



# Crop Progress and Condition

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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 5.6. Drier weather conditions helped with crop harvesting this week, but some fields are still wet. Parts of the State had the first frosts of the season as temperatures cooled. Farming activities for the week included harvesting corn, cotton, and peanuts.

### SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 10/21/18

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	-	3	73	24
Subsoil	-	5	77	18

- Represents zero.

### CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 10/21/18

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Cotton	1	4	20	72	3
Hay, Alfalfa	2	12	35	44	7
Hay, Other	7	14	33	42	4
Peanuts	1	4	10	79	6
Soybeans	3	12	28	53	4
Pasture	-	6	22	51	21

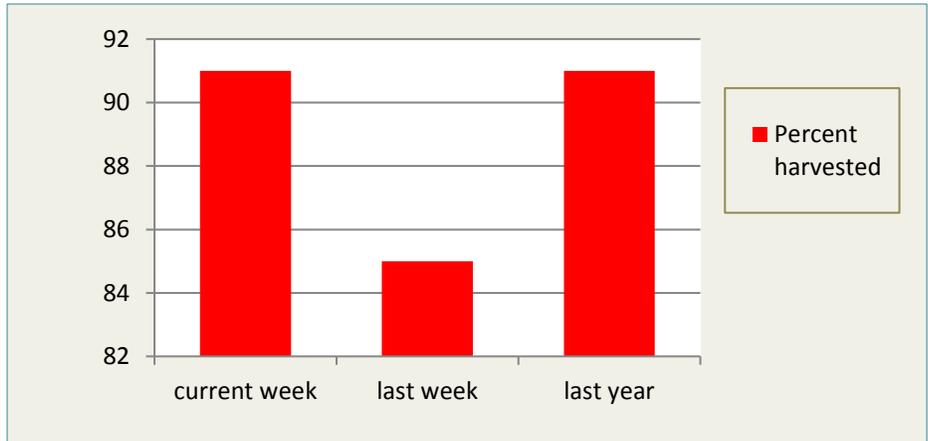
-Represents zero.

### CROP PROGRESS for week ending 10/21/18

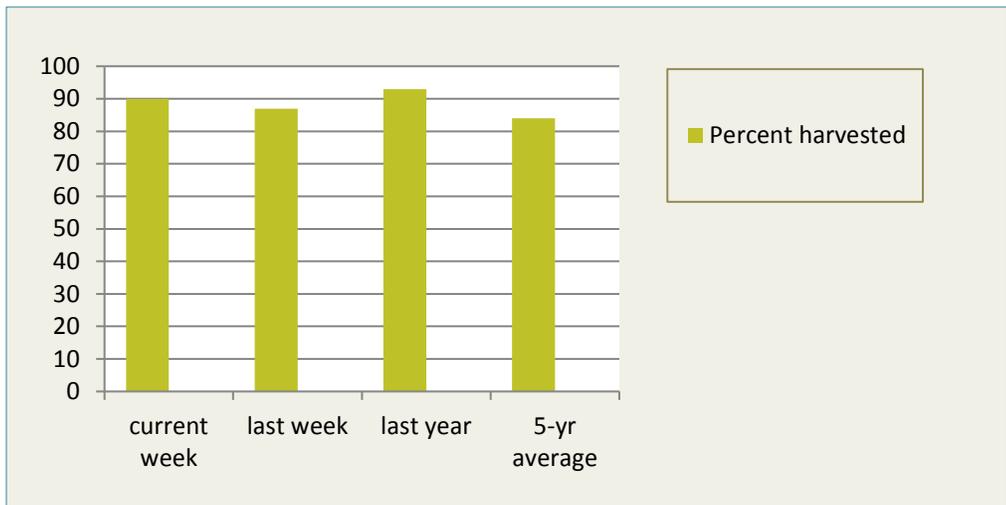
Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Apples harvested	91	85	91	-
Barley planted	58	44	69	65
Corn harvested for grain	90	87	93	84
Cotton bolls opening	96	91	100	98
Cotton harvested	34	12	40	22
Peanuts harvested	63	44	77	55
Soybeans dropping leaves	81	68	85	83
Soybeans harvested	19	10	30	21
Winter Wheat planted	32	22	36	30

- Represents data not available or zero.

**APPLES HARVESTED for week ending 10/21/18**



**CORN HARVESTED FOR GRAIN for week ending 10/21/18**



**Weather Summary- For the week ending October 21, 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 Oct. 20	Mar. 1 to Oct. 20 norm	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	66	46	77	34	56	0	4257	3761	0.34	13.26	7.10	53.20	17.50
Norfolk	71	55	86	43	63	2	5033	4212	0.22	4.55	-1.76	47.06	8.49
Richmond	69	49	82	38	59	1	4717	4078	0.22	6.93	0.58	52.39	15.76
Roanoke	67	47	80	37	57	0	4416	NA	0.12	13.88	7.98	51.37	15.95
Wash/Dulles	64	44	70	33	54	-1	4122	NA	0.26	8.64	2.64	52.30	18.12

\* 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)**

Widespread frost at the end of last week. A heavy freeze over most of the county this morning. A lot of harvest activity last week as the soil finally started drying down a little. Soybean harvest began last week. Some late season hay was mowed. Manure applications being made as the fields are harvested.

**WESTERN**

**ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas Stanley)**

Corn and soybeans have been slow to dry-down, delaying harvest. First light frost occurred Friday morning October 19th followed by a more significant frost Monday morning October 22nd.

**BATH/HIGHLAND (John Benner)**

Conditions have allowed for drying out slightly. 3rd/4th hay cuttings are down. Temperature dropped with several frosts.

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

We have not gotten much rain this week, thankfully. Fields are starting to dry out and row crops are getting harvested. We got our first frost on 10/22.

**CAMPBELL (Todd Scott)**

Wet weather has caused lots of issues with harvest. Many fields are just too wet to get equipment in the field. Today was the first frost of the season as well, so beans should be dropping leaves faster.

**EASTERN****CHARLES CITY (Scott Reiter)**

Cotton and peanut harvests wrapped up this week just before the Saturday rain showers. Cover crops and wheat are being seeded. Soybean harvest is getting started with variable yields and some seed quality issues.

**SOUTHWESTERN****MONTGOMERY (Kelli Scott)**

2018 has been reported as the "wettest year on record."

**SMYTH (Andy Overbay)**

Cooler weather has been moving into the area and will be affecting grass and cover crops soon. Livestock producers have noted lighter calves and attribute much of the falloff in growth to wet conditions and diluted nutritional value of grazing plots.

**SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)**

First killing frost of the year this morning. Vegetable production has ended, and working on information for the VaPAH sale.

**SOUTHEASTERN****GREENSVILLE (Sara Rutherford)**

Cotton harvest has started with some still to be defoliated. A few pastures have perked up and flushed out, but others are still struggling from over grazing.

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

Cooler daytime temperatures in the 60's arrived this week. Farmers are busy with soybean harvest and fall tillage. Strawberry growers are managing young plugs and bare root plantings on plasticulture.

**PRINCE GEORGE/SURRY/SUSSEX (Scott Reiter)**

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