



Crop Progress and Condition

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

Released: April 16, 2018

Issue: 06-18

Agricultural News: Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.2. Windy and warmer days during the week helped dry fields before rain moved in over the weekend. Pasture growth is still slow and some crops are behind in progress. Farming activities for the week included planting corn and plowing fields for tobacco.

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 04/15/18

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	-	23	74	3
Subsoil	-	20	79	1

- Represents zero

CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 04/15/18

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Barley	-	5	22	64	9
Hay, Alfalfa	-	8	43	48	1
Hay, Other	-	10	41	48	1
Winter Wheat	-	3	19	63	15
Pasture	5	25	39	25	6

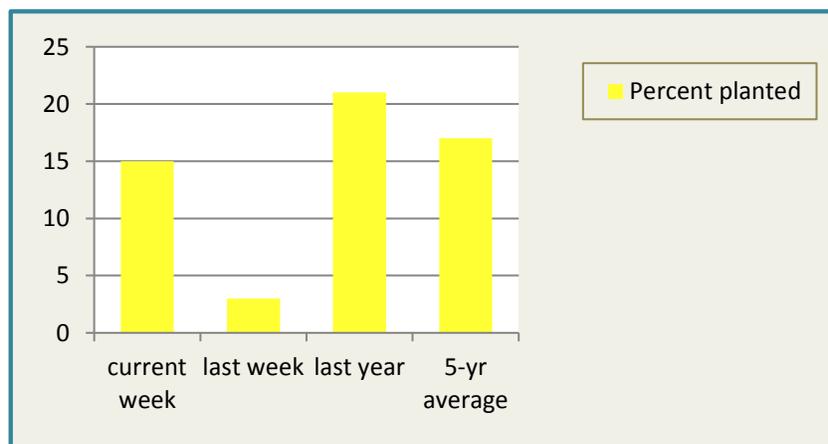
-Represents zero.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 04/15/18

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Corn, planted	15	3	21	17
Potatoes, Summer planted	59	44	65	74
Winter Wheat, headed	3	1	11	3

- Represents data not available.

CORN PLANTED for week ending 04/15/18



Weather Summary- For the week ending April 15, 2018

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 Apr. 14	Mar. 1 to Apr. 14 norm	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	65	38	82	27	52	-1	194	238	0.04	3.30	-2.10	11.96	-0.12
Norfolk	65	47	83	38	56	1	207	260	0.05	4.56	-1.14	9.80	-3.09
Richmond	67	43	84	33	55	0	219	285	0.10	2.74	-2.85	8.59	-3.50
Roanoke	66	41	82	29	53	-1	196	NA	0.02	3.60	-1.85	10.92	-0.82
Wash/Dulles	65	42	86	29	53	2	150	NA	0.00	2.24	-2.73	8.73	-2.04

* 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)

Snow flurries on Monday and high temperature in the low eighties on Friday. Heavy rainfall started Sunday night. Two to three inches of rain so far. Burn down spraying underway for corn planting. First field of rye was cut for silage.

LOUDOUN (Jim Hilleary)

Heavy rain 16 April, short duration.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas Stanley)

The week started cool, but was very warm Thursday - Saturday. Sunday night brought much cooler temperatures and heavy rain with accumulation over an inch and still falling as this report was being submitted. Most farmers are current on field work, but no corn has been planted and spring vegetable crops are behind normal progress.

BATH/HIGHLAND (John Benner)

Cold weather continued for much of the week and finally gave way over the weekend. Rain and hail on Sunday.

CENTRAL

CAROLINE (Mike Broaddus)

The soil moisture is falling rapidly due to lack of ground recharging rainfall and warm, windy days.

CAMPBELL (Todd Scott)

We have been really dry for this time of year. Last night we got 1.5" of rain which should help. The wind has been blowing and seems to be drying the ground moisture up fast.

EASTERN

KING GEORGE (Mike Broaddus)

The soil moisture is falling rapidly due to lack of ground recharging rainfall and warm, windy days.

CHARLES CITY (Scott Reiter)

Corn planting got a lot of attention by mid-week as temperatures warmed up. Rain is needed for grass and wheat crop as no significant rainfall has occurred in the past 3 weeks.

SOUTHWESTERN

CARROLL (Steve Pottorff)

Pasture growth is still slow due to the cooler than normal weather.

WYTHE (Matthew Miller)

Too cold, too cold, too cold. Grass not growing, ground temp too cold, hay behind in growth, and zero corn in the ground.

SOUTHERN

LUNENBURG (Lindy Tucker)

We finally got some much-needed rain last night! Things should start to take off a little more now.

SOUTHEASTERN

GREENSVILLE (Sara Rutherford)

Unseasonably warm temperatures for three consecutive days. Planting and planting preparation underway.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence Jr.)

Corn planting began in earnest this week with sunny days and warm temperatures.

ISLE OF WIGHT/SOUTHAMPTON/SUFFOLK CITY (Livvy Preisser)

Crops are looking good and farmers have been in the fields planting. We had severe weather last night, but with minimal damage.

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia Gregg)

Wind dried out fields last week. Several fields were plowed and bedded for tobacco. Tobacco transplants in greenhouses have been trimmed for the second time. Greenhouse tomatoes are in full swing as well, ripening and harvest. Rain and high winds were prominent in the county on Sunday evening.

PRINCE GEORGE/SURRY/SUSSEX (Scott Reiter)

Corn planting got a lot of attention by mid-week as temperatures warmed up. Rain is needed for grass and wheat crop as no significant rainfall has occurred in the past 3 weeks.