



Crop Progress and Condition

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Virginia Cooperative Extension Service
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Agricultural News: The month of February was wet, with warmer temperatures. Weather conditions have made fields muddy, but pastures and fields are greening up. Farming activities for the month included scouting small grains, preparing for the new crop season, and planting spring gardens.

SOIL MOISTURE and SUPPLIES for week ending 02/25/18

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	-	2	68	30
Subsoil	1	20	68	11
Hay & Roughage	1	22	75	2

- Represents zero.

CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 02/25/18

Crop/Livestock	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Barley	-	12	25	61	2
Winter Wheat	-	4	18	71	7
Pasture	8	26	41	24	1
Livestock	-	4	35	57	4

- Represents zero.

Forage Percent Obtained from Pastures	This Month	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%
Feed Obtained from Pastures	7	-	-

- Represents data not available.

Weather Summary- For the week ending February 25, 2018

City	Temperature						Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Last Week	Since Dec. 1	Dec. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1, 2018 to date	Jan. 1, 2018 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	65	43	77	32	54	15	0.20	9.71	0.38	8.62	2.51
Norfolk	68	48	80	38	58	15	0.18	7.63	-2.15	5.23	-1.47
Richmond	66	45	80	33	56	16	0.20	6.46	-2.63	5.42	-0.53
Roanoke	67	45	84	37	56	16	0.22	7.01	-1.64	6.25	0.47
Wash/Dulles	60	43	80	31	51	15	0.64	7.11	-1.35	6.34	1.02

* 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)

It's nice to see the rivers and creeks flowing again. We have received about 3 inches of rain in the last month. The temperatures have been above average for the last half of the month. Many small grain fields were fertilized in February and are beginning to grow rapidly.

CLARKE/PAGE/SHENANDOAH (Bobby Clark)

Groundwater is still low. We still need significant rainfall to recharge our groundwater.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Laura Siegle)

We are seeing a bit more greenup of pastures and fields as temps are higher this week and weather has been wet this month.

CAROLINE (Mike Broaddus)

A very wet and warmer than normal winter has the grasses, cereal grains and hayland greening up.

CHESTERFIELD/GOOCHLAND (Charlotte Maxwell)

We have had a very warm week or two, with temperatures well above average. We have also had a lot of precipitation and fields are extremely muddy.

EASTERN

KING GEORGE (Mike Broaddus)

A very wet and warmer than normal winter has the grasses, cereal grains and hayland greening up.

SOUTHWESTERN

GRAYSON (Kevin Spurlin)

The last half of February was unseasonably mild with much needed rain. The area had been extremely dry up to this month.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia Gregg)

Rain has helped with pond levels. Producers are gearing up and beginning to seed tobacco greenhouses. Spring gardens are starting to be planted. Small grains are being scouted.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence Jr.)

Very wet soil conditions throughout February. Above normal temperatures are breaking winter wheat dormancy early this year.