



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: Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.7. Weather conditions continue to be hot and dry with limited precipitation recorded during the week and cooler temperatures near the end; areas of the state are in D2 (severe drought) conditions. The lack of rain continues to delay crops from being planted. Farming activities for the week included feeding hay, hauling water, and harvesting soybeans.

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 10/06/19

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	49	38	13	-
Subsoil	36	44	20	-

- Represents zero.

CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 10/06/19

Crop/Livestock	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Cotton	-	9	19	72	-
Hay, Alfalfa	20	24	30	26	-
Hay, Other	35	24	22	19	-
Peanuts	-	9	11	80	-
Soybeans	3	22	35	35	5
Pasture	39	32	21	8	-
Livestock	1	9	33	52	5

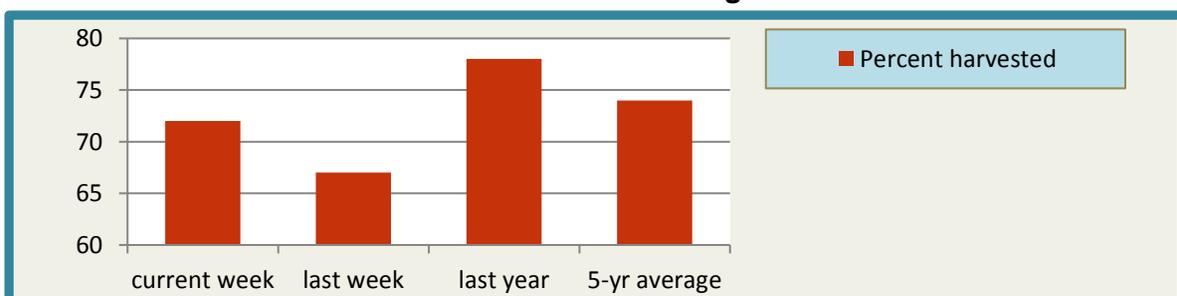
-Represents zero.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 10/06/19

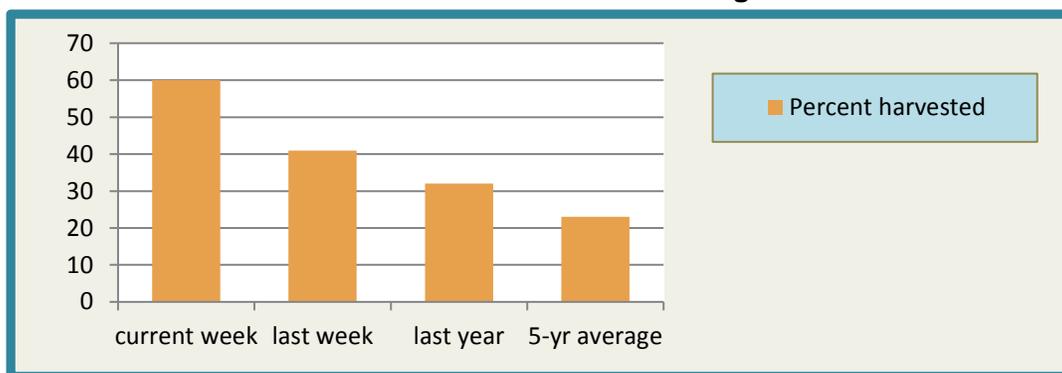
Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Apples harvested	72	67	78	74
Barley planted	36	25	28	31
Corn for grain harvested	91	87	82	72
Cotton bolls opening	95	89	81	83
Cotton harvested	18	10	3	2
Peanuts harvested	60	41	32	23
Soybeans dropping leaves	66	51	46	52
Soybeans harvested	12	3	4	5
Winter Wheat planted	34	23	12	12

-Represents data not available.

APPLES HARVESTED for week ending 10/06/19



PEANUTS HARVESTED for week ending 10/06/19



Weather Summary- For the week ending October 6, 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 Oct. 5	Mar. 1 to Oct. 5 Norm	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	87	62	97	49	75	13	4142	3595	0.11	0.17	-4.08	28.84	-5.08
Norfolk	82	69	97	62	76	9	4814	4012	0.00	2.96	-1.73	38.58	1.84
Richmond	87	65	97	50	76	12	4581	3895	0.00	0.43	-4.34	34.46	-0.34
Roanoke	88	66	98	52	77	15	4342	NA	0.01	1.32	-3.07	32.81	-1.01
Wash/Dulles	82	63	96	46	72	11	4021	NA	0.07	0.41	-4.14	30.26	-2.27

* 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)

Record or near record high temperatures in midweek. Minimal rainfall compared to the dry conditions. Corn grain harvest progressing rapidly. First soybeans harvested last week.

LOUDOUN (Jim Hilleary)

Hay fields and pastures that were recently mowed and cleared of residue are greening in spite of the dry weather. Residue and thatch from summer annuals is notable, if left in place, it is likely to significantly degrade cool season grass productivity.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas Stanley)

Another week of unseasonably hot temperatures and no rain further degraded pasture conditions and delayed small grain planting. Cooler temperatures by the end of the week brought some relief to livestock, but many livestock producers are drawing on hay inventories due to further declines in pasture conditions. Corn for grain has dried-down rapidly with reports of harvested grain moisture under 15%, while yields are fair to very good.

BATH/HIGHLAND (Jennifer Matosky)

Another dry week. Temperatures dropping a little bit.

CENTRAL

CAMPBELL (Todd Scott)

Dry, hot weather is causing trouble for farmers. Hay is short and many farmers are hauling water and feeding hay months earlier than normal. I have had several calls from farmers looking to purchase hay.

LOUISA (Charles Rosson)

After a wet spring and early summer we have had no rain fall for 7 weeks. Extreme hot temperatures have dried out the root zone moisture to where the ground is like a powder or a brick, depending on soil types. Fall grazing has all but been decimated, and second cutting fall hay has been depleted. Many farmers are already feeding hay to livestock like it is winter.

SOUTHWESTERN

CARROLL (Steve Pottorff)

Weather conditions remain drier than normal.

GRAYSON (Kevin Spurlin)

Several areas of the county received some rain this week, but the county certainly needs more. Areas not receiving the spotty storms still dealt with record heat and drought. Hay inventory is about 20% less than normal, but more alarming is how little standing forage is available causing livestock owners to use hay up to 2 months early.

SOUTHERN

FRANKLIN (Cynthia Martel)

Farmers in Franklin County have been feeding winter hay for over 2 months now. Fourth cutting hay from several farmers are reporting 85% or greater loss because of the drought conditions in the county. Cover crops and winter planting will be delayed, the ground is hard as cement. Soybeans are starting to be harvested, tonnage will be down. Farmers will have a hard time getting cover crops in before deadlines with Soil and Water and FSA.

SOUTHEASTERN

GREENSVILLE (Sara Rutherford)

October started off with hot, dry weather; breaking records with temperatures in the upper 90's. Little to no rain forecasted in the next 10 days. Pastures continue to suffer and supplemental feeding continues. Soybean yields are expected to be low; cotton harvest continues.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence Jr.)

Very dry. Corn harvest is almost complete. Soybean harvest began this week.