



# Crop Progress and Condition

**USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office**  
Herman Ellison, State Statistician  
P. O. Box 1659  
Richmond, VA 23218-1659  
(804) 771-2493  
**Homepage:** <http://www.nass.usda.gov/va>

**In Cooperation with:**  
U.S. Dept. of Commerce - NOAA  
Virginia Tech  
Virginia State University  
Virginia Cooperative Extension Service  
Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Released: August 31, 2015

Issue: 25-15

**Agricultural News:** Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.8. Field activities for the week included haymaking and harvesting corn for silage and vegetables. Weather conditions continue to get drier; some crops are showing signs of stress. Temperatures were down slightly and precipitation amounts decreased this week, some parts of the State had zero precipitation. High temperatures were in the 80s and 90s, and lows were in the 50s and 60s.

### SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 08/30/15

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	15	46	39	-
Subsoil	12	39	48	1

- Represents zero.

### CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 08/30/15

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Apples	6	7	25	59	3
Grapes	3	2	11	81	3
Corn	1	3	16	61	19
Cotton	-	-	18	79	3
Hay, Alfalfa	3	7	30	54	6
Hay, Other	4	16	32	45	3
Peanuts	-	-	21	72	7
Soybeans	1	7	27	57	8
Tobacco, Burley	-	1	33	57	9
Tobacco, Fire-cured	-	4	51	38	7
Tobacco, Flue-cured	3	4	31	44	18
Pasture	6	15	33	41	5
Livestock	1	7	21	56	15

-Represents zero.

### CROP PROGRESS for week ending 08/30/15

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Apples harvested	45	38	33	70
Peaches harvested	81	72	82	84
Corn doughing	95	90	88	91
Corn dented	79	70	63	73
Corn mature	40	25	29	42
Corn for grain harvested	5	-	3	10
Corn for silage harvested	46	31	49	58
Cotton setting bolls	96	95	100	98
Cotton bolls opening	23	11	9	14

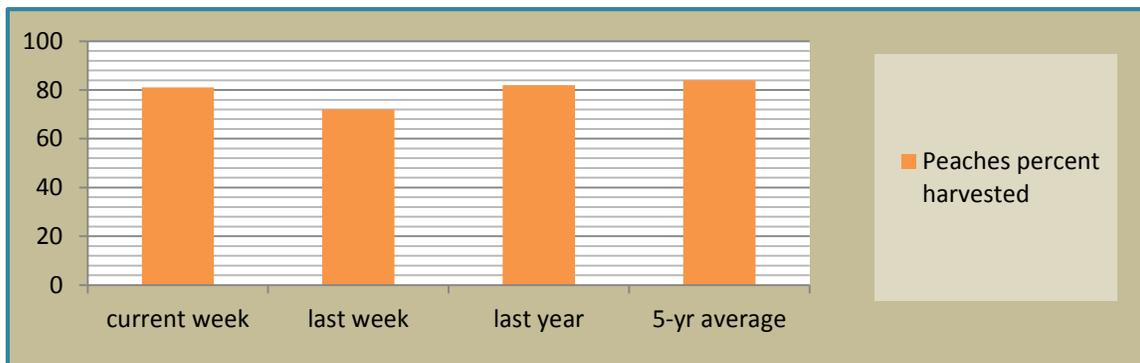
- Represents data not available.

**CROP PROGRESS for week ending 08/30/15**

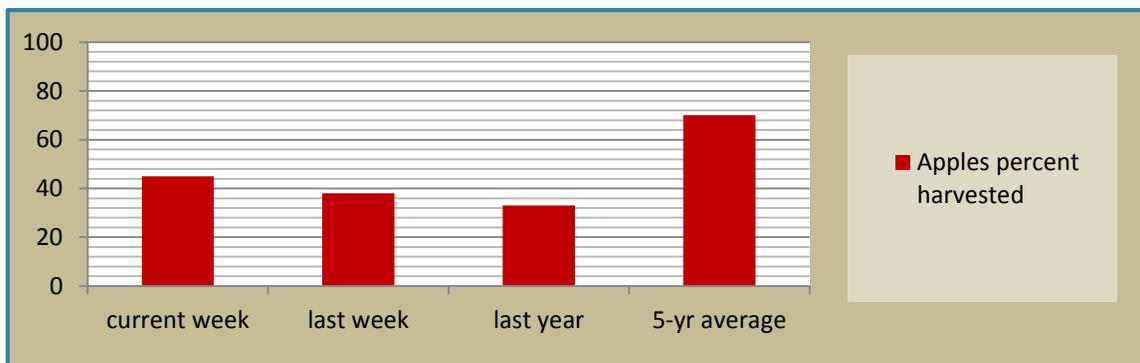
Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Soybeans blooming	86	80	82	92
Soybeans setting pods	74	65	57	71
Tobacco, Flue-cured cut	48	42	42	38

- Represents data not available.

**PEACHES HARVESTED for week ending 08/30/15**



**APPLES HARVESTED for week ending 08/30/15**



**Weather Summary- For the week ending August 30, 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 29	Mar. 1 to Aug 29 norm	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	83	59	89	57	71	-2	3131	2954	0.00	11.36	0.00	24.74	-4.71
Norfolk	84	70	91	64	77	0	3634	3250	0.00	18.01	4.57	33.01	0.97
Richmond	87	64	91	61	75	0	3612	3196	0.11	14.71	2.56	32.70	2.70
Roanoke	84	62	89	56	73	-1	3305	NA	0.01	16.45	5.34	31.41	2.33
Wash/Dulles	84	60	90	55	72	-2	3126	NA	0.10	13.41	2.33	27.28	-0.55

\* 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)**

Hot, dry conditions caused silage corn to dry down quickly. Most areas are showing drought stress.

**WESTERN**

**ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas A Stanley)**

A warm and dry week allowed corn silage harvesting to progress rapidly and some second cutting hay to be made. Rain is badly needed for fall grazing and stockpiling winter pastures.

## CENTRAL

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

In contrast to previous weeks, we had a dry, sunny week this week. More silage harvest is underway for some producers and many have been cutting hay this week.

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

With having no rains in the past 3 weeks the growing crops (pasture, hay and soybeans) are showing signs of drought stress. Corn is doing well. Hopefully will get rain from Erika.

### **CHESTERFIELD (Charlotte Maxwell)**

Very dry the past 2 weeks.

### **NELSON (Michael LaChance)**

Some hay being baled.

## EASTERN

### **ACCOMACK (Theresa Long)**

No rainfall last week, potato harvest complete, corn harvest beginning this week.

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

Corn harvest pace picked up as a lack of rainfall allowed the crop to dry down well. Yields have been very good. Soybeans, pastures and hay fields started showing stress from the lack of rainfall. Insect pressure in soybeans remained relatively low, but threshold levels of corn earworms and aphids were reported.

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

Things drying down in a hurry. Soybeans are suffering. Wind and low humidity are taking a toll. Some areas in fields are dropping leaves due to dry conditions. Soybeans have limited root system and cannot search for water. Corn harvest has begun. Yields are very good to excellent. Moisture still above 20% in most fields, but drying fast. Some spraying continues in soybeans, but very little insect activity observed. Frogeye leaf spot is pretty prevalent and requires a fungicide in many fields. Vegetable harvest and haymaking is loving the weather, but we could use a shower.

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

Corn harvest is in full swing. Soybeans are very dry and we could use some rain. Fall snap beans are being planted.

## SOUTHERN

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

We could use a good rain this week. I think the water condition is worse than it appears, but crops are starting to show stress and pasture is not keeping up as well here lately.

## SOUTHEASTERN

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

Crops suffered this week from dry soil conditions. Seeing some diseases in soybeans and anticipate more showing up when moisture returns to the area. Corn grain harvest began in earnest this week.

### **PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)**

Soybean scouting continued to be the main focus this week. A few fields reached threshold for corn earworms and were treated. Overall, pest activity has remained low. Some corn was harvested late in the week as dry down has been rapid with hot, dry conditions.

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

Over three weeks with little or no rain; peanuts, cotton, and soybeans are beginning to stress. Corn harvest is underway with good yields (130-180 bushels per acre).