



# Crop Progress and Condition

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Virginia Cooperative Extension Service  
Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

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**Agricultural News:** The month of February has been very wet with some flooding. Days suitable for fieldwork were 0.6 for the week ending Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. Weather conditions have made fields extremely muddy, delaying fieldwork; the weather conditions have been hard on livestock. Farming activities for the month included attending production meetings and applying fertilizers and herbicides.

## SOIL MOISTURE and SUPPLIES for week ending 02/24/19

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	-	-	18	82
Subsoil	-	-	29	71
Hay & Roughage	4	34	57	5

- Represents zero.

## CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 02/24/19

Crop/Livestock	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Barley	2	23	50	23	2
Winter Wheat	2	10	45	39	4
Pasture	9	39	36	14	2
Livestock	-	6	48	38	8

- 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 24, 2019

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, 2019 to date	Jan. 1, 2019 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	46	33	60	26	39	1	3.27	14.50	5.27	7.36	1.33
Norfolk	52	40	61	37	46	4	3.63	12.51	2.89	8.42	1.80
Richmond	47	35	58	27	41	1	2.08	9.92	0.91	6.47	0.59
Roanoke	45	34	61	30	40	0	3.99	14.37	5.82	8.13	2.45
Wash/Dulles	43	30	54	23	37	2	1.47	12.68	4.40	6.92	1.68

\* 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)

Continued high moisture conditions. Feeding livestock has been a constant challenge due to saturated soils. Some corn and soybeans were still being harvested into January. Not many cover crops were planted due to late harvest and high soil moisture. The only small grains that look decent were planted behind corn silage. Temperature extremes have ranged from -2 to 72 degrees.

**LOUDOUN (Jim Hilleary)**

Saturated soils preclude effective field work; producers able to access their fields have been those able to take advantage of short time windows between rain/snow events.

**CENTRAL****AMELIA (Laura Siegle)**

We had another very wet month, which has also made farm chores and field work difficult or delayed.

**CAROLINE (Mike Broaddus)**

Due to the very damp and rainy winter, cattle traffic has muddied paddocks and pastures. Also due to this weather, winter wheat has suffered from lack of sunshine for proper root and leaf development.

**EASTERN****KING GEORGE (Mike Broaddus)**

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**CHARLES CITY (Scott Reiter)**

Wet conditions have limited field work activities. Fertilizer and herbicide applications to wheat had a limited window of opportunity in February.

**SOUTHWESTERN****BLAND/GILES (Jeannie Layton Dudding)**

Very wet month with high rainfall/snowfall amounts. Has led to very muddy pastures.

**BUCHANAN/DICKENSON (Brad Mullins)**

It has been the wettest February on record, over 8 inches of rain for the month. Very muddy, flooding conditions. Tough on livestock.

**CARROLL (Steve Pottorff)**

Weather conditions have been much wetter than normal.

**GRAYSON (Kevin Spurlin)**

This winter has been characterized by cold rain, ice, and mud. It has been hard on animals, man and machine. Several reports of animal injuries due to falls, stress and disease caused by mud and wet weather. Fields damaged by feeding operations have made it quite difficult for livestock owners. Winter timber harvest operations have also been difficult.

**SMYTH (Andy Overbay)**

Extremely wet, muddy conditions plague livestock and cropping operations alike. More rain in the forecast means these conditions will continue in the near term.

**TAZEWELL (John Blankenship)**

We have experienced unbelievable amounts of rain.

**SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)**

Extremely wet weather has hampered all farming due to flooding and mud. Clinch River reached flood stage Saturday night, crested Sunday night, and is expected to recede to the point that roads can be opened by this evening.

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

Rain continues to hinder almost all field activities. Winter wheat continues to struggle. Ponding in low-lying fields has proceeded to get worse, especially along the Meherrin River.

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

Very wet. Winter wheat dormant still and conditions are below normal due to wet soils and cold temperatures. Farmers are attending winter production meetings; very little farm activity.

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

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