



Crop Progress and Condition

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Virginia State University
Virginia Cooperative Extension Service
Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Released: May 11, 2015

Issue: 09-15

Agricultural News: Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.2. Farming activities during the week included planting corn, soybeans, cotton, and tobacco, spraying orchards, and weaning calves along with harvesting spring crops. Temperatures warmed up this week, and precipitation amounts went down. High temperatures were in the 80s, and lows were in the 40s to 50s.

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 05/10/15

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	1	8	77	14
Subsoil	-	7	84	9

- Represents zero.

CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 05/10/15

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Apples	7	7	23	61	2
Grapes	3	2	9	86	-
Peaches	12	11	22	55	-
Barley	1	3	29	57	10
Oats	2	5	47	44	2
Potatoes, Summer	-	-	30	70	-
Tobacco, Greenhouse	-	4	15	71	10
Tobacco, Plantbeds	-	8	16	70	6
Hay, Alfalfa	-	3	29	60	8
Hay, Other	-	4	30	58	8
Winter Wheat	1	1	20	66	12
Pasture	1	6	30	52	11
Livestock	1	5	28	55	11

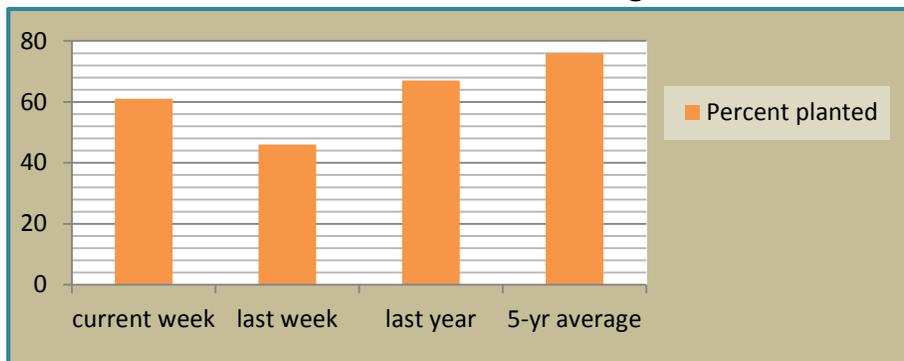
-Represents zero.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 05/10/15

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Corn planted	61	46	67	76
Corn emerged	34	17	39	54
Cotton planted	28	-	21	38
Peanuts planted	23	-	17	20
Soybeans planted	12	3	9	13
Soybeans emerged	1	-	-	-
Tobacco, Burley transplanted	4	2	1	9
Tobacco, Flue-cured transplanted	24	8	40	41
Tobacco, Fire-cured transplanted	5	1	16	20
Winter Wheat headed	43	15	61	74

- Represents data not available.

CORN PLANTED for week ending 05/10/15



Weather Summary- For the week ending May 10, 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 May 9	Mar. 1 to May 9 norm	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	80	52	85	43	66	6	570	532	0.01	7.92	-0.50	12.30	-2.70
Norfolk	79	58	84	50	68	5	614	565	0.00	7.81	-0.67	13.99	-1.72
Richmond	84	59	85	54	71	9	708	615	0.07	9.38	1.08	16.65	1.79
Roanoke	80	54	84	44	67	6	576	NA	0.61	10.06	1.47	13.97	-0.89
Wash/Dulles	82	54	85	43	68	9	506	NA	0.04	6.42	-1.40	11.45	-2.18

* 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

PRINCE WILLIAM (Paige Thacker)

Thunderstorms and hot temperatures this week.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Laura Siegle)

Weather has been hot and dry. Pasture and hay cool-season grasses appear to have rapidly developed seedheads in recent days.

CAROLINE (Mike Broaddus)

Even with the late spring/growing season, all appears normal at this time.

HENRICO (Karen Carter)

Excellent growing conditions during the week; lack of rainfall resulting in some topsoil moisture effects.

NELSON (Michael LaChance)

Orchard received cover sprays. Biofix for codling moth set at very end of April. Eastern tent caterpillars completing development and seeking pupation sites. Barley grain for brewing is headed out, received crop protection for diseases last week.

SPOTSYLVANIA (John Howe)

The making of hay has started.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Farmers were busy finishing up corn planting, preparing fields for full-season soybean planting, and planting full-season soybeans. White grub injury has been reported in some corn fields. Producers also spent time scouting wheat fields for pest problems, and some producers applied fungicides to protect wheat from head scab. Vegetable producers started harvesting strawberries.

GLOUCESTER (David Moore)

Corn planting continues and seems to be finishing up, except for low-ground fields. Much corn is emerging and seems to look fine. It was a little slow, but past week conditions have been excellent. Some soybean planting begins and full season beans will likely go in pretty quickly. Wheat is about 2 weeks behind, but will also catch up a little due to warm conditions. Very little disease pressure present, but expect many fields will receive fungicide applications to protect the fragilely-priced crop. Field prep for soybeans continues. Vegetable planting slowly continues. Scattered showers predicted for this weekend would be well received.

SOUTHWESTERN

SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)

Lack of rain is beginning to affect pasture and hay ground. Some producers rotating out of fields early, others have sold some cows to compensate for slow grass growth. Strawberries coming on strong, with good color and yields. Vegetables looking good for this time of year.

SMYTH (Andy Overbay)

The return of warmer weather has helped the grass and crop outlook; however, many pastures and hay crops are heading out at fairly low yield levels leaving farmers to judge whether quality or quantity is their best play. The winter's hay shortage have many thinking quantity in spite of quality losses.

SOUTHERN

FRANKLIN (Cynthia Martel)

Last week farmers in Franklin County were busy cutting hay, baling hay, and cutting some alfalfa. Getting corn and soybeans in the ground, manure being spread. The late start to warm weather has slowed some stuff down. Little rain last week helped things move along. Calling for rain this week. Talked with one farmer so far reporting slugs eating emerging corn already, using slug bait!

LUNENBURG (Lindy Tucker)

This week was very productive. The high temperatures and sunshine really allowed producers to get things in the ground. A lot of progress was made on tobacco transplants. A large amount of full season soybeans went in over the weekend. The grass really jumped up in the pastures and hay cutting officially started this week. Now we just need a little rain.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia Gregg)

Tobacco planting has been full swing this week. Fall born calves are being weaned. Soybeans are being planted along with several other crops going in the ground this week. More hay was cut and the hay cut over the weekend was baled.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence Jr.)

Some wheat acres being sprayed with fungicide and insecticide for cereal leaf beetle. Most of our wheat acres treated with fungicide this year indicating farmer confidence in yield potential. Strawberry U-Pick Farms just opening this weekend, 7 to 10 days later than normal due to cold winter, late spring warm-up. Expecting more light rain from tropical storm this weekend coming up the coast.

PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)

Corn planting finished up over the weekend with clear, warm weather. Corn emergence also made good progress with good soil moisture and warming soils. Some soybean planting started this week. Some hay was made this week. Wheat growers continue to scout for cereal leaf beetle and disease with most fields looking good.

SURRY (Glenn Slade)

Corn stands are excellent with cotton, peanuts and soybeans being planted. Small grain yields look promising.

SUSSEX (Kevin Wells)

A great stretch of good warm weather has allowed growers to move ahead with planting of cotton, peanuts and soybeans. Wheat continues to head out and recover from the hard winter months. Burn-down applications continue ahead of soybean planting.

VIRGINIA BEACH CITY (Roy D. Flanagan)

On the grain front, planting is progressing well, the transition from corn planting to soybeans has happened for a couple of growers, others held tight awaiting Tropical Depression Ana. In the strawberry fields, good weather brought good crowds, the favorable weather also brought timely ripening.