



# 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: September 14, 2015

Issue: 27-15

**Agricultural News:** Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.8. Field activities for the week included harvesting corn for silage and corn for grain. Weather conditions brought some relief with scattered rain and cooler temperatures this week, bringing up topsoil moisture and helping pastures and crop progress. Temperatures were down and precipitation amounts increased this week. High temperatures were mostly in the 90s, and lows were in the 50s and 60s.

### SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 09/13/15

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	13	36	51	-
Subsoil	12	40	47	1

- Represents zero.

### CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 09/13/15

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Corn	1	3	22	56	18
Cotton	-	-	24	73	3
Hay, Alfalfa	1	16	33	46	4
Hay, Other	2	26	30	40	2
Peanuts	-	-	28	68	4
Soybeans	1	11	31	51	6
Pasture	9	18	39	30	4
Livestock	1	7	23	56	13

-Represents zero.

### CROP PROGRESS for week ending 09/13/15

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Apples harvested	64	52	38	85
Peaches harvested	96	90	96	95
Corn dented	90	86	85	87
Corn mature	74	55	68	70
Corn for grain harvested	34	18	23	35
Corn for silage harvested	71	60	70	75
Cotton bolls opening	49	37	38	42

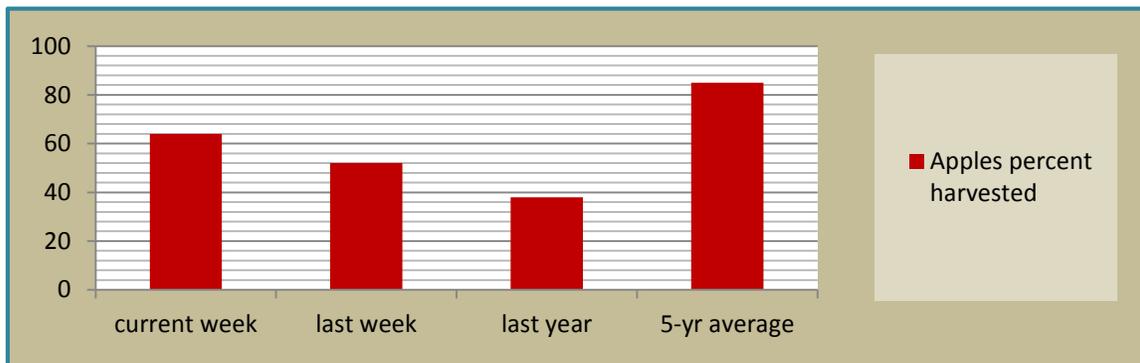
- Represents data not available.

**CROP PROGRESS for week ending 09/13/15**

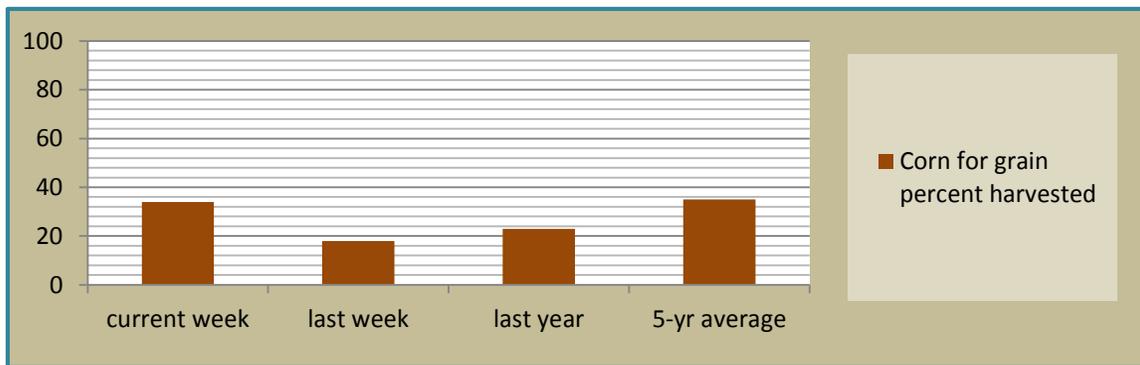
Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Soybeans blooming	96	94	96	99
Soybeans setting pods	89	83	86	92
Soybeans dropping leaves	18	10	7	11
Tobacco, Flue-cured cut	62	55	56	54

- Represents data not available.

**APPLES HARVESTED for week ending 09/13/15**



**CORN FOR GRAIN HARVESTED for week ending 09/13/15**



**Weather Summary- For the week ending September 13, 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 Sept. 12	Mar. 1 to Sept. 12 norm	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	86	63	90	61	74	4	3469	3241	0.15	0.16	-1.29	24.90	-6.22
Norfolk	86	72	92	68	79	4	4032	3577	2.95	3.18	1.51	36.30	2.38
Richmond	88	68	94	66	78	5	3998	3500	1.60	1.82	0.28	34.52	2.86
Roanoke	84	64	88	59	74	4	3653	NA	0.48	1.10	-0.44	32.51	1.55
Wash/Dulles	85	63	93	56	74	4	3477	NA	0.24	0.32	-1.20	27.62	-2.07

\* 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)**

Extreme heat last week, followed by rain finally and cooler temps.

**ROCKINGHAM (Doug Horn)**

Picking of corn has just begun. The earliest planted soybean fields are dropping their leaves.

## WESTERN

### **ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas A Stanley)**

A significant portion of Rockbridge enjoyed a shower Thursday night that dropped .4 to .9 of an inch of rain but other areas received very little. Conditions remain dry and hopes for additional cuttings of hay and stockpiling pastures are fading.

## CENTRAL

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

We received some heavy rainfall towards the end of the week. Most corn is approaching maturity and silage fields have been cut. I have seen several soybean fields that are beginning to yellow and perhaps we can expect to see leaves dropping on the early side this year.

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

Several scattered storms on 9/10 have dampened the top several inches of topsoil. Corn harvest is still going on full throttle and the beans continue to fill pods with low soil moisture.

## EASTERN

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

Rainfall late in the week helped to restore topsoil moisture and will help some soybeans and pastures and hayfields. The soybean crop was hurt during the dry spell during late August and early September. The open weather has allowed corn harvest to move along at a very good clip. Overall the crop has dried down well allowing for a good harvest pace. Yields have been very good. A few producers began planting cover crops.

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

Welcomed showers at weeks end will settle some dust and help finish filling out some soybean pods and will also help with some late summer-fall vegetables. Maybe some haymaking will continue now. Corn harvest is in full swing now. Yields are very good to excellent. Most of what I'm hearing is that folks harvesting corn are very pleased with sandier soil type fields and a little disappointed in the heavier soil type fields. Some plans are being made for fall planting. Current small grain prices aren't adding much excitement to those plans.

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

We received some much needed rain in parts of the county on Thursday/Friday evenings. Although we received some rain, we are still very dry and our soybeans are suffering. Corn harvest is progressing to about 50% harvested.

## SOUTHEASTERN

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

Tobacco is being harvested steadily. Soybean leaves are beginning to turn yellow and are starting to drop on early beans. Rains last week helped some pastures green a bit. It did however, rain on some late cut hay in the fields.

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

Welcome rainfall was widespread across the county late in the week. Corn harvest was the main activity this week. Summer vegetables have wrapped up at stands and the farmers markets.

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

Recent showers were spotty, but brought much needed moisture to crops. Totals varied from .5 to 1.5 inches. Corn harvest is well underway with very good yields; these also are spotty with yields varying from 120 to 200 bushels per acre.

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

Scattered showers fell over most of the area last week giving us some relief from the dry field conditions. Corn harvest is in full swing and yields are very good. Growers continue to scout peanuts and soybeans for diseases and insects.