



# 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

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**Agricultural News:** Days suitable for fieldwork were 3.5. Wet conditions continue to limit fieldwork; many fields are saturated and muddy. Farming activities for the week included harvesting peanuts, planting small grains, and repairing fences damaged from flood debris.

### SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 09/23/18

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	-	1	55	44
Subsoil	-	1	69	30

- Represents zero.

### CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 09/23/18

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Cotton	3	5	15	74	3
Hay, Alfalfa	-	10	34	48	8
Hay, Other	5	11	35	41	8
Peanuts	3	6	15	73	3
Soybeans	2	8	28	55	7
Pasture	1	12	30	45	12

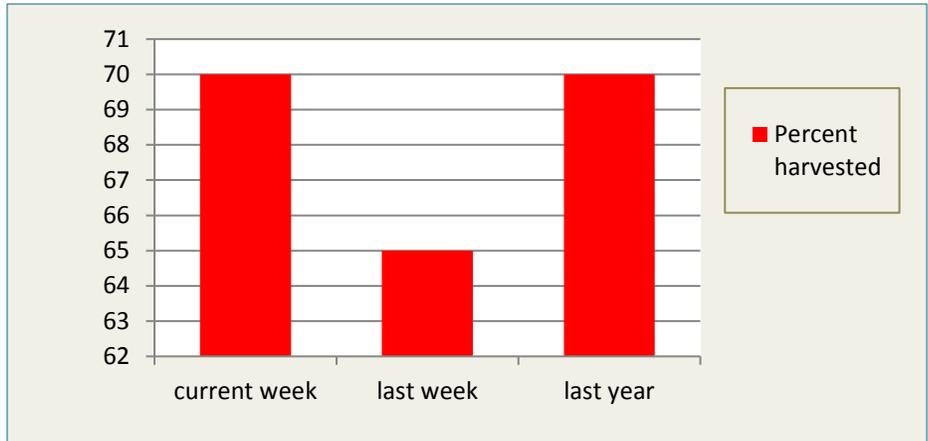
-Represents zero.

### CROP PROGRESS for week ending 09/23/18

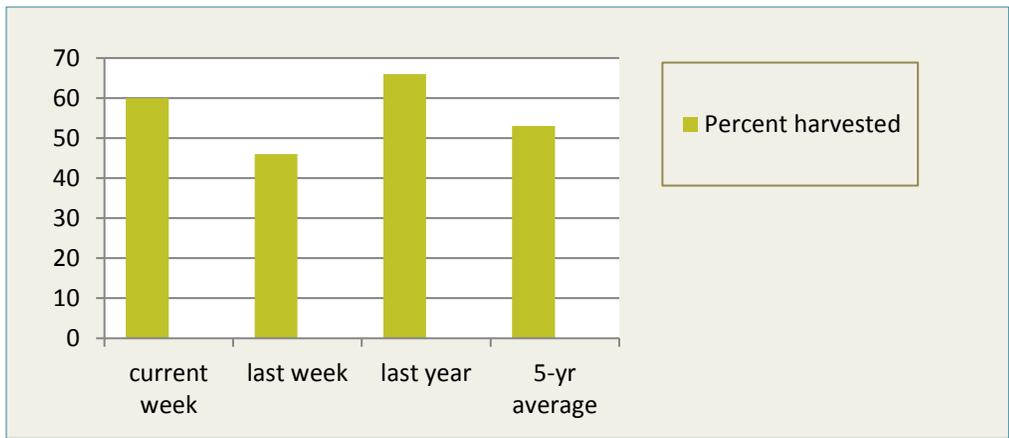
Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Apples harvested	70	65	70	-
Barley planted	8	2	12	13
Corn mature	90	82	93	83
Corn harvested for grain	60	46	66	53
Corn for silage harvested	90	85	97	86
Cotton bolls opening	58	43	53	61
Peanuts harvested	10	3	3	3
Soybeans setting pods	94	91	-	-
Soybeans dropping leaves	25	15	31	27
Tobacco, Flue-cured harvested	86	75	83	75
Winter Wheat planted	5	1	3	5

- Represents data not available or zero.

**APPLES HARVESTED for week ending 09/23/18**



**CORN HARVESTED FOR GRAIN for week ending 09/23/18**



**Weather Summary- For the week ending September 23, 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 Sep. 22	Mar. 1 to Sep. 22 norm	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	84	65	89	60	75	8	3793	3425	2.74	4.99	2.24	44.93	12.61
Norfolk	84	72	89	65	78	6	4396	3797	0.24	2.94	-0.09	45.45	10.22
Richmond	84	69	88	65	76	7	4175	3699	0.80	2.97	0.09	48.43	15.49
Roanoke	85	67	89	63	76	9	3933	NA	5.06	8.46	5.64	45.95	13.60
Wash/Dulles	80	66	86	61	73	6	3664	NA	1.08	3.82	1.00	47.48	16.45

\* 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)**

Rainfall from Hurricane Florence was only 1 to 3 inches, but some localized flooding occurred. Near saturated soil conditions continue and field work is minimal. Many crops are mature, but cannot be harvested in a timely manner due to frequent rainfall and lack of drying conditions.

**LOUDOUN (Jim Hilleary)**

The break in rain that allowed cutting hay did not continue to allow drying.

**WESTERN**

**ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas Stanley)**

The week started with the remnants of Hurricane Florence bringing over an inch of rain to all of Rockbridge with much higher amounts along the Blue Ridge and eastern part of the county. Three days of clear weather followed with significant rain returning Saturday afternoon and night. Many farmers have second or third cutting hay they would like to make, but wet weather has not provided an opportunity to do so.

## CENTRAL

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

We experienced significant rainfall in the days following Florence, particularly on Sept 17th. Some fields experienced minor flooding or standing water on borders in the days following the storm. Some of the soybean crop is beginning to drop leaves.

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

Recent rainfall has ground too wet for harvest or planting small grains.

### **CAMPBELL (Todd Scott)**

This may be one of the wettest summers I can remember. It's been helpful to yards and crops, but the high humidity and moisture worry me with late beans and possible fungus growth. Getting in fields is near impossible to finish silage harvest.

## EASTERN

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

Recent rainfall has ground too wet for harvest or planting small grains.

## SOUTHWESTERN

### **FLOYD (Jon Vest)**

Flooding experienced due to Florence system. Grape and apple loses anticipated due to excess water at harvest periods.

### **GRAYSON (Kevin Spurlin)**

Significant damage to late corn in low lying areas, especially in the flood zone of the New River, was noticed as a result of the remnants of Hurricane Florence. The other major issue was fence damage due to floodwaters carrying debris, and damage from falling trees and limbs. The eastern areas of the county were most impacted. These conditions have been very favorable for late season hay and pasture production.

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

Excessive rain did not materialize from Florence, still soil moisture is high. Muddy conditions will hamper small grain planting and may lead to compaction issues in fields and pastures.

## SOUTHEASTERN

### **GREENSVILLE (Sara Rutherford)**

Peanuts are currently being dug. Almost all corn has been harvested. All other commodities are normal at this time.

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

Hurricane had little effect on crops. Farmers are back harvesting corn this week, but facing more rain the coming weekend and into next week. Early planted soybeans are dropping leaves. Very light worm season this year.

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

Late cuttings of hay were made this past week as producers could get into fields. There was minor to slightly moderate flooding due to Hurricane Florence. The northern and middle part of the county experienced tornado watches and warnings as well.