



# Crop Progress and Condition

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

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**Agricultural News:** Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.2. Field activities for the week included haymaking and harvesting corn for silage, peaches, and apples. Farmers are also getting combines repaired and serviced. Temperatures went down as precipitation amounts increased slightly this week. High temperatures were mostly in the 80s with one station in the 90s, and lows were mostly in the 50s.

## SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 08/16/15

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	5	37	55	3
Subsoil	4	29	66	1

- Represents zero.

## CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 08/16/15

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Apples	6	7	25	59	3
Grapes	3	3	11	81	2
Peaches	12	7	18	62	1
Corn	1	2	14	61	22
Cotton	-	-	18	79	3
Hay, Alfalfa	-	2	33	58	7
Hay, Other	1	11	33	49	6
Peanuts	-	-	30	64	6
Soybeans	-	4	22	54	20
Tobacco, Burley	-	1	32	57	10
Tobacco, Fire-cured	-	4	38	53	5
Tobacco, Flue-cured	3	4	28	46	19
Pasture	2	12	35	43	8
Livestock	1	6	20	57	16

-Represents zero.

## CROP PROGRESS for week ending 08/16/15

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Apples harvested	33	25	29	53
Peaches harvested	63	55	65	70
Corn silking	98	94	99	99
Corn doughing	80	68	79	82
Corn dented	54	41	48	54
Corn mature	12	-	6	16
Corn for silage harvested	24	-	11	33
Cotton setting bolls	87	74	93	89
Cotton bolls opening	6	-	2	3
Peanuts pegging	95	88	95	90

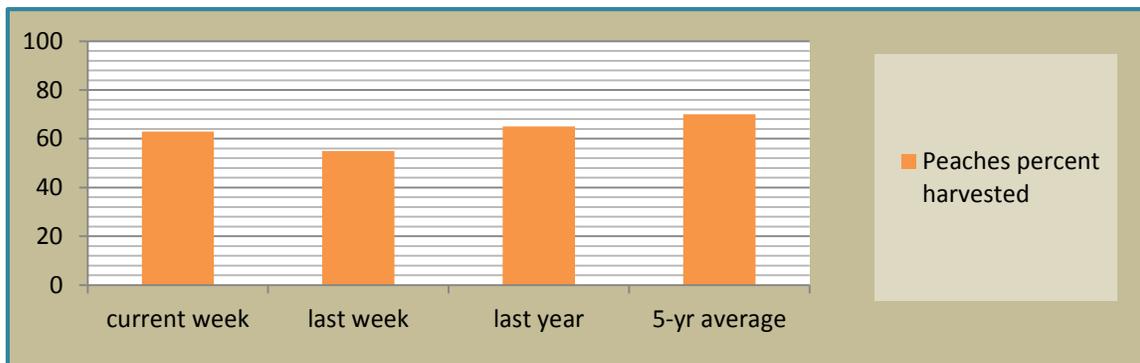
- Represents data not available.

**CROP PROGRESS for week ending 08/16/15**

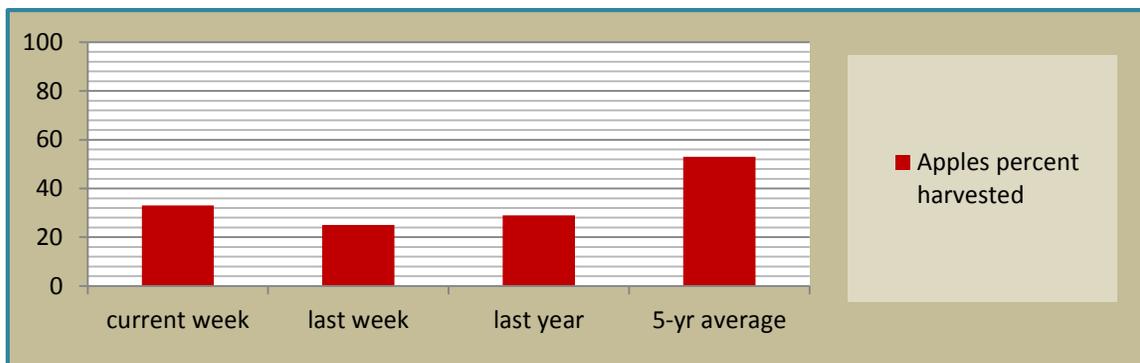
Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Potatoes, Summer harvested	95	88	98	100
Soybeans blooming	72	57	69	76
Soybeans setting pods	50	37	40	42
Tobacco, Flue-cured cut	31	21	21	22

- Represents data not available.

**PEACHES HARVESTED for week ending 08/16/15**



**APPLES HARVESTED for week ending 08/16/15**



**Weather Summary- For the week ending August 16, 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 Aug 15	Mar. 1 to Aug 15 norm	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	84	63	88	58	73	-1	2807	2622	1.17	11.05	1.19	24.43	-3.65
Norfolk	83	69	85	64	76	-2	3247	2882	0.29	17.03	5.68	32.03	2.10
Richmond	85	66	90	62	76	-1	3244	2847	1.28	14.29	3.94	32.28	4.22
Roanoke	85	65	89	59	75	0	2966	NA	1.84	15.34	5.88	30.30	2.76
Wash/Dulles	84	63	89	53	74	-1	2797	NA	0.15	12.67	3.36	26.54	0.27

\* 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**

**ROCKINGHAM (Doug Horn)**

Harvesting corn for silage has begun.

**WESTERN**

**ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas A Stanley)**

Much of Rockbridge received much needed rain Monday night with rainfall totals ranging from .4 to 1.4 inches across the county. Temperatures for the week were on the lower side of the seasonal range until Saturday and Sunday when temperatures climbed to near 90. Conditions were favorable for hay harvesting the second half of the week.

## CENTRAL

### **AMELIA (Laura Siegle)**

We have experienced yet another week of sporadic rainfall which has left most fields with adequate to surplus topsoil moisture.

### **CAROLINE (Mike Broaddus)**

As with last week, we had one good rain that has kept the crops looking decent and moving forward. However, topsoil is still drying out quickly.

## EASTERN

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

Rainfall early in the week was beneficial to soybeans, pastures, and hayfields. Farmers spent the week scouting soybeans for pests, getting equipment ready for harvest, and attending field days.

### **GLOUCESTER (David Moore)**

Corn and soybeans are all doing well with last week's rain. Folks with hay are having a little stress trying to get it made, but it is working out well as the forecast calls for decent drying days and no rain in the immediate future. Folks are scouting soybeans and making fungicide and insecticide applications. Corn harvest could begin in about 10-14 days. Last minute repairs and servicing is going on with combines. Veggies look good, cantaloupes are about done, as well as sweet corn. Late squash and peppers remain. Pumpkins are setting and growing fruit and sweet potatoes are sizing up well. This week's yield report for corn and soybeans was a shocker. Unheard of fluctuations in the market occurred mid-week as forecasters predict high yielding crops. Market is trying to adjust following the news.

## SOUTHWESTERN

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

Heat and dry weather is causing pastures to dry up again. Second cutting hay appears good, and yields are normal.

## SOUTHERN

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

Things are going well all in all. Could use a rain this week. Tobacco is steady coming out of the field.

## SOUTHEASTERN

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

Flue cured tobacco is being pulled, cured and baled. Crops are being scouted for insects and diseases.

### **SURRY (Glenn Slade)**

Growers are scouting soybeans, cotton, and peanuts for insect pests and disease. Equipment being serviced to begin corn harvest in early September.

### **VIRGINIA BEACH CITY (Roy D. Flanagan)**

We are the driest we have been in a couple of months, soybeans and late planted corn are suffering. Vegetable growers are struggling getting collard seed out of the ground and operations to make beds for plasticulture strawberry production have been halted waiting on rain.