

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)

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

EASTERN

ACCOMACK (Jim Belote)

Land is still very wet from the recent storms and farmers are slow to get back into fields to harvest soybeans and plant wheat. Soybean harvest completion will be very late this year and much of the wheat planting will be very late as well. Some wheat will need to be replanted in washed out spots caused by the 7 to 12 inches of rain recently received. Moisture of soybeans that were harvested this past week were from 17 to 20 percent thus resulting in significant deductions on prices received. Good yields, but farmers have to be able to get the crop harvested without field losses in order to benefit. Land rent and taxes are due, but the paycheck is still in the field.

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

A few soybeans with high moisture were harvested during the week, but harvest was delayed for the most part due to continued cloudy conditions, which delayed drying.

KING GEORGE (McGann Saphir)

Moisture conditions are excellent. Small grains and cover crops look very good. Farmers are finishing up soybean harvest and trying to get into fields to finish planting small grains and cover crops. Some areas may be planted late (if at all) due to flooding.

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Not much activity this week after receiving nearly 7 inches of rain from Northeastern storm Ida. A few soybeans were harvested near end of the week, as well as, some cover crop and wheat planted. There are still a lot of soybeans to harvest with mostly double crop acres left. Producers are making equipment and building repairs and planning for next year's crop. The rain and wind event last week left many docks and piers, as well as, some buildings near the water with minimal to major damage. No major farm damage was reported. Some soybean fields stood in water from the substantial rains and high tides. Producers are hoping to get back into the fields next week. We need some sunny days and wind. Winter production meetings and pesticide applicator recertification sessions are being planned.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)

The rain from Ida, along with rain this week, kept some folks out of the fields. A few were able to get in to combine a little bit of their soybeans. Folks are deer hunting in the county. Fall calving for some beef producers is almost complete. Producers are getting ready to start breeding Beef heifers in December.

GREENSVILLE (Cyndi Estienne)

Continuing rains have hindered the completion of soybean and cotton harvest. More winter wheat was planted this week between showers.

PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)

Most combines and cotton pickers stayed parked again this week. A few soybeans were harvested on Wednesday but moisture levels are very high. There is still some barley and wheat seeding to complete, the goal is to finish by December 1 now. Most of the water has disappeared now but low spots in small grain fields have drowned. In some grain fields a nitrogen deficiency is showing up due to heavy rains.

SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells)

Some light scattered showers fell over the area this week. Fall harvest has been slowed due to the wet field conditions. We had minor flooding from last week's storm with little to no damage to crops or livestock. Deer hunting is in full swing and private pesticide recertification is underway.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence)

Chesapeake received 10 inches of rain from the Northeastern Storm last week. Crop damage was minor. Some winter wheat that was between germination and ground emergence will have to be replanted again. Some low areas of fields will also have to be spot planted. The wheat that was up will survive because the water went away fairly quickly after the storm. There are concerns are about the continued rain that comes every four to five days, which is really slowing soybean harvest. Rain is forecast for Sunday. Some pods in the very top of plants are now showing signs of shattering. Continued harvest delay will result in some yield loss.

VIRGINIA BEACH (Cal Schiemann)

Wet field conditions resulting from the previous week's twelve plus inch rainstorm stopped all soybean harvest except on a few sandy, well drained fields. No wheat was planted this week.



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

USDA/NASS/Virginia Field Office
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WEATHER & CROPS



Week Ending: November 22, 2009

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WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 22, 2009

Recurring rain showers continued to delay fieldwork across the state, as most farmers are waiting for fields to dry out to return combines and cotton pickers to the field. Although a few acres of soybeans were harvested this week, moisture levels were high, which can result in price deductions. Days suitable for fieldwork were 3.3. The additional rainfall has benefitted small grain and cover crops that were already seeded, but some fields will have to be replanted due to flooding and there are signs of nitrogen deficiency in other areas due to the heavy rain. Soybean harvest remains behind schedule, and if further rainfall impedes fieldwork, some may see a loss of yield. Cotton harvest remained stagnate this week and wheat planting progressed slightly.

Week Ending	TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT			
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
November 22, 2009	0	3	58	39
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



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VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	3	9	35	46	7
Livestock	1	4	19	56	20
Winter Wheat	2	6	28	54	10
Barley	1	3	23	54	19
Oats	0	1	20	50	29

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Harvested for Grain	91	89	99	100
Soybeans Harvested	65	57	64	76
Winter Wheat Seeded	77	69	80	84
Winter Wheat Emerged	64	52	63	56
Cotton Harvested	67	66	80	86

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 22, 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. 21	Mar. 1 to Nov. 21 Normal	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	61	42	74	36	52	6	3963	3955	0.77	12.82	3.40	39.40	0.40
Norfolk	64	51	72	47	58	6	4762	4464	0.10	18.77	9.15	55.68	13.82
Richmond	67	48	74	41	57	8	4584	4322	0.02	12.74	3.02	37.24	-2.80
Roanoke	62	46	76	39	54	7	4199	NA	0.90	12.76	3.59	45.05	6.55
Wash/Dulles	63	42	72	38	53	8	4127	NA	0.33	10.22	0.76	41.65	3.79

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.

REVISED 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	63	43	76	38	53	5	3923	3919	4.75	11.89	3.22	38.48	0.00
Norfolk	63	51	71	44	57	3	4702	4418	7.42	18.67	9.70	55.58	14.41
Richmond	62	47	76	41	55	4	4520	4277	5.55	12.62	3.61	37.13	-1.95
Roanoke	64	46	75	41	55	6	4157	NA	5.05	11.60	3.14	43.90	6.06
Wash/Dulles	63	44	75	35	53	6	4078	NA	1.73	9.90	1.22	41.33	4.43

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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NORTHERN

ROCKINGHAM (John Welsh)

Persistent wet weather has continued to delay grain harvest. Small grains have fared very well due to temperate weather.

WESTERN

ROANOKE (Sheri Dorn)

The precipitation for the week totaled 0.94 inches. Night temperatures remain above average.

CENTRAL

CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)

Moisture conditions are very good. Small grain and cover crops are doing very well. Soybean harvest is almost complete and yields have been very good to excellent. Farmers are still planting cover crops and cleaning up areas that have been difficult to reach due to excess moisture.

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

Rain late last week has further delayed bean harvest wrap up and also delayed final small grain and cover crop planting. Above normal temperatures and good moisture has been good for pastures and small grains that have been seeded. I planted some rye and rye grass and vetch in experimental root growth demonstration boxes. It was a late planting on Nov 5th and I have rye leaves greater than five inches long. The rye grass has germinated and the vetch is two to eight leaves now.

SOUTHWESTERN

SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)

Producers are preparing for the heifer sale this Saturday.

SOUTHERN

FRANKLIN (Beverly Cox)

Rains from the previous week delayed harvest of some corn and beans. Also, seeding of small grains in late harvested silage or grain fields was delayed due to wet field conditions.