



# Crop Progress and Condition

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## In Cooperation with:

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**Agricultural News (March):** For the month of March, the Commonwealth experienced mostly above normal temperatures and below normal rainfall. For the week ending March 27, 2016, days suitable for field work was 4.2 out of seven. Topsoil moisture was rated as 3 percent short, 78 percent adequate and 19 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated as 1 percent very short, 4 percent short, 83 percent adequate and 12 percent surplus.

Wheat and canola producers remain optimistic about the crop. Some growers are spraying for weeds and applying nitrogen. Winter wheat condition was reported as 2 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 12 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 20 percent excellent.

A relatively mild winter has helped most producers to have adequate hay stocks on hand. Hay is still being fed where available. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 2 percent very short, 14 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 8 percent surplus. At the end of February, 83 percent of supplies were rated as adequate to surplus, compared to 84 percent currently. Spring calving is going well. The condition of livestock were reported as 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 69 percent good, and 13 percent excellent.

Producers marketed their grain and tobacco crops and attended various commodity meetings across the state. Farmers were busy performing routine equipment maintenance in preparation for the upcoming planting season. Some producers have applied burndown applications in preparation for corn and soybean planting. Some grape producers are concerned of possible damage to crop due to frost conditions this past weekend.

