Dark Fire	16	28	44	11	1
Peanuts	0	0	6	66	28
Cotton	0	0	6	58	36
Apples, All	7	2	40	40	11
Grapes	0	2	20	78	0

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Dough	93	92	93	93
Corn Dent	80	74	78	79
Corn Mature	46	38	58	54
Corn Harvested	17	5	12	11
Corn Silage Harvested	66	65	61	58
Soybeans Blooming	98	94	97	96
Soybeans Setting Pods	67	61	86	85
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	3	0	3	4
Tobacco, Flue Harvested	40	30	32	40
Tobacco, Burley Harvested	29	11	24	21
Tobacco, Dark Fire Harvested	65	30	79	50
Cotton Bolls Opening	20	16	29	28
Apples, Summer Harvested	73	68	89	90
Apples, Fall Harvested	58	52	15	17
Peaches Harvested	84	80	88	90
Oats for Grain Harvested	69	67	0	NA

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 2, 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 Sep. 1	Mar. 1 to Sep. 1 normal	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	87	65	94	61	76	4	3380	3029	0.04	NA	NA	22.43	-7.47
Norfolk	88	72	91	71	80	4	3889	3334	2.01	NA	NA	32.41	0.00
Richmond	90	70	95	67	80	5	3783	3275	0.02	NA	NA	25.29	-4.81
Roanoke	88	66	95	63	77	4	3557	NA	0.08	0.08	-0.04	24.77	-4.71
Wash/Dulles	89	65	95	61	77	4	3453	NA	0.33	NA	NA	20.06	-8.19

* 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.

(Eastern Continued.)

NORTHERN

FREDERICK (Jeanette Smith)

Scattered thunderstorms and high humidity.

couple of weeks. Pumpkins are blooming and setting fruit and harvest should begin in about 3-4 weeks.

SOUTHWESTERN

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Tom Stanley)

Light showers helped crop and field conditions this week while corn silage harvest got underway. Soil moisture is adequate and crop conditions are good overall.

GRAYSON (Kevin Spurlin)

Corn silage harvesting started this week with plenty of hot dry weather starting to affect corn moisture levels. Pastures are also drying up with scattered reports of supplemental hay feeding due to limited grass supply. Tobacco is also nearing harvest quickly.

CENTRAL

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

Humid warm and damp describes the past week....grass is growing both cool season and warm season grasses are growing well with adequate moisture. We continue in a warm and rainy pattern with scattered showers across the area. Soy beans continue to show promise and I have not heard of any serious disease or insect out breaks in the county for the bean crop. As harvest reports come in the corn crop was not as much of a total loss as thought. While some corn was a total loss, some folks have reported yields as high as 85 bushels per acre. This is a testimony to the widely scattered and spotty rains of the early summer. Good year for stockpiling fall grasses and I hope livestock producers will take advantage of the opportunity.

SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)

Rain showers were welcomed over the weekend. Hot temps has pulled moisture from the soil, and plants were showing stress signs. Corn growers preparing to chop silage, cattle farmers selling calves and preparing for bred heifer sale.

SOUTHERN

FRANKLIN (Cynthia Martel)

Franklin County - Let it rain, we will take it! Expected changes of rain much of the week, which will help soybeans, and hay fields.

LUNENBURG (Lindy Tucker)

We are continually getting some rain and things are greener, especially in the southeast corner. Definitely need to continue getting rain as things are a bit drier down deep than they appear. *Tobacco is moving along; bales are being sold and have even seen a flue field completely finished. *Soybeans look really great in some places; seen some evidence of girdling from alfalfa leaf hoppers, and general pest damage; trying to keep an eye on corn earworm populations. *Grain sorghum is heading out and looking good; have seen considerable corn earworm damage to heads in fields just outside of the county so keeping an eye on that. *Corn is not really worth mentioning; still standing in the field, very little head development. *Livestock still look good.

EASTERN

MIDDLESEX (Moore)

Last weekend rainfall measured anywhere from 2-8 inches in the area. Soybeans loved it. Some insecticide and fungicides being sprayed on beans. Threat of worms is just about over. Soybeans should do very well this year except in cases where plant populations were too high. Corn harvest continues. Yields are mostly below average, but some good to very good yields around. Folks are making some small grain planting decisions/preparations for fall. Haymaking continues although it has been aggravating due to the frequent showers and high humidity. Vegetable harvest is about over for most crops. Some squash, peppers and tomatoes are still being harvested. Sweet potatoes look good and should begin harvest in the next

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)

Rain this week was welcomed but kept some tobacco producers quite busy. The rain has caused some minor flooding in some areas. Silage has been harvested this week as well. Some hay was on the ground and got wet as well.

SURRY (Glenn Slade)

Recent rains have slowed corn harvest and late season sprays. Corn that was harvested showed very good yields, 120-180 bushels per acre. Growers are also cautiously optimistic about cotton, peanuts, and soybeans. Hope we can have good harvest weather.

(Southeastern Continued)

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence)

We are receiving frequent rains which are slowing field work such as corn harvest and soybean pesticide applications. Worm pressure in soybeans has been light thus far. Some strawberry growers are challenged with getting their soil fumigation done on time for planting at end of month. Soil moisture is adequate and now we need clear skies for harvest and field work.

VIRGINIA BEACH (Roy D. Flanagan III)

Growing conditions are good, corn harvest is well underway. Our strawberry farmers have started to lay black plastic for planting the crop towards the end of the month. Temperatures have been moderate this week. Local produce is abundant at farmers markets.

