



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

WEATHER & CROPS



United States
Department of
Agriculture



USDA/NASS/Virginia Field Office
P.O. Box 1659
Richmond, VA 23218-1659
Phone (804) 771-2493
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/va>

Week Ending: October 30, 2011

Number: 34

Released: October 31, 2011

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 30, 2011

Cold rainy weather delayed field activities in many areas of Virginia. Some areas saw light snow. Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.0. Many areas had their first killing frost this week. Corn harvest is almost complete with yields from good to very good. Many growers continued to harvest soybeans. Wheat and barley planting continued. Peanut and cotton yields look very good. Vegetable farmers are cleaning up plastic from summer planting beds, disking in crop residues, and planting cover crops in pumpkin and squash fields. Some continued to harvest greens, broccoli, cabbage and other fall crops.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
October 2, 2011	1	11	67	21
October 9, 2011	2	19	71	8
October 16, 2011	1	12	67	20
October 23, 2011	1	8	78	13
October 30, 2011	0	8	77	15

SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
October 2, 2011	7	12	66	15
October 9, 2011	6	17	68	9
October 16, 2011	6	15	66	13
October 23, 2011	6	10	73	11
October 30, 2011	5	8	76	11

IN THIS REPORT:

Crop Condition Percent	pg 2
Crop Progress Percent With Comparisons	pg 2
Weather Summary Table	pg 3
Reporter Comments by County	pg 3,4

Virginia Cooperative Extension Service

Virginia Cooperative Extension

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

Virginia Tech



Invent the Future

Virginia State University



VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	4	5	26	53	12
Livestock	1	4	21	55	19
Hay, Other	4	8	27	48	13
Hay, Alfalfa	0	2	19	55	24
Soybeans	0	4	17	63	16
Peanuts	0	3	16	58	23
Cotton	0	11	60	27	2
Apples, All	0	0	41	56	3

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn for Grain Harvested	89	87	99	90
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	92	84	99	97
Soybeans Harvested	29	16	45	36
Winter Wheat Seeded	53	40	57	45
Winter Wheat Emerged	23	11	33	20
Barley Seeded	87	80	94	90
Oats for Grain Seeded	82	79	86	51
Peanuts Dug	85	65	90	93
Peanuts Combined	55	47	70	78
Cotton Harvested	60	56	77	61
Winter Apples Harvested	80	76	78	86

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 30, 2011

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 Oct. 30	Mar. 1 to Oct. 30 normal	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	66	39	77	30	53	0	4115	3837	0.63	7.43	0.36	31.08	-5.48
Norfolk	69	50	80	42	59	1	4951	4304	0.49	8.88	1.55	47.19	7.54
Richmond	66	43	79	34	55	0	4686	4166	1.46	11.43	4.11	41.01	3.39
Roanoke	65	42	74	36	53	-1	4290	NA	1.05	11.48	4.73	36.57	0.37
Wash/Dulles	59	40	68	33	50	-2	4133	NA	1.50	14.20	7.24	39.56	4.24

* 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.

NORTHERN

CLARKE (Jake Grove)

Snow and rain are delaying harvest and impacting bean quality

FREDERICK (Jeanette R. Smith)

Apples are coming to the end of harvest. The rain had slowed them down. Corn and bean harvest has been delayed due to the wet weather.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Tom Stanley)

Some rain this week and light snow brought .25 to .5 inches of moisture to most of Rockbridge. A freeze Saturday night brought the growing season to a complete close.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan D Poore)

The beginning of the week was excellent for crop harvest, weather wise. A cold rain and colder temperatures arrived Friday evening and into Saturday, totaling 1 and 1/2 inches. Sunday morning were the areas first killing frost, 28 degrees with a slow warm-up of 60 degrees.

APPOMATTOX (Bruce Jones)

All farms were very busy last week with soybean harvest, hay harvest and small grain planting. Rain on Friday gave many a much needed break although there is still much to do. We had our first killing frost yesterday morning (October 30).

CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)

Corn crop is generally in except for a few wet spots here and there. Grain farmers have switched over to harvesting soybeans. Most full-season beans are ready for harvest. Many double-crop fields are still very green and the soil is wet in many fields. Saturday night's general freeze in this area will aid in dry down. Farmers may have to wait until the ground freezes to harvest some fields. Vegetable farmers are cleaning up

(Central Cont'd.)

plastic from summer planting beds, disking in crop residues, and planting cover crops in pumpkin and squash fields. Fall greens and turnips are still being harvested.

CHESTERFIELD (Joan D Poore)

The beginning of the week was excellent for harvesting crops, dry, sunny and warm. A cold rain and colder temperatures came in Friday and Saturday. The first killing frost Sunday morning of 30 degrees with a nice warm up of 60 degrees and sunny.

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

Beautiful week. Lots of harvesting getting done and some seeding of fall crops. Saturday we had 1.4 inches of rain at my western Hanover home. Began Friday night and continued most of Saturday. Saturday night we had the first killing frost. I had ice in some water containers so it got below 32 degrees and there was heavy frost everywhere. Frost on Monday morning as well.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Following rainfall of around 1.5 inches for much of the area on Friday night and Saturday, much of the area received frost on Sunday morning. Farmers spent the week harvesting soybeans and planting wheat. With more rainfall forecast, it looks like field work might be slow for the upcoming week. Vegetable farmers continued to remove plastic and plant cover crops, while continuing to harvest greens, broccoli, cabbage, and other fall crops.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)

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

Eastern (cont'd)

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Corn harvest just about over. Yields have been good to very good. Soybean harvest is in full swing. Yields have been very good to excellent. Quality in some instances has been below average due to late season dampness and humidity and their impact on soybean diseases. Wheat and barley planting continues as well as cover crops. Field prep for small grain planting continues. Folks are making plans for another year and booking corn and soybean seed for 2012. Haymaking continues and quality is good. Hay curing is becoming more difficult as weather gets cooler and days get shorter. Fall cutting of hay has been the best of season in most cases.

SOUTHWESTERN

SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)

First heavy frost of the year hit Sunday morning. Most crop activities are over - still some left over corn to be picked. Pasture is getting short, with some farmers beginning to feed hay.

TAZEWELL (John Blankenship)

Fall is here. Cooling down and first snow this weekend.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)

Cold, rain and frost hit this weekend. There was some minor flooding over the weekend, standing water in ditches and some low areas. Corn harvest is just about finished and soybean harvest is slowly starting as very few plants still have leaves and are drying out well. Some soybean fields are showing black mold areas.

PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)

Our first heavy frost occurred Saturday morning. Peanuts were finished in anticipation of the late week rains and potential frost. Last of the cotton was defoliated this week for the same reasons. Soybean harvest continued with good to very good yields. Wheat planting made good progress as well. Some late hay was made to finish the season while pastures are flush with fescue and ryegrass.

SOUTHAMPTON (John Rudy)

All harvesting is progressing very well. Peanuts look good with very good yields. Cotton is about 65% and some soybeans are being harvested. Yields for cotton and soybeans are expected to be at or above the county average yields. We have been rain free for the past week and this is helping with the harvest progression and Fall plantings.



**National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service**

USDA/NASS/Virginia Field Office

P. O. Box 1659
Richmond, VA 23218-1659
Phone (804) 771-2493
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/va>
Address Service Requested