



Crop Progress and Condition

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U.S. Dept. of Commerce - NOAA
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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 4.9. Precipitation was up from the previous week, saturating soils that were drying up. Grasses are growing. Farming activities for the week included planting corn, applying nitrogen, and selling calves,.

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 04/14/19

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|---------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | % | % | % | % |
| Topsoil | - | 4 | 78 | 18 |
| Subsoil | - | 2 | 80 | 18 |

- Represents zero.

CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 04/14/19

| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|--------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| Barley | - | 7 | 29 | 57 | 7 |
| Hay, Alfalfa | - | 8 | 35 | 57 | - |
| Hay, Other | - | 5 | 40 | 49 | 6 |
| Winter Wheat | - | 5 | 25 | 59 | 11 |
| Pasture | 2 | 21 | 46 | 27 | 4 |

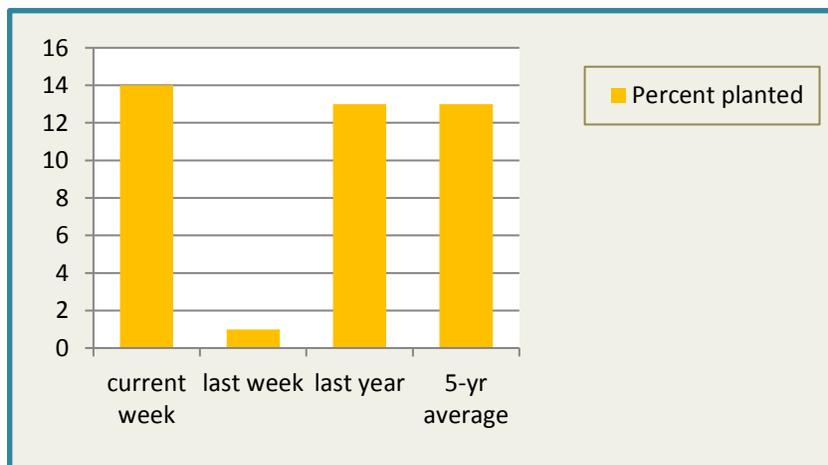
-Represents zero.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 04/14/19

| Crop Stage | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5-Yr Avg |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| | % | % | % | % |
| Corn planted | 14 | 1 | 13 | 13 |
| Potatoes, Summer planted | 35 | 20 | 57 | 64 |
| Winter Wheat headed | 4 | - | 3 | 3 |

- Represents data not available.

CORN PLANTED for week ending 04/14/19



Weather Summary- For the week ending April 14, 2019

| 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. 13 | Mar. 1 to Apr. 13 norm | Last Week | Since Mar. 1 | Mar. 1 dep. from normal * | Jan. 1 to date | Jan. 1 dep. from normal * |
| Lynchburg | 73 | 52 | 80 | 44 | 62 | 9 | 264 | 228 | 2.27 | 6.23 | 0.96 | 13.88 | 1.92 |
| Norfolk | 74 | 57 | 85 | 45 | 65 | 10 | 312 | 250 | 1.04 | 4.17 | -1.39 | 12.67 | -0.12 |
| Richmond | 76 | 55 | 83 | 45 | 65 | 10 | 308 | 274 | 1.15 | 5.64 | 0.17 | 13.25 | 1.21 |
| Roanoke | 73 | 54 | 80 | 46 | 64 | 10 | 293 | NA | 0.81 | 3.15 | -2.18 | 11.67 | 0.00 |
| Wash/Dulles | 72 | 51 | 82 | 43 | 62 | 11 | 230 | NA | 0.50 | 5.40 | 0.50 | 12.86 | 2.15 |

* 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)

Warm temperatures and drying conditions early in the week with heavy rains over the weekend. Grasses have finally greened up and started growing. Small grains are starting rapid growth. Farmers have been seeding areas damaged by livestock feeding during the wet winter.

LOUDOUN (Jim Hilleary)

Several excellent days for field work this past week; however, two rain events: Friday night and Sunday night have once again saturated the soil and refilled recently dried, low-area pools. Pastures are green; today brings the end to the cool season grass seeding period. Spring harbinger broadleaf weeds are abundant. Large square bale hay from local brokers is still available, quality and prices vary. Sellers indicate that first cut, 2019 hay should start arriving by mid-May.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas Stanley)

Rockbridge was clear and spring-like all week until Sunday when heavy rains impacted all of Rockbridge. Rainfall approached or exceeded 2 inches in most areas of Rockbridge. Soils have been too wet and cold for corn planting to this point.

BATH/HIGHLAND (Jennifer Matosky)

Drying conditions abruptly ended at the end of the week.

CENTRAL

CAROLINE (Mike Broaddus)

Rainfall continues to keep the ground very moist and temperatures have been average. So far, it has been a good April.

EASTERN

KING GEORGE (Mike Broaddus)

Rainfall continues to keep the ground very moist and temperatures have been average. So far, it has been a good April.

CHARLES CITY (Scott Reiter)

Corn planting started this week where soil conditions allowed. Fertilizer and burndown herbicide applications made progress as well.

ESSEX/GLOUCESTER/KING AND QUEEN/KING WILLIAM/MIDDLESEX (Robert Longest)

Corn planting is continuing and some nitrogen applications are still being made to small grains. Pastures and hay land are putting on new spring growth, and soil moisture is adequate and excessive in several locations. There were several days of rainfall this week with many places receiving around 0.5 of an inch of rain. Burndown applications continue to be made as corn planting continues and soybean land is being prepped for planting. Some cattle producers are beginning to sell calves from last fall.

SOUTHWESTERN

SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)

Strong storm system yesterday, no reported agricultural damage. Vegetable producers are making decisions on how to handle cold temperature forecast for tonight. Strawberries approximately 4 weeks away from picking.

SOUTHEASTERN

GREENSVILLE (Sara Rutherford)

Tobacco beds are being prepared. Liming and fertilizing continue as the weather allows. Burn down of a few fields is underway. Some pastures are inundated with winter annual weeds in bare areas created by livestock during our unseasonably wet conditions.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence Jr.)

Some corn acres were planted last week, but the majority of cropland is too wet. Farmers held off corn planting ahead of anticipated heavy rain this weekend. Corn acreage will not be early planted this year.

PRINCE GEORGE/SURRY/SUSSEX (Scott Reiter)

Corn planting started this week where soil conditions allowed. Fertilizer and burndown herbicide applications made progress as well.

VIRGINIA BEACH CITY (Roy D. Flanagan)

Everyone remembers the movie "Groundhog Day", this year is starting to remind me of that movie, with the weekly rain and the lack of progress on field work. We went from 0-60mph in the field and now we are at the get ready and wait for fields to dry up mode that plagued last year.