



# Crop Progress and Condition

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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 6.9. Weather conditions continue to be hot and dry; zero precipitation was recorded during the week. Most areas of the State are in D0 (abnormally dry) conditions and some are in D1 (moderate drought) conditions. Farmers are feeding hay and hauling water to livestock. Farming activities for the week included digging peanuts, making hay, harvesting corn, and marketing livestock.

### SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 09/22/19

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	35	49	16	-
Subsoil	22	47	31	-

- Represents zero.

### CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 09/22/19

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Cotton	-	9	20	64	7
Hay, Alfalfa	4	20	56	20	-
Hay, Other	10	34	39	16	1
Peanuts	-	9	14	72	5
Soybeans	1	16	44	34	5
Pasture	25	41	24	10	-

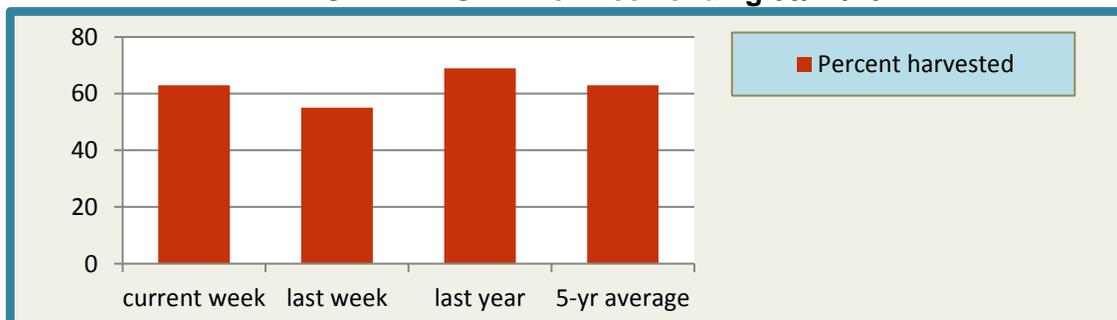
-Represents zero.

### CROP PROGRESS for week ending 09/22/19

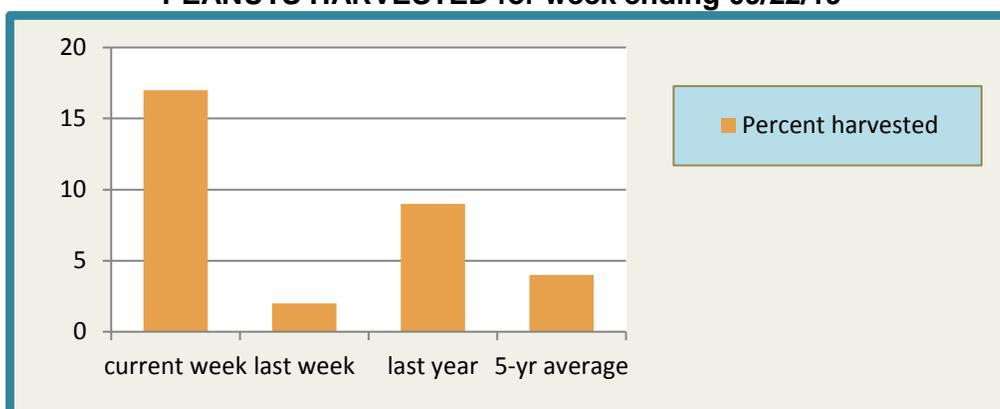
Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Apples harvested	63	55	69	63
Barley planted	15	1	7	9
Corn mature	92	85	89	84
Corn for grain harvested	76	63	58	52
Corn for silage harvested	93	88	89	87
Cotton bolls opening	74	56	56	56
Peanuts harvested	17	2	9	4
Soybeans dropping leaves	29	17	24	25
Tobacco, Flue-cured harvested	92	84	84	75
Winter Wheat planted	15	2	4	4

-Represents data not available.

### APPLES HARVESTED for week ending 09/22/19



### PEANUTS HARVESTED for week ending 09/22/19



### Weather Summary- For the week ending September 22, 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 Sep. 21	Mar. 1 to Sep. 21 Norm	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	84	56	94	45	70	3	3824	3408	0.00	0.06	-2.94	28.73	-3.55
Norfolk	80	65	86	55	72	0	4456	3776	0.00	2.96	0.06	38.59	3.51
Richmond	84	59	94	49	71	1	4238	3681	0.00	0.39	-2.39	34.43	1.64
Roanoke	83	60	92	49	72	4	4000	NA	0.00	0.80	-1.86	32.29	0.00
Wash/Dulles	83	54	91	45	68	1	3724	NA	0.00	0.33	-2.42	30.18	-0.61

\* 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)

Hot beginning and end of week with mild temperatures in the middle. No rain. Pastures and hayfields showing drought stress. Several corn fields are being harvested for grain. Some late season hay was harvested last week.

##### LOUDOUN (Jim Hilleary)

Little to no rain this week. Good time to cut and bale hay. Jointhead Arthraxon is seemingly present in every pasture, which doesn't bode well for next year's pastures and hay.

#### WESTERN

##### ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas Stanley)

Hot and dry all week in Rockbridge with drought conditions worsening. Many livestock producers are feeding hay, and others are marketing livestock that otherwise would have been allowed to graze into October and November.

#### CENTRAL

##### CAROLINE (Mike Broaddus)

Lack of rainfall is taking a very large toll on soybeans, as well as preventing planting of small grains.

##### BUCKINGHAM (Jennifer Ligon)

Buckingham is experiencing a severe drought with around 70% pasture and hay inventory loss. Have been feeding hay since July.

#### EASTERN

##### KING GEORGE (Mike Broaddus)

Lack of rainfall is taking a very large toll on soybeans, as well as preventing planting of small grains.

##### CHARLES CITY (Scott Reiter)

Dry conditions are the main discussions this week. Late planted soybean yields have definitely been hurt by the extended dry period since mid-August. The dry conditions have helped corn harvest progress at a rapid pace. Cotton has also matured and defoliants have been applied to some fields. Peanut digging started this week with maturity reaching optimal levels about 1-2 weeks ahead of normal.

## **SOUTHWESTERN**

### **WASHINGTON (Phil Blevins)**

We are extremely dry. Many pastures are gone and people are starting or have started to feed about 2-3 months earlier than normal.

### **BUCHANAN/DICKENSON (Brad Mullins)**

We are dry. Producers are starting to feed hay and are hauling water for livestock.

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

Sustained hot, dry weather has depleted moisture reserve which built up over the past growing season. While dry weather aided in the harvest and planting of cover crops, the unseasonable heat has reduced pasture production to the point that some livestock producers have begun to supplement rations with hay.

### **TAZEWELL (John Blankenship)**

We are in a critical drought, and many sections of our county have not received measurable rainfall since July 7th.

## **SOUTHEASTERN**

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

Another dry week. Peanuts are being dug, industrial hemp harvest has started, and a few late cuttings of hay were completed in the past week.

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

Excellent fall weather this week allowed farmers to make good progress on corn harvest.

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

Rain is badly needed. Late hay cuttings have yielded very few bales. Tobacco harvest is in the late stages. Soybeans are starting to drop leaves. Cotton bolls are opening. Sweet potatoes are being dug and picked up, yield is below demand.

### **PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)**

Dry conditions are the main discussions this week. Late planted soybean yields have definitely been hurt by the extended dry period since mid-August. The dry conditions have helped corn harvest progress at a rapid pace. Cotton has also matured and defoliants have been applied to some fields. Peanut digging started this week with maturity reaching optimal levels about 1-2 weeks ahead of normal.