



# Crop Progress and Condition

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

Released: May 16, 2016

Issue: 10-16

**Agricultural News:** Days suitable for fieldwork were 2.9. Weather conditions continued to be wet with rains throughout the week; fieldwork, crop plantings, and crop progress continues to be limited or delayed. Farming activities for the week included apple crop thinning, applying fungicide applications, and checking crops for diseases and insects; slugs have been reported in the corn crop.

## SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 05/15/16

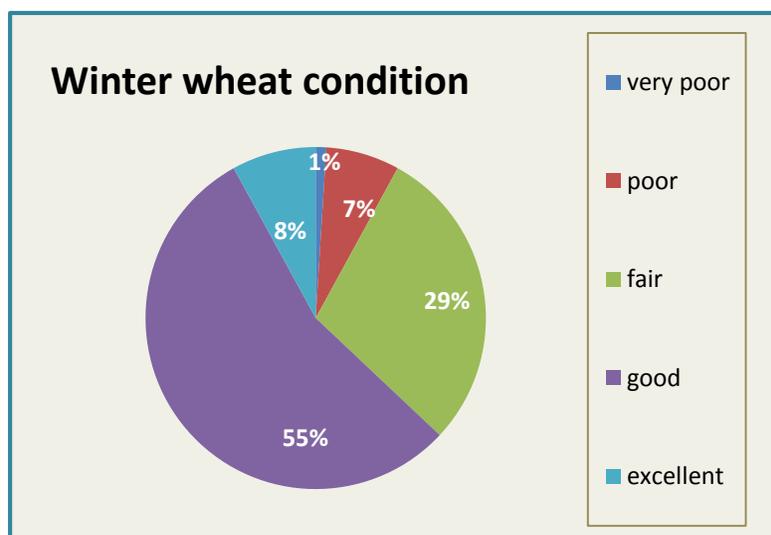
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	4	7	67	22
Subsoil	2	14	73	11

- Represents zero.

## CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 05/15/16

Crop/Livestock	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Apples	3	18	54	25	-
Grapes	1	40	36	23	-
Peaches	15	24	47	14	-
Barley	3	9	37	48	3
Hay, Alfalfa	6	11	31	48	4
Hay, Other	4	19	31	42	4
Oats	1	5	41	47	6
Potatoes, Summer	-	-	13	87	-
Tobacco, Greenhouse	-	1	8	38	53
Winter wheat	1	7	29	55	8
Pasture	5	19	31	37	8
Livestock	2	7	32	48	11

-Represents zero.

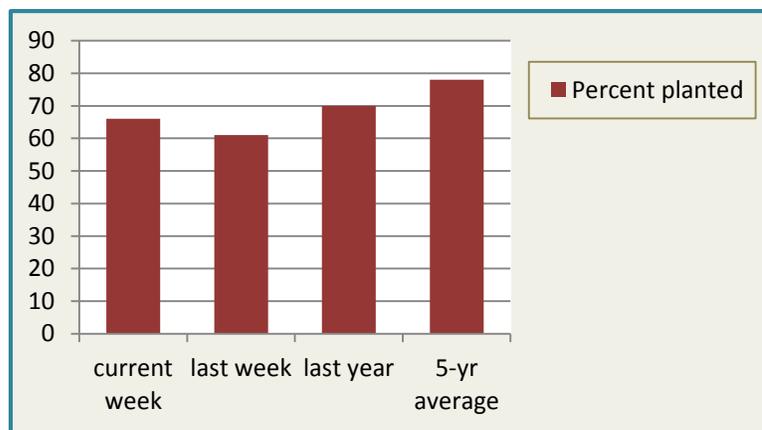


**CROP PROGRESS for week ending 05/15/16**

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Corn planted	66	61	70	78
Corn emerged	50	40	45	58
Cotton planted	32	22	47	57
Peanuts planted	20	10	44	40
Soybeans planted	11	6	20	19
Tobacco, Burley transplanted	12	-	17	14
Tobacco, Fire-cured transplanted	5	1	18	29
Tobacco, Flue-cured transplanted	28	17	53	57
Winter wheat headed	85	77	62	82

- Represents data not available.

**CORN PLANTED for week ending 05/15/16**



**Weather Summary-** For the week ending May 15, 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 14	Mar. 1 to May 14 norm	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	73	54	78	46	63	1	723	615	0.21	9.94	0.83	17.23	1.43
Norfolk	76	57	83	51	67	2	778	660	0.24	8.11	-1.00	18.98	2.62
Richmond	73	55	80	51	64	0	746	710	0.24	8.45	-0.53	16.10	0.62
Roanoke	75	56	78	49	65	3	812	NA	2.63	7.96	-1.40	16.19	0.63
Wash/Dulles	68	50	77	42	59	-1	627	NA	0.56	7.29	-1.18	15.54	1.29

\* 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**

**FAIRFAX (Adria Bordas)**

We have had rain the last 15 days out of 16.

**ROCKINGHAM (Doug Horn)**

Rainy spell continued through last week. Corn planting is behind schedule due to wet soil conditions. It has been a challenge harvesting small grain forage crops.

**CENTRAL**

**AMELIA (Laura Siegle)**

This week was much like last week-plenty of rain, especially overnight this week, mixed with a few hours of sun. This continues to delay field work and other chores including soybean planting and cutting hay. Our pastures and forage crops have improved dramatically with all the moisture following the previous dry conditions, but now it will be difficult for producers to cut hay in a timely manner, and many hay fields will produce very mature hay by the time conditions are dry enough for the growers to get out to it.

**CAROLINE (Mike Broaddus)**

Like last week, almost the entire week has plagued agriculture with very damp and drizzly to downfalls of rain. Very little has been accomplished this past week in production in agriculture.

**NELSON (Michael LaChance)**

Daily rain and cool temperatures are slowing agricultural operations. Fruit growers are attending production meetings and nearing the end of apple crop thinning. Scattered hail storms have damaged some orchards.

**EASTERN**

**KING GEORGE (Mike Broaddus)**

Like last week, almost the entire week has plagued agriculture with very damp and drizzly to downfalls of rain. Very little has been accomplished this past week in production in agriculture.

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

Still not much action in the field this week due to intermittent showers. More rain for end of week and already predicted for next week has producers anxious. Already talk of replanting corn. Slugs are appearing in some fields. Corn is growing slowly. Wheat has its share of problems too. Producers have been busy spraying a fungicide for head scab and some stripe rust that has shown up. Soybean prep continues and some corn is still being planted. Vegetable planting is very slow as is haymaking.

**ESSEX (Keith Balderson)**

Continued cool and damp weather dominated the week resulting in slow corn growth. Some slug activity was reported in corn. First cutting of hay has been delayed. Some producers continued to apply wheat head scab fungicides as the weather allowed and weather conditions caused concerns that the disease could be a major concern. Some producers took advantage of a friendly USDA report on Tuesday and contracted soybeans.

**NORTHAMPTON (Ursula Deitch)**

The wet weather has continued. Hoping for dryer, and warmer conditions this next week. Green bean planting has been delayed by a week to 10 days. Potatoes are looking good as long as a fungicide application has been applied.

**SOUTHWESTERN**

**FLOYD (Jon Vest)**

Cold temps and intermittent showers are slowing forage development and crop emergence.

**CARROLL (Steve Pottorff)**

Conditions remain dryer than normal.

**SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)**

Alternating hot and cold temperatures have made this spring pretty tough. First cutting hay appears to be 1/4-1/3 short. Rain is slowing down activities, however it is welcomed as compared to the dry early spring.

**SOUTHEASTERN**

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

Showers and cool temperatures delay field activities. All corn is planted, most has emerged except some late planted no-till, which may need some spot re-planting. Seeing some delayed negative effects of cold temperatures on wheat. Summer vegetable crops are delayed in planting. U-Pick Strawberry Farms having poor weather for picking thus far.

**BRUNSWICK (Cynthia Gregg)**

Rain last week as well slowed some planting or changed which fields were planted. Some hay has been put on the ground, some got rained on and some was baled okay but cut late, so nutrition in both is lowered. Producers have been planting as much as they can get into fields.