

**REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)**

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

**WESTERN**

**ROANOKE (Sheri Dorn)**

Temperatures are still above average for the time of year. Remnants of Hurricane Ida brought 5.08 inches of rain this week.

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

Extremely wet conditions have prevented producers from finishing corn and soybean harvest and finishing the wheat planting.

**SOUTHWESTERN**

**CARROLL (Webb Flowers)**

Excessive rain yielded 3-5 inches for two days from Tropical Depression Ida.

**MONTGOMERY (Barry Robinson)**

We received over 5 inches of rain, with some flooding. Water gap repairs and debris cleanup are in progress. Temps are above normal so far, therefore grasses are still growing a bit. Fall vegetable crops are still going as well.

**SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)**

Most farmers are taking a break, and enjoying the mild weather. Cattle producers are awaiting VQA sales tonight, amidst uncertain market prices. Heifer developers are making final preparations for the VAPAH sale on November 28th.

**SOUTHERN**

**FRANKLIN (Beverly Cox)**

Rain from Tropical Storm Ida totaled 6 - 9 inches in the county over 2 days. Low lying bottoms along rivers and creeks experienced flooding. There were reports of livestock fatalities at one farm, but no other damage to crops or livestock has been reported yet.

**HENRY (Melanie Barrow)**

Remnants of Hurricane Ida caused the Smith River and several creeks to swell out of their banks. Minor road flooding occurred. No significant agriculture flood damage reported.

**SOUTHEASTERN**

**BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)**

Last week's rains from Ida proved to be a bit more than we could handle. Creeks and rivers overflowed, and there was flooding along roadsides, fields and other areas. Trees fell onto fences and some livestock got out but were put back into fields as fences were being fixed.

**SURRY (Glenn Slade)**

The "November nor'easter" stopped all field work and left some fields flooded. We still have a way to go with cotton and soybean harvest, and small grain seeding. We need several good drying days to get back in the fields.

**SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells)**

Heavy rain fell over most of the area the last several days and totals were around 5 - 6.5 inches. This will put fall harvest on hold for a while. We are thankful for the rainfall. Many are getting ready for deer season and pesticide recertification.

**VIRGINIA BEACH (Cal Schiemann)**

More than 12 inches of rain flooded rivers, ditches and low lying fields. Soils are saturated and will require several days to dry before soybean harvest can restart. A number of recently planted wheat fields will require replanting.



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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**WEATHER & CROPS**



**Week Ending: November 15, 2009**

**Number: 36**

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**WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 15, 2009**

Fieldwork came to halt mid-week as the remnants from Hurricane Ida made its way across the Commonwealth this week. The three-day storm system, which consisted of heavy rainfall and high winds caused damage and flooding in several areas, although no significant agricultural flood damage has been reported. Days suitable for fieldwork were 2.4. While the rainfall greatly benefitted the majority of cover crops and small grains, there are a few reports of damage to wheat in flooded fields which will need to be replanted. Even though farmers are anxious to resume fieldwork, for most it will take several days of sunny, dry weather before row crop harvest and small grain plantings can begin again.

Week Ending	TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT			
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
November 15, 2009	0	2	38	60
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



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CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	4	9	33	48	6
Livestock	1	4	18	62	15
Barley	0	4	23	63	10
Oats	0	1	38	57	4

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Harvested for Grain	89	85	96	98
Soybeans Harvested	57	50	53	66
Winter Wheat Seeded	69	62	70	75
Winter Wheat Emerged	52	43	44	38
Barley Seeded	95	92	100	99
Peanuts Combined	100	99	97	98
Cotton Harvested	66	62	72	78
Apples Winter Harvested	99	90	100	100
Oats for Grain Seeded	95	90	97	N/A

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 15, 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. 14	Mar. 1 to Nov. 14 Normal	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	64	41	76	34	53	4	3929	3908	3.71	10.85	2.38	37.44	-0.76
Norfolk	64	49	71	37	57	3	4708	4404	2.65	13.90	5.16	50.81	9.84
Richmond	64	45	76	35	55	4	4526	4263	2.01	9.08	0.27	33.59	-5.46
Roanoke	65	44	75	30	55	6	4162	NA	2.91	9.46	1.24	41.76	4.14
Wash/Dulles	65	43	75	35	54	7	4084	NA	1.33	9.50	1.02	40.93	4.06

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.

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#### CENTRAL

##### AMHERST (William Seay)

Much needed rain has fallen to improve stream flow and increase ground moisture reserves. Pastures have greened up, but many producers have already started to supplement pastures with stored hay.

##### APPOMATTOX (Bruce Jones)

The area received substantial rainfall last week. Fields are very wet and farmers are anxious to resume harvest when conditions allow. Dark tobacco and burley tobacco producers continue to prepare their crop for market. Farmers selling dark tobacco are pleased with the pricing.

##### CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)

Heavy, widespread rains have halted all field activities. Most areas received over 5 inches in three days. Cover crops and small grain crops that are planted look very good, as do pastures and hay land. The soybean crop is about 80% harvested and yields have been very good to excellent. Vegetable farmers are still harvesting some broccoli and fall greens, cleaning up planting beds, and planning for next year.

##### FLUVANNA (John Thompson)

The recent rainfall was much needed, but due to the amount of rain over a short period of time, we are left to wonder how much was retained or entered the subsoil. Winds following the rains dried the ground quickly in this region. We retained some moisture, but are still behind.

##### HANOVER (Jim Tate)

I received 5.3 inches of rain at my western Hanover home from Wednesday thru Saturday. At times the rain was hard, but given the duration, there was good opportunity for infiltration and closing the rain deficit. The small grains that have been planted look very good. Many soybeans that are still in the field will now be delayed by wet conditions.

#### EASTERN

##### ACCOMACK (Jim Belote)

Six and one half to seven plus inches of rain were received in most areas from northeaster. Some soybeans are flat due to high winds but the majority are still fairly upright. There is some damage to wheat in flooded fields and some replanting will be needed. There is not enough damage to warrant filing of a damage report but good clear and dry weather will be needed for many days in order to get the soybean crop out and wheat planted. Overall, we were very lucky that the damage was not much greater. A few tomato fields still need cleaning up. Farmers are working on farm equipment and ordering seed and preplanning for next year. Some are doing end of year estimates for taxes.

##### ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Heavy rains halted soybean harvest and wheat planting. The excessive rainfall will cause some small grain losses due to drowned out spots in emerged fields and poor emergence in some recently planted fields. Excessive soil moisture will make soybean harvest difficult or impossible in some fields. Field rutting will be a concern.

##### KING GEORGE (McGann Saphir)

Moisture conditions are very good and hay and pasture land looks great. Cover crops and small grain crops look excellent. Farmers are waiting for fields to dry out before resuming soybean harvest and small grain and cover crop planting.

##### MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

The November nor'easter dumped over 6 inches of rain in the area. Soybean harvest and small grain planting is on hold for a while. High winds blew leaves and limbs down and around. No major agriculture damage reported as yet. Soybeans are lying closer to the ground now due to rain and high winds and some fields are flooded. Fields are very wet right now, but will improve with a few days of sun and wind. Soybean harvest is about 50% completed. Small grains and cover crop planting is about 60% completed.