



# Crop Progress and Condition

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Virginia State University  
Virginia Cooperative Extension Service  
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**Agricultural News:** Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.5. Farming activities included making hay, planting crops, irrigating vegetable crops, and applying herbicides. High temperatures were in the 80s to 90s, and lows were in the 40s to 50s. Precipitation was down from the previous week, and drier conditions continue.

## SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 05/31/15

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	6	38	54	2
Subsoil	4	24	71	1

- Represents zero.

## CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 05/31/15

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Apples	7	7	21	63	2
Grapes	3	2	8	87	-
Peaches	12	7	21	60	-
Barley	-	2	26	59	13
Corn	-	2	20	66	12
Cotton	-	-	2	98	-
Hay, Alfalfa	-	4	27	62	7
Hay, Other	1	5	30	58	6
Oats	2	5	47	43	3
Peanuts	-	-	2	98	-
Potatoes, Summer	-	-	30	70	-
Tobacco, Greenhouse	-	4	13	70	13
Tobacco, Plantbeds	-	8	16	69	7
Winter Wheat	1	1	20	63	15
Pasture	1	11	36	46	6
Livestock	1	6	27	55	11

-Represents zero.

## CROP PROGRESS for week ending 05/31/15

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Barley harvested	15	4	29	25
Corn planted	94	88	91	95
Corn emerged	80	68	82	85
Cotton planted	98	84	88	96
Oats harvested	5	-	13	-
Peanuts planted	92	74	85	91

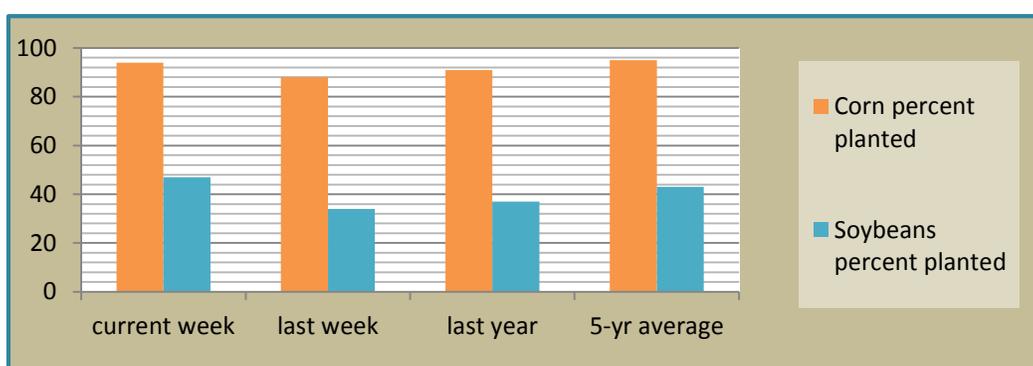
- Represents data not available.

**CROP PROGRESS for week ending 05/31/15**

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Soybeans planted	47	34	37	43
Soybeans emerged	31	18	-	-
Tobacco, Burley transplanted	59	43	66	58
Tobacco, Fire-cured transplanted	58	38	79	83
Tobacco, Flue-cured transplanted	92	81	91	92
Winter Wheat headed	90	85	96	99

- Represents data not available.

**CORN and SOYBEANS PLANTED for week ending 05/31/15**



**Weather Summary-** For the week ending May 31, 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 30	Mar. 1 to May 30 norm	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	84	58	87	48	71	5	967	874	0.10	9.00	-2.25	13.38	-4.46
Norfolk	86	65	90	55	76	7	1080	941	0.26	8.82	-2.20	15.00	-3.29
Richmond	87	65	91	53	76	8	1168	985	0.00	10.72	-0.33	17.99	0.53
Roanoke	85	60	87	50	73	7	1007	NA	0.04	10.44	-1.03	14.35	-3.36
Wash/Dulles	86	63	89	48	74	9	924	NA	1.05	8.44	-2.24	13.47	-3.15

\* 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.

**WESTERN**

**ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas A Stanley)**

Scattered rain showers at different points in the week helped maintain soil moisture levels in most of the Rockbridge region while at the same time hay harvesting and some other field work was able to be accomplished. Overall crop conditions are good, soil moisture is trending toward dry.

**CENTRAL**

**CAROLINE (Mike Broaddus)**

The past ten days in much of the two counties have been very hot and dry, so the corn has started rolling up.

**CHESTERFIELD (Charlotte Maxwell)**

In the past 7 days, there was only .02 inches of precipitation with hot and humid weather conditions.

**ORANGE (Steve Hopkins)**

Hay harvest was at full speed this past week with very good yields. Soil conditions in most of the county are starting to get dry with only pop up storms the past several weeks. Corn and soybean planting is back on schedule after a slow start.

## **EASTERN**

### **ESSEX (Keith Balderson)**

Except for a very few widely scattered showers and thunderstorms, the week was hot and dry. Farmers continued side-dressing corn with nitrogen and applying post emergence herbicides to the crop. Full-season soybean planting is about done. Hay making also continued. Barley harvest will probably start next week.

### **NORTHAMPTON (Ursula Deitch)**

It was a very hot and dry week and rain is needed. All vegetable crops (potatoes, snap beans, tomatoes, sweet corn) are being irrigated. Barley harvest will probably begin next week. All corn has emerged and is looking good at this point. Some full season beans have started to emerge. Soybean planting continues throughout the county.

## **SOUTHWESTERN**

### **SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)**

Scattered rain has given some relief to dry conditions.

### **WASHINGTON (Phil Blevins)**

Getting very dry.

## **SOUTHERN**

### **LUNENBURG (Lindy Tucker)**

Still lacking rain. Drier than usual for this time of the year. The tobacco is pretty much finished being set, the soybeans are finishing up, and we are making progress with the milo as well. Wheat looks pretty good except for the price. Hay is fair overall – though we had some poor first cuttings due to lack of water. All in all, things are well, just dry.

## **SOUTHEASTERN**

### **BRUNSWICK (Cynthia Gregg)**

Hot and dry this week. The rain has slowed and it is getting dry. Tobacco is looking very good and growing well. Soybeans are coming up nicely. Corn is looking good as is some sudex planted recently. Gardens and vegetable crops are beginning to come in as well.

### **CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence Jr.)**

Fields dried out quickly this week allowing the planting of soybeans into good soil moisture conditions. There has been sufficient rain this month to help wheat fill out heads. Some bleached and twisted heads indicate there was some cold damage at heading, but not significant. Overall, wheat is healthy and we anticipate good yields next month. Most vegetables are a little behind due to a cold, wet spring. Mixed results with strawberries showing some farms may have a short season, while other farms are still picking plenty of berries. A lot has to do with varieties and management.

### **SUSSEX (Kevin Wells)**

Some scattered showers brought some much needed rain to our area this week and it was needed. Seed germination has not been a problem this year with any of our crops. Another good week to continue planting, side-dressing corn with nitrogen and scouting small grain. It has gotten dry in a lot of areas already and we could use some showers. The crop is off to a good start.