



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 4.7. Weather conditions continued to be cooler and precipitation amounts were up. Moisture levels have improved and pastures are growing; farmers continue to feed hay. Severe drought conditions have decreased with the rains. Farming activities for the week included harvesting cotton and soybeans.

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 10/27/19

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	7	20	70	3
Subsoil	12	33	55	-

- Represents zero.

CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 10/27/19

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Barley	1	10	34	49	6
Cotton	-	4	16	80	-
Hay, Alfalfa	6	12	43	39	-
Hay, Other	20	25	34	20	1
Soybeans	3	16	44	33	4
Pasture	32	38	22	8	-

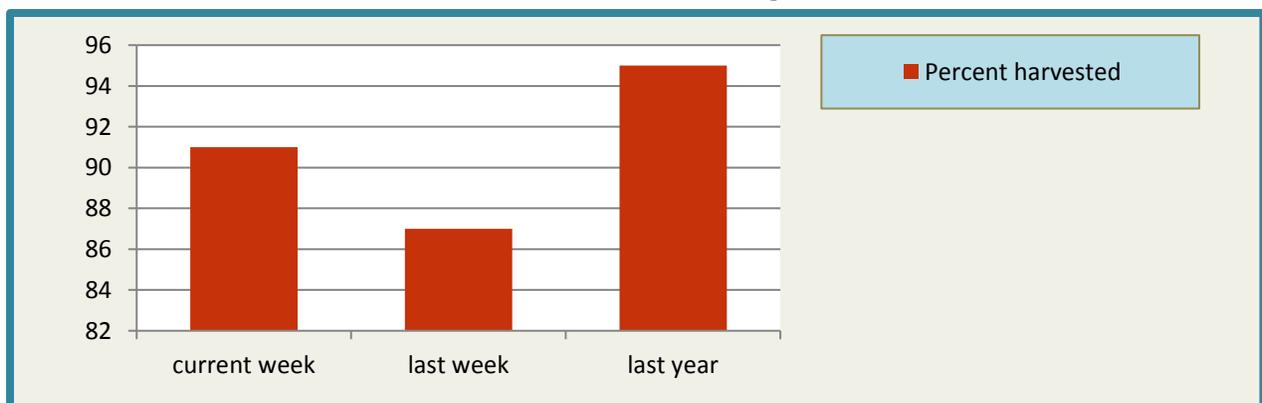
-Represents zero.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 10/27/19

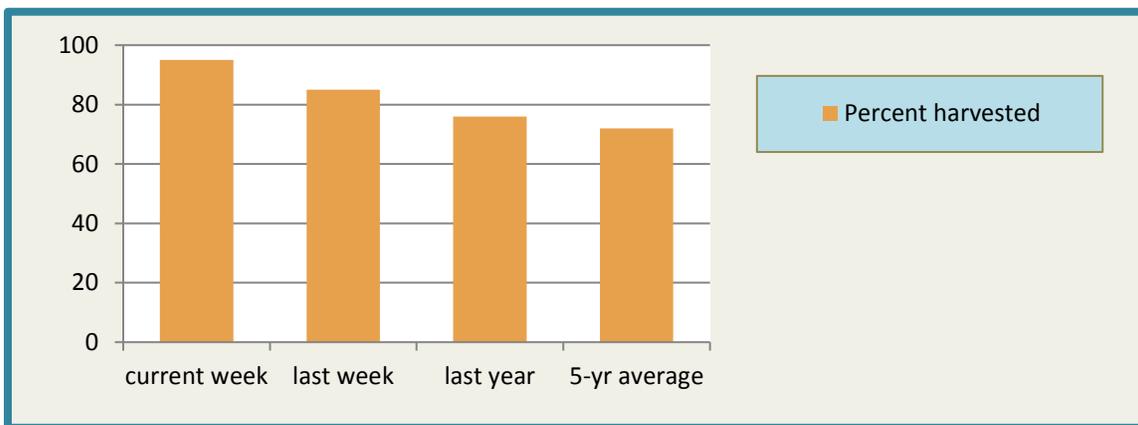
Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Apples harvested	91	87	95	-
Barley planted	75	62	72	73
Cotton harvested	60	51	49	41
Peanuts harvested	95	85	76	72
Soybeans dropping leaves	92	86	88	91
Soybeans harvested	49	41	29	33
Winter Wheat planted	58	51	42	42

-Represents data not available.

APPLES HARVESTED for week ending 10/27/19



PEANUTS HARVESTED for week ending 10/27/19



Weather Summary- For the week ending October 27, 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. 26	Mar. 1 to Oct. 26 Norm	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	68	44	71	34	56	2	4374	3814	2.32	4.10	-2.62	32.77	-3.64
Norfolk	72	57	76	50	65	6	5135	4275	1.86	6.32	-0.70	41.94	2.75
Richmond	68	51	74	41	59	3	4838	4140	1.66	4.10	-2.96	38.13	1.12
Roanoke	67	46	69	36	56	1	4571	NA	2.25	5.39	-1.10	36.88	1.08
Wash/Dulles	65	46	70	35	56	3	4234	NA	1.82	3.37	-3.23	33.22	-1.74

* 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)

Small grains and pastures are green and growing in response to two soaking rains during the week. The rains have slowed the harvest of row crops. Fall foliage is approaching peak color.

LOUDOUN (Jim Hilleary)

Three rain events of note; pastures are responding accordingly. Days remain warm, there were two light frost mornings. Pasture grass seed broadcast in early October has started to germinate.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas Stanley)

Rain in Rockbridge early in the week and again Saturday over to Sunday brought a total of 1.5 to over 2.5 inches in some parts of the county. This did much to restore topsoil moisture and improve the outlook for winter small grains in Rockbridge. Pastures with good fertility are showing some signs of recovery, but most livestock producers in Rockbridge are still feeding hay as a lingering result of hot and dry conditions in September and early October.

BATH/HIGHLAND (Jennifer Matosky)

Received some rain showers. Warmed up again through the weekend.

CENTRAL

LOUISA (Charles Rosson)

Rain is finally coming regularly, but the growing season has ended. Hay and pasture are extremely short due to the drought in August, September and early October. Herds are in poor condition for this time of year.

APPOMATTOX (Bruce Jones)

Rain came as a blessing to farmers. I noticed tall fescue seems to have greened quite a bit in response. Soybean and corn harvest progressing well. Small grain planting started and will continue now that adequate topsoil moisture is present. One practice increase I have noticed this season is no-till small grain. Dark tobacco is being prepared for market. Burley tobacco harvest is coming to an end as the last grower with tobacco in the field is finishing.

EASTERN

CHARLES CITY (Scott Reiter)

A little fieldwork resumed late week after last weekend's heavy rains. Wheat seeding, cotton harvesting, and soybean harvest made some progress.

SOUTHERN

CHARLOTTE (Joanne Jones)

Rain came as much relief to farmers. The warmer than usual temperatures combined with the moisture allowed tall fescue to respond with greening. Much hay feeding is taking place and some farmers are becoming concerned about feed reserves on hand.

FRANKLIN (Cynthia Martel)

Franklin County finally has seen several inches of rain in the last 2 weeks with more rain coming. This has helped the dry conditions, however with colder weather setting in this will not allow pastures to rebound. Winter crops and cover crops planting has been delayed because of the dry conditions, and now rain.

SOUTHEASTERN

GREENSVILLE (Sara Rutherford)

Recent rains have helped green up pastures and promote germination of winter grains. Cotton and soybean harvest continued this past week.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence Jr.)

Good weather this week for harvesting soybeans, fall tillage, mowing ditch banks, and seeding cover crops. Very limited wheat acreage again this year. Agritourism is in full swing with hay rides, pumpkins, and festivals.

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia Gregg)

Rain last week was welcome. Harvest is well underway. Deer season is starting. Planting of small grain is steady.

PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)

A little fieldwork resumed late week after last weekend's heavy rains. Wheat seeding, cotton harvesting, and soybean harvest made some progress.