

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 last week slowed harvest as most folks could not get back in the field until late in the week. Producers were combining soybeans Sunday, trying to get ahead of next week's front. Harvest of grain crops seem to be yielding well at this point. Small grains are looking good.

SURRY (Glenn Slade)

Things are finally drying out, with soybean and cotton harvest in full swing, and small grains being seeded. Corn and peanuts are all in. Growers are very satisfied with yields.

SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells)

Rainfall has slowed down fall harvest but benefitted small grain planting and germination. Soybean and cotton harvest is in full swing along with small grain planting. Soil sampling and the applications of lime and fertilizers are active. Yields of crops are reported as good.

VIRGINIA BEACH (Cal Schiemann)

Light rain stopped soybean harvest early in the week. Warm, windy days contributed to good soybean harvest activity late in the week. The warm weather is also helping late planted strawberries grow to normal size before entering winter dormancy. Fall vegetable harvest (string beans, limas, cabbage, broccoli and collards) is underway.



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>

WEATHER & CROPS



Week Ending: November 8, 2009

Number: 35

Released: November 9, 2009

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 8, 2009

Lingering rain showers early in the week delayed harvest activities for many producers across the state. Small grain and cover crop planting continued and conditions have been favorable for rapid germination. As the week progressed and fields dried up, row crop harvest resumed as producers worked on catching up with fieldwork. Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.5. The harvest of corn and peanuts is beginning to wind down, as soybean and cotton harvest moves ahead full force. Yield reports range from good to excellent for most crops and cover crops and winter grain crops are looking good, as well. A few regions reported scattered frost in their area this past week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
November 8, 2009	1	6	87	6
November 1, 2009	1	4	86	9
October 25, 2009	2	17	76	5
October 18, 2009	2	11	80	7
October 11, 2009	4	30	65	1



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

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 STATE UNIVERSITY

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	3	9	40	42	6
Livestock	1	3	16	63	17
Soybeans	0	4	16	54	26
Barley	0	2	13	66	19
Oats	0	1	36	44	19

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Harvested for Grain	85	83	92	95
Soybeans Harvested	50	36	40	54
Winter Wheat Seeded	62	53	58	64
Winter Wheat Emerged	43	32	30	29
Barley Seeded	92	89	99	96
Peanuts Combined	99	93	93	95
Cotton Harvested	62	55	67	70
Apples Winter Harvested	90	83	98	97
Oats for Grain Seeded	90	85	92	N/A

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 8, 2009													
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 Nov. 7	Mar. 1 to Nov. 7 Normal	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	61	35	68	29	48	-3	3877	3883	1.80	7.14	-0.79	33.73	-3.74
Norfolk	61	47	70	35	54	-2	4647	4373	0.27	11.25	2.98	48.16	7.69
Richmond	62	40	68	33	51	-2	4474	4232	1.02	7.07	-1.24	31.58	-6.93
Roanoke	61	38	67	32	49	-2	4108	NA	0.72	6.55	-1.15	38.85	1.85
Wash/Dulles	58	36	66	29	47	-2	4031	NA	0.64	8.17	0.24	39.60	3.27

1/ Formula used: GDD = (daily maximum (86°) + daily minimum (500)); where 86° is used if the maximum exceeds 86° and 50° is used if the minimum falls below 50°. * Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. NA = not available. T=trace. 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.

CENTRAL

APPOMATTOX (Bruce Jones)

Harvest of soybeans and corn are in full swing. Wet field conditions hindered operations last week, but farmers were surprisingly quick to get back in the fields. Planting of wheat continues and some grass land has been moldboard plowed for next season's corn and tobacco crops.

CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)

Farmers are finishing up the last quarter of soybean harvesting. Cover crops and winter grain crops are almost in and are looking very good. Soil moisture is very good going into winter.

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

More than two inches of much needed rain last weekend caused harvest delays this week. Some planting was taking place late in the week, but combines are just starting to move again. Bean harvest is stagnant.

SOUTHWESTERN

MONTGOMERY (Barry Robinson)

Late fall/early winter vegetables are doing well (greens, winter squash, fall broccoli). Holiday product harvests are increasing. Winter prep work is in progress.

SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)

Warmer days and no rain last week allowed some catch-up on most farms. Even with the rainfall we have received, leaves and the duff layer in the forest is drying fast, resulting in the first major wildfire of the fall yesterday.

WESTERN

ROANOKE (Sheri Dorn)

Daily temperatures have been average for the season. Weekly rainfall was 0".

EASTERN

ACCOMACK (Jim Belote)

Soybean harvest pace has picked up now that dry weather has returned. Yields are very good with most above average. There have been good planting conditions for wheat and barley with rapid germination in most fields. We had our second frost during the week. The first frost a couple of weeks ago was minor but the frost this past week was major killing frost. Temperatures dropped to 28 degrees. That will end it for most vegetable crops.

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Farmers made good progress harvesting soybeans during the last half of the reporting period. Farmers also continued planting wheat, taking soil samples and applying lime and fertilizer.

KING GEORGE (McGann Saphir)

Moisture conditions are very good. Grain farmers are finishing up soybean harvest and planting winter grain crops and cover crops.

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Showers and cloudy conditions stalled soybean harvest this week. Small grains and cover crop planting continues. Soybean yields are very good to excellent. Corn harvest is still about 1 week to completion, depending on weather. There was scattered frost in the area this week and throughout the weekend. Soil moisture is good and barley and cover crops look very good. Farm activities for this week include soybean harvest, equipment repair, purchase of supplies for 2010, bushhogging, farm clean up, small grain and cover crop seeding. Plans continue for winter meetings and pesticide applicator recertification.