



# 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 5.3. Fields were still wet in some areas, but the weather conditions in Virginia were warmer and sunny this week; many farmers were able to cut and bale hay, and get in the fields to work. Farming activities for the week included preparing fields for beans and vegetables, applying herbicides, hauling manure, and checking crops for quality.

## SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 05/29/16

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	4	6	66	24
Subsoil	1	8	76	15

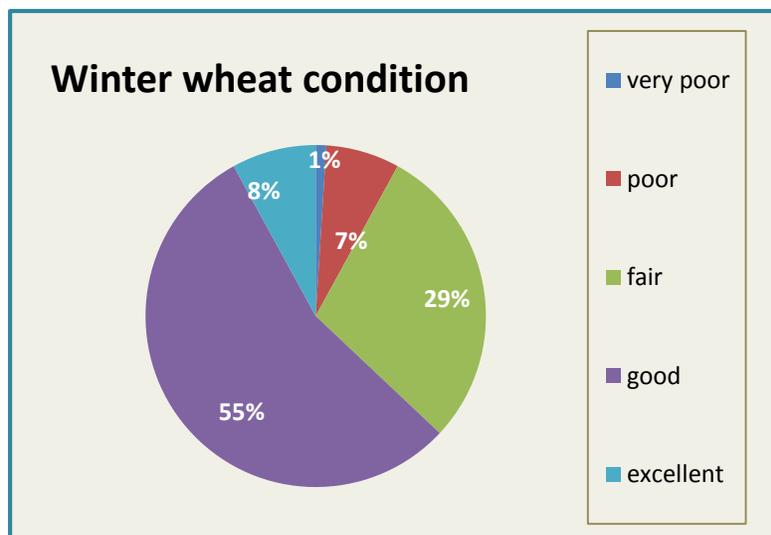
- Represents zero.

## CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 05/29/16

Crop/Livestock	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Apples	3	17	54	26	-
Grapes	2	32	37	29	-
Peaches	28	24	34	14	-
Barley	3	9	38	46	4
Corn	2	14	41	40	3
Hay, Alfalfa	2	9	35	50	4
Hay, Other	2	16	34	43	5
Oats	1	3	41	49	6
Potatoes, Summer	-	-	12	88	-
Tobacco, Greenhouse	-	2	17	36	45
Winter wheat	1	7	29	55	8
Pasture	4	12	32	42	10
Livestock	1	6	30	51	12

-Represents zero.

## WINTER WHEAT for week ending 05/29/16

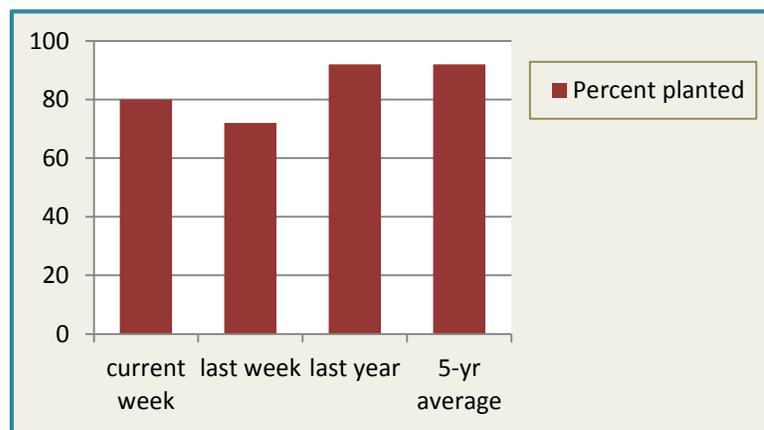


**CROP PROGRESS for week ending 05/29/16**

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Corn planted	80	72	92	92
Corn emerged	70	62	77	81
Cotton planted	65	46	94	95
Oats harvested	12	5	4	-
Peanuts planted	54	34	87	87
Soybeans planted	26	18	43	40
Soybeans emerged	16	5	27	24
Tobacco, Burley transplanted	36	22	54	53
Tobacco, Fire-cured transplanted	29	15	52	72
Tobacco, Flue-cured transplanted	54	43	89	90
Winter wheat headed	95	91	89	96

- Represents data not available.

**CORN PLANTED for week ending 05/29/16**



**Weather Summary- For the week ending May 29, 2016**

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 28	Mar. 1 to May 28 norm	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	79	55	86	49	67	2	902	852	0.11	12.15	1.21	19.44	1.77
Norfolk	79	61	90	54	70	1	999	917	1.36	10.56	-0.21	21.43	3.43
Richmond	80	58	89	51	69	1	943	963	0.73	11.60	0.86	19.25	1.91
Roanoke	81	57	86	51	69	3	1003	NA	0.06	9.02	-2.25	17.25	-0.35
Wash/Dulles	81	57	89	52	69	4	816	NA	1.21	9.38	-1.04	17.63	1.31

\* 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 Stanley)**

Clear skies and warm temperatures in the middle of the week allowed some first cutting hay to be made before clouds and rain returned on Sunday to end the week with over 1/2 inch of rain reported by most of Rockbridge County Sunday night. Some field work was accomplished this week, but most farmers remain behind on critical spring field tasks.

**ROANOKE (Barbara Leach)**

Raining a lot but less accumulation. Hard to get onto fields to mow and hay can't dry out.

## CENTRAL

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

As soon as the rain broke this week, we had dozens of producers out cutting hay to make up for a much delayed season. Although the ground is still wet in many places, the hot weather has enabled everyone to get back out for chores and we've seen a lot of equipment on the roads this week. The corn crop seems to be improving, some fields probably just needed some good weather to grow out of stress related to past conditions.

### **AMHERST (Alyssa Elliott)**

Warm, sunny weather means that everyone is out harvesting the hay. Later than usual timing due to wet weather means the hay is going to be poorer quality. Temperatures in Amherst were in the high 80s/low 90s all week.

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

Sun is finally shining and the temps are in a good 70 - 90 degrees F. The race is on with the F.S. soybean planters.

### **CHESTERFIELD/GOOCHLAND (Charlotte Maxwell)**

We had over an inch of rain again this past week, fields are still fairly wet.

### **ORANGE (Steve Hopkins)**

This was the first week this year producers could cut and bale hay. Field conditions are still very wet. Some corn will need to be replanted due to wet conditions and we have seen damage from slugs in no till corn fields.

## EASTERN

### **KING GEORGE (Mike Broaddus)**

Sun is finally shining and the temps are in a good 70--90 degrees F. The race is on with the F.S. soybean planters.

### **GLOUCESTER/MATHEWS/MIDDLESEX (David Moore)**

Sun came out and it stopped raining. Corn looks pretty sick in some places. Haymaking is wide open and just a few soybeans have been planted. Wheat quality continues its downward climb. Vegetable planting is gearing up.

Activities include field prep for beans and veggies, herbicide applications to young corn, some N applications, and haymaking. Folks still trying to decide about replanting corn, or planting sorghum or soybeans.

### **ESSEX/KING AND QUEEN/KING WILLIAM (Keith Balderson)**

Farmers managed to get some field work done during the middle and later part of the week. The dry and much warmer conditions during that time were welcomed. More rain over the weekend resulted in very wet conditions again. Activities included hay making, post emergence herbicide and side-dress nitrogen applications to corn and planting full-season soybeans. Some corn continued to show yellowing and slow growth due to the wet and cool conditions earlier in the month.

### **CHARLES CITY/NEW KENT (John Allison)**

Wheat estimates do not reflect winter damaged fields that were killed and made ready to plant soybeans.

## SOUTHWESTERN

### **SMYTH (Andy Overbay)**

Continued wet weather has diminished the quality of the first cutting of hay significantly over the past week. Fescue seed heads are prolific throughout county fields, lowering both hay and grazing quality of the fields.

## SOUTHERN

### **FRANKLIN (Chris Brown/Cynthia Martel)**

Producers in Franklin County took advantage of the weather last week, hauling manure, baling hay, planting corn and soybeans. We are still behind.

## **SOUTHEASTERN**

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

Seeing some head scab in winter wheat from prolonged rainy period during head fill. Ryegrass is a significant weed problem this year in wheat. Early season vegetables are growing well with cool temperatures. Most spring crops are two weeks late being planted. Some of the first hay cutting occurred this week, delayed because of rainy days. Farmers are planting soybeans this week, but expect rain again this weekend.

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

Producers finally got a break from showers last week to accomplish some fieldwork. Much hay was cut and baled last week before rains again on Sunday. Soybean planting made little progress as soil conditions were still wet in many fields intended for early season soybeans. Some soybean replanting will have to be done on wetter soils where plants drowned over the past 2-3 weeks. Other activities included side-dressing corn with nitrogen and applying herbicides to various crops.