

Virginia Cooperative Extension

A partnership of Virginia Tech and Virginia State University



College of Agriculture
and Life Sciences



School of Agriculture
Virginia State University

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July 15, 2010

Kevin Massengill
Dinwiddie County Administrator
P.O. Drawer 70
Dinwiddie, VA 23841

Dear Kevin:

At this time, I would like to inform you and the members for the Board of Supervisors of the county's agriculture crop conditions. As you know the 2010 growing season has been a great challenge due to the lack of rainfall in many parts of the county. A majority of the county has received less than one inch of rainfall since the first week of June through July 8th.

The main crops affected by the drought/excessive heat are wheat, corn, full season and double crop soybeans, peanuts, cotton, forages and tobacco. The county's agricultural crops have lost as much as 60% of their normal yield potential due to the dry weather. In addition to the extended period of drought the extreme heat has compounded the situation. The above normal temperatures have prevented the small amounts of rainfall to aid in any crops recovery. As harvest season approaches and the threat of more dry conditions, many crops will continue their decline in yield potential.

With the current crop losses still increasing each day, I would like to recommend to the Dinwiddie County Board of Supervisors to consider passing a county declaration for an agriculture disaster. I would also recommend the County make a formal request of the Governor of Virginia to consider including Dinwiddie County in the States Agriculture Disaster Declaration.

I have included a list of crops affected by the drought and the percent loss each crop has experienced as of July 16, 2010.

If you need future details or input from me or Extension, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Parrish
Extension Agent, ANR

/abh

cc: Dan Goerlich

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Agriculture Crop Loss Percentages Report

Prepared by: Mike Parrish

ANR Extension Agent

Dinwiddie County, Virginia

July 16, 2010

During the growing season thus far in Dinwiddie County, we have had insufficient rainfall and above normally high temperature for the months of June and July. Many sections of the county have been without any significant rainfall since the first week of June 2010. Estimated crop loss as of July 16, 2010:

Wheat 50%

Soybeans (full season) 40%

Soybeans (double crop) 70%

Corn (field) 75%

Tobacco 20%


Cotton 25%

Peanuts 30%

Vegetables 60%

Forages 80%

All estimates are subject to change depending on future weather conditions.

Michael J. Parrish 
ANR Extension Agent
Dinwiddie, Virginia

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