



Crop Progress and Condition

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Virginia Cooperative Extension Service
Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

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Agricultural News: Days suitable for fieldwork were 4.7. Field activities for the week were limited due to the very wet conditions; fields continue to dry down from the heavy rains. Temperatures were down slightly and precipitation amounts decreased greatly from the previous week. High temperatures were in the 80s, and lows were in the 40s to 50s.

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 10/11/15

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	2	8	62	28
Subsoil	1	10	68	21

- Represents zero.

CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 10/11/15

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Cotton	-	-	41	56	3
Hay, Alfalfa	-	6	40	50	4
Hay, Other	2	16	38	40	4
Peanuts	-	-	41	55	4
Soybeans	1	12	35	47	5
Pasture	2	13	42	36	7
Livestock	1	6	24	55	14

-Represents zero.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 10/11/15

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Apples harvested	90	85	50	-
Barley planted	32	25	48	55
Corn mature	96	94	93	97
Corn for grain harvested	75	66	65	79
Cotton bolls opening	97	88	91	93
Cotton harvested	6	2	3	15
Peanuts harvested	20	10	24	20

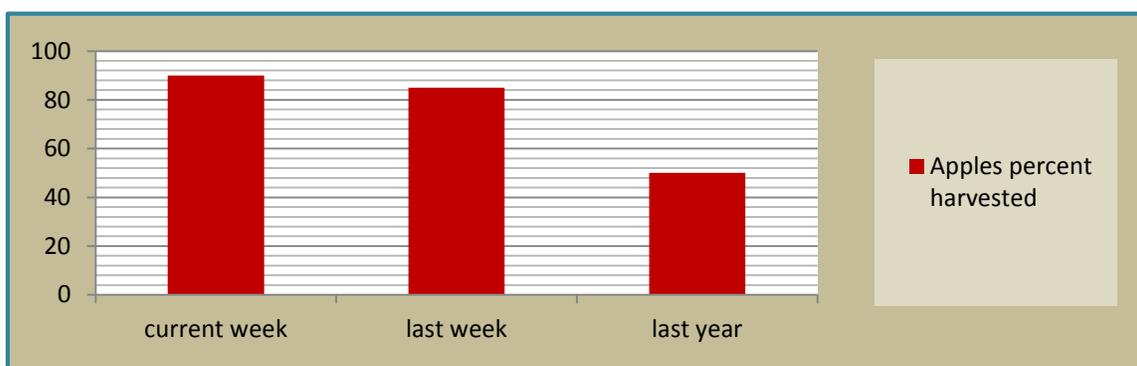
- Represents data not available.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 10/11/15

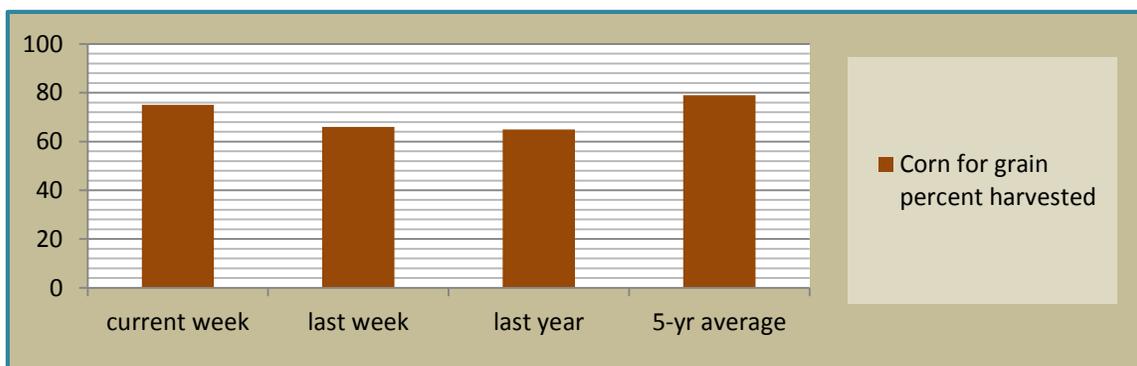
Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Soybeans dropping leaves	70	55	62	67
Soybeans harvested	10	3	8	9
Tobacco, Flue-cured cut	90	85	83	86
Winter wheat planted	15	9	18	23

- Represents data not available.

APPLES HARVESTED for week ending 10/11/15



CORN FOR GRAIN HARVESTED for week ending 10/11/15



Weather Summary- For the week ending October 11, 2015

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50)		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to Oct. 10	Mar. 1 to Oct. 10 norm	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	71	50	80	45	61	1	3851	3653	0.32	9.54	4.44	34.28	-0.34
Norfolk	73	60	82	56	66	1	4626	4084	0.00	8.20	2.95	41.32	3.76
Richmond	71	51	81	46	61	-1	4481	3959	0.37	5.88	0.68	38.58	3.19
Roanoke	72	51	80	45	62	2	4052	NA	0.76	11.53	6.59	42.94	8.59
Wash/Dulles	72	50	82	40	61	2	3894	NA	0.14	4.14	-0.78	31.44	-1.65

* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. NA-Not available. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY – Comments are based on remarks made by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Laura Siegle)

Although weather was sunny this week, conditions were still not suitable for field work on most farms due to excessive rain and wet fields from the previous weekend. We've seen a considerable advance in leaf drop this week in most of our soybean fields.

EASTERN

ACCOMACK (Theresa Long)

Early in the week, recovered from heavy rains and wind from tropical storms.

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

As weather and soil conditions allowed, small grain planting and crop harvest were the primary activities for the week. Corn harvest is almost complete, and full-season soybean harvest is moving along.

GLOUCESTER (David Moore)

Corn harvest continues. Some fields still cannot dry down. Some corn blew down from recent northeaster, but it is minimal and there was also some salt water intrusion. Field prep for small grain planting continues along with soil sampling, lime spreading, and some late season haymaking. Most veggies are done, still picking up sweet potatoes.

NORTHAMPTON (Ursula Deitch)

Fields continue to dry out. Issues with phomopsis and cercospora have arisen in our full season beans due to the excessive rains. Sorghum harvest has continued with the majority of the remaining sorghum's quality compromised.

SOUTHERN

CHARLOTTE (Robert L. Jones)

Some early planted full season soybeans are sprouting in the pod due to all the wet weather.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia Gregg)

Ponding water cleared amazingly quickly; some fields are still a little muddy. Producers are keeping an eye on crops that could show damage after all the recent rain, and working to harvest all they can accordingly.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence Jr.)

The final acres of strawberries are being planted this week which is later than usual because of storms. There is not much field activity this week as fields dry out from heavy rains (5-7 inches) last week. Farmers are mowing ditch-banks and paths, hauling corn to elevators, and repairing equipment in anticipation of the soybean harvest which will probably begin next week.

VIRGINIA BEACH CITY (Roy D. Flanagan)

Drying out from the storm, with some soybean harvest started during the end of the week. Strawberry farms were able to get most (not all) of the acreage planted and the agritainment operations were able to open for the full weekend.