

Rainfall across the Virginia-Carolina region continues to be variable with heavy showers in some cases occurring with minimal infiltration prior to runoff. The two most vulnerable areas more recently are the central coastal plain of North Carolina and the lower regions of South Carolina. However, there continue to be dry pockets throughout the entire production region. Approximately 25% of the peanut crop in the region is at risk due to either late plantings (early to mid-June) or relatively low and non-uniform plant stands. Examples of pod set with early May, early June and mid-June plantings are provided.

Growers in the lower Virginia-Carolina region are beginning their fourth spray for leaf spot and stem rot control. Some growers in the upper Virginia-Carolina region are beginning their third sprays. However, in some areas growers have delayed fungicide sprays due to dry conditions. Some areas are poised for spider mite outbreaks and possibly burrower bug. Foliar-feeding insect populations have been erratic across the region and generally not excessive. Growers are considering making their second application of prohexadione calcium but this varies based on recent rainfall patterns. Sclerotinia blight disease has not been reported to any great extent in the mid and upper Virginia-Carolina region. Fields are generally free of most weeds.

Yield potential for the region has been lowered to 4,150 kg/ha (3,700 pounds/acre) and reflects risk for 25% of planted area (late plantings or lower than optimum plant stands.) If the current pattern persists in August yield potential will be lowered. Estimates for planted area in the region remain at 40,480 ha (100,000 acres) in North Carolina, 26,300 ha (65,000 acres) in South Carolina, and 9,700 ha (24,000 acres) in Virginia.

Table 1. Rainfall totals (inches) across the Virginia-Carolina region in May, June and July 2019.

Location	May	June	July
Wakefield, VA	5.3	9.8	5.3
Lewiston-Woodville, NC	1.5	2.7	6.1
Rocky Mount, NC	2.4	3.8	2.5
Clinton, NC	2.0	4.3	5.5
Whiteville, NC	0.1	0.1	4.3
Florence, SC	2.4	3.6	5.5
Orangeburg, SC	1.3	1.9	2.9

Pod development near Whiteville, NC when peanut was planted May 1 with images recorded August 1.







Peanut near Rocky Mount, NC planted May 7 with image recorded July 31. Rainfall has been limited in this area for much of the summer.



Peanut near Oak City, NC planted in mid-May with image recorded on July 31.



Peanut near Suffolk, VA on July 30 when planted in mid-May.



Peanut near Lewiston-Woodville, NC planted in late-May with limited soil moisture available for optimum stand establishment. Image recorded July 31.



Peanut planted in early May (top), early June (middle), and approximately June 20 (bottom) near Lewiston-Woodville, NC. Images recorded July 31.





