



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

WEATHER & CROPS



USDA/NASS/Virginia Field Office
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Week Ending: October 24, 2010

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WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 24, 2010

Scattered rains sustained soil moisture conditions but did not generally hinder field work across the Commonwealth. Days suitable for field work were 6.1. Producers spent the week harvesting soybeans and planting small grains as field conditions allowed. Vegetable farmers were busy marketing pumpkins for Halloween, harvesting greens and winter squash. Cotton and peanut harvests are in full swing.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
September 26, 2010	56	34	10	0
October 3, 2010	4	18	55	23
October 10, 2010	6	27	63	4
October 17, 2010	6	27	65	2
October 24, 2010	9	24	65	2

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Virginia Cooperative Extension
A partnership of Virginia Tech and Virginia State University www.ext.vt.edu



VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	16	28	37	19	0
Livestock	2	9	37	47	5
Soybeans	19	27	42	11	1
Peanuts	34	38	26	2	0
Cotton	25	32	27	16	0
Apples, All	0	40	53	7	0

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Harvested for Grain	95	92	78	85
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	95	92	93	91
Soybeans Harvested	37	27	26	26
Winter Wheat Seeded	46	27	36	29
Winter Wheat Emerged	18	9	16	8
Barley Seeded	90	75	84	78
Flue-cured Tobacco Harvested	87	85	99	96
Peanuts Dug	79	47	93	85
Peanuts Combined	49	20	72	66
Cotton Harvested	74	44	38	43
Fall Apples Harvested	81	74	97	96
Winter Apples Harvested	74	70	74	69
Oats for Grain Seeded	85	60	76	32

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

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

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 24, 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 Oct 23	Mar. 1 to Oct 23 Normal	Last Week	Since Sept 1	Sept 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	70	41	77	33	56	1	4210	3790	.84	7.88	1.43	40.15	3.98
Norfolk	70	49	75	42	60	0	4916	4245	.00	13.45	6.80	46.28	7.39
Richmond	69	44	75	37	57	0	4805	4111	.41	7.97	1.28	30.69	-6.28
Roanoke	71	46	79	38	59	3	4435	NA	.66	8.14	1.93	37.49	1.79
Wash/Dulles	66	42	77	33	54	0	4312	NA	.01	7.80	1.51	34.31	-0.34

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

NORTHERN

FAIRFAX (Adria Bordas)

The weather has been good; rain is more regular in Fairfax County. However, we are a little behind precipitation overall

FREDERICK (Jeanette R Smith)

We were blessed with rain shower on Monday. Temperatures have been in the range of 60s during the day and 40s at nights.

Appomattox continued.

the rain and are beginning to sort and grade for market. Burley tobacco looks good in the barns.

CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)

Moisture conditions have improved. Small grain and cover crops are germinating and growing well. Pastures and hay fields are greening up. Soybean producers are still harvesting beans and planting winter cover and small grain.

WESTERN

AUGUSTA (Tom Stanley)

Some light showers Wednesday morning did little to alleviate dry conditions. Harvesting and planting activities progressed rapidly and fair weather conditions were favorable for field activities of all kinds. Most of Augusta experienced the first fall frost this week.

ROCKBRIDGE (Tom Stanley)

Most of Rockbridge County received .5 to 1 inch of rain Wednesday morning helping maintain topsoil moisture and temporarily disrupting field activities. Corn harvest quickly resumed and is 75% complete. The first frost this fall occurred in most of Rockbridge Saturday morning with morning low temperatures around 30 degrees.

CHESTERFIELD (Joan D Poore)

Conditions are favorable for fall harvest and seeding.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan D Poore)

Conditions have been favorable for fall harvest and planting.

APPOMATTOX (Bruce Jones)

Rain earlier in the week aided small grain germination. Soils dried quickly and field work rapidly resumed. Corn and soybean harvest continued with some producers now waiting on the crops. Dark tobacco producers were able to get tobacco out of their barns due to

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Rainfall on Wednesday kept soil moisture conditions in good shape for small grain emergence. Farmers spent the week harvesting soybeans and planting small grains as field conditions allowed. Some double-crop soybean fields have been slow to completely drop leaves and reach full maturity.

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Wheat planting and soybean harvest continued this week. Most barley is planted, as well as, most corn is out. Soybeans yields are about average to slightly lower. Soil conditions have been good for small grain planting. Some small grains are up and look good. A good chance to sell and contract.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)

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

SOUTHEASTERN

SOUTHAMPTON (John Rudy)

Cotton and peanut harvest in full swing. We are seeing much diminished yields. Soybeans are being harvested. Pastures still in bad shape with little new growth. Fall planting of small grains has started.

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