



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 6.4. Field activities for the week included planting wheat and harvesting cotton, peanuts, and corn for grain. Temperatures continued to cool down and precipitation amounts were scant; frost occurred over the weekend, and most locations had zero precipitation. High temperatures were in the upper 70s, and lows were in the 30s to 40s.

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 10/18/15

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	2	10	74	14
Subsoil	1	10	76	13

- Represents zero.

CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 10/18/15

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Cotton	-	-	40	57	3
Hay, Alfalfa	-	5	40	51	4
Hay, Other	2	16	36	42	4
Peanuts	-	-	41	55	4
Soybeans	4	13	33	45	5
Pasture	2	11	42	38	7
Livestock	1	6	23	56	14

-Represents zero.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 10/18/15

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Apples harvested	95	90	60	-
Barley planted	53	32	66	71
Corn for grain harvested	82	75	70	84
Cotton harvested	17	6	9	25
Peanuts harvested	35	20	41	34
Soybeans dropping leaves	82	70	80	80
Soybeans harvested	21	10	15	16

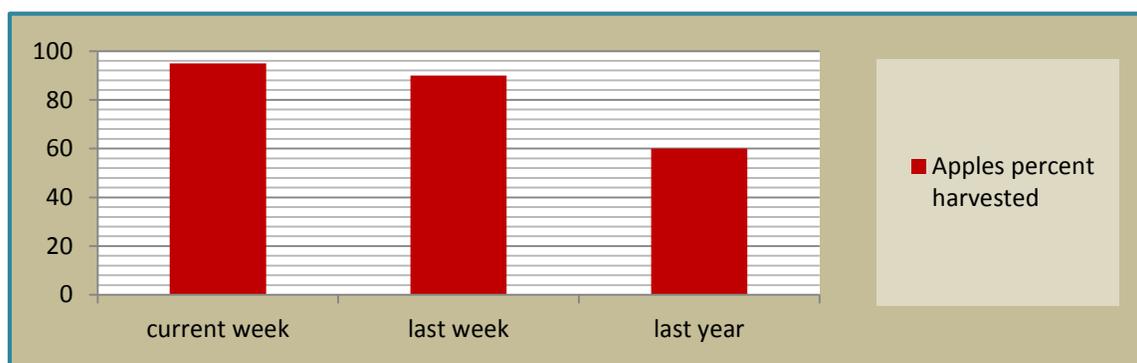
- Represents data not available.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 10/18/15

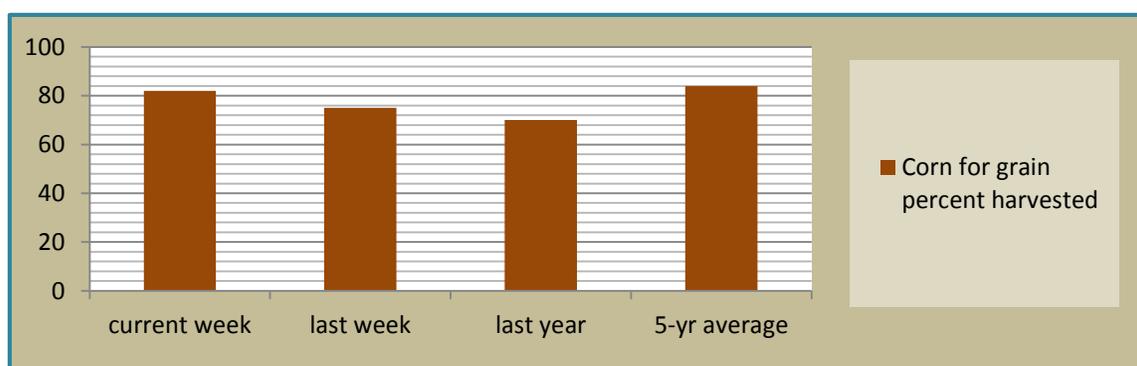
Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Tobacco, Flue-cured cut	95	90	89	90
Winter wheat planted	24	15	26	28

- Represents data not available.

APPLES HARVESTED for week ending 10/18/15



CORN FOR GRAIN HARVESTED for week ending 10/18/15



Weather Summary- For the week ending October 18, 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. 17	Mar. 1 to Oct. 17 norm	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	70	43	77	33	56	-1	3925	3734	0.00	9.54	3.69	34.28	-1.06
Norfolk	70	54	77	46	62	0	4714	4179	0.04	8.24	2.23	41.36	3.07
Richmond	71	47	79	38	59	-1	4559	4048	0.00	5.88	-0.18	38.58	2.53
Roanoke	70	47	77	39	59	1	4128	NA	0.00	11.53	5.91	42.94	8.03
Wash/Dulles	69	42	79	32	56	0	3966	NA	0.00	4.14	-1.53	31.44	-2.36

* 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.

NORTHERN

FREDERICK (Mark Sutphin)

Frost conditions observed in many areas 10-18 and 10-19.

ROCKINGHAM (Doug Horn)

High temperature of 78 on Tuesday and 53 on Sunday. First frost and freeze occurred over the weekend. Soybean harvest is in full swing.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas A Stanley)

Two consecutive nights with heavy frost ended this week of clear and dry conditions. Some farmers harvested corn for grain while others were waiting for grain moisture levels to fall. A few farmers made late season hay.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Dry conditions allowed farmers to make good progress on planting the wheat crop. Soybean harvest also continued with reported yields ranging from 20 bushels per acre to over 50 bushels per acre.

NORTHAMPTON (Ursula Deitch)

Full season soybean yields are particularly low and of poor quality.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia Gregg)

Producers are continuing to scout soybeans for seed issues. This weekend, each morning had light frosts. Fall calving is in full swing. Final tobacco harvests and curing are underway. Grain crops are being monitored for moisture to insure that proper harvest and storage are appropriate for crop.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence Jr.)

Farmers are busy this week harvesting soybeans and planting wheat. Field conditions are good for harvesting and tillage.

MECKLENBURG (Taylor Clarke)

Two heavy frosts.

PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)

Corn harvest is winding down with growers pleased with good yields. Soybeans are a different story. Full season soybeans suffered from a dry August and then 10 days of damp weather. Quality is poor with nearly every load having damage and small, shriveled seeds. Yields are not terrible but would have been better with timely August rain. Wheat and barley are being seeded but total acreage is unclear at this time due to depressed prices.