

**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 has kept harvesting going slowly. Deer hunting is going full swing. The ground is slowly drying up but with rain coming next week that is subject to change. Fall calving cows are pretty much finished calving. Some producers are getting next year's heifers ready to breed.

**SURRY (Glenn Slade)**

Rains have really delayed field work with soybean and cotton harvest behind schedule. Growers are anxious to get in fields before too much yield and quality is lost. Small grain seeding is also very slow.

**WESTERN**

**ROANOKE (Sheri Dorn)**

Weekly precipitation was 0.39 inches.

**ROCKBRIDGE (Jon Repair)**

Rain from the past three weeks have certainly delayed the completion of crop harvest and the seeding of additional cover crops and small grains.

**NORTHERN**

**CLARKE (Jacob Grove)**

Wet weather continues to delay harvest.



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

USDA/NASS/Virginia Field Office  
P.O. Box 1659  
Richmond, VA 23218-1659  
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**WEATHER & CROPS**



**Week Ending: November 29, 2009**

**Number: 38**

**Released: November 30, 2009**

**WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 29, 2009**

It was another wet week for the Commonwealth. Fieldwork was delayed due to the persistent rain showers. Days suitable for fieldwork were 3.5. The corn harvest was nearing completion with only 8 percent of the crop remaining in the field. On average, Virginia's corn harvest is completed by mid November. The soybean harvest is about one week behind normal. Small grain plantings were delayed because of the rain. In some areas the land was flooded and farmers worry that the crop will not be planted in time. Other farming activities for the week included delivering grain to elevators, attending to end of the year bookwork, maintaining farm equipment, and celebrating Thanksgiving.

**TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT**

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
November 29, 2009	0	2	64	34
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



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VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	3	12	36	42	7
Livestock	1	3	19	58	19
Winter Wheat	2	4	22	64	8
Barley	1	3	21	58	17
Oats	0	1	24	56	19

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Harvested for Grain	92	91	100	100
Soybeans Harvested	67	65	N/A	N/A
Winter Wheat Seeded	81	77	N/A	N/A
Winter Wheat Emerged	67	64	N/A	N/A
Cotton Harvested	85	67	88	92

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 29, 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. 28	Mar. 1 to Nov. 28 Normal	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	56	37	62	30	46	2	3985	3979	0.62	13.44	3.26	40.02	0.40
Norfolk	57	47	58	38	52	2	4790	4500	0.61	19.38	9.08	56.29	13.65
Richmond	56	42	62	36	49	2	4607	4355	2.41	15.15	4.78	39.65	-0.80
Roanoke	55	39	61	32	47	2	4221	NA	0.43	13.19	3.28	45.48	6.28
Wash/Dulles	53	39	59	32	46	3	4140	NA	0.74	10.96	0.72	42.39	3.86

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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#### EASTERN

##### ACCOMACK (Jim Belote)

Frequent rains have kept farmers out of the field. Still a lot of soybeans to harvest and rent and taxes are due this week. Not a good situation plus contracts need to be filled for soybeans in the next 30 days. Good, clear dry weather needed for many days so farmers can get the crops harvested and finish planting wheat. Most farmers enjoyed Thanksgiving since field work and harvest had come to a halt. Farmers spent much of the week doing year end bookwork, working on equipment and delivering what soybeans they had harvested.

##### ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Rain and wet field conditions continued to hamper field work last week. A little progress was made in harvesting the soybean crop. Moisture levels continued to be high in the crop that was harvested.

##### KING GEORGE (McGann Saphir)

Soybean crop is almost harvested. Small grains and cover crops are almost all planted. Some areas are flooded and may be unable to be planted in a timely fashion.

##### MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Rain, rain and more rain fell this week. Accumulation of just over an inch in most places put soybean harvest on hold. We will need a drying day or two with some sun and wind to be able to get back at it. Some fields have soybeans in standing water. Some fields may not be able to be harvested now unless it freezes. Most farm activity is halted due to the rain. Producers are still making production decisions and also selling some grain on the recent increase in prices.

#### CENTRAL

##### CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)

Soybean harvest is almost complete as farmers were able to get into fields late on Saturday and Sunday. Yields have been excellent. Small grains and cover crops are still not completely planted but should be in about a week. Soil moisture continues to be excellent to surplus in the county.

##### HANOVER (Jim Tate)

Another moisture laden week prevented significant field work and November showed us record rainfall. Beans still not harvested and small grain unplanted. Warmer than normal temps and abundant rainfall had given the grains that were planted a good start.