

The primary focus of growers in the Virginia-Carolina region at this point in time is disease management. While some herbicides are being applied to control escaped weeds and worms and caterpillars have been observed in some areas across the region, making sure stem rot and leaf spot disease (early and late leaf spot) does not develop is critical. Gypsum, micronutrients (boron and manganese), and insecticide for southern corn rootworm have been applied. Sclerotinia blight is being managed in some fields with fungicides, but this is primarily in the upper section of the Virginia-Carolina region and is an issue in 10 to 20% of fields. Growers in the mid- and northern areas of the region are applying their fourth fungicide spray while growers in the southern area of the region are on their fifth sprays in many fields. Some growers are making their second application of prohexadione calcium to minimize excessive vine growth.

Rainfall has been adequate across much of the region and peanut maturity is progressing well. Tropical weather events have brought rains across the region but variation in amount and distribution has been observed. Some peanut fields may reach optimum maturity by the first week of September, especially in the southern area of the Virginia-Carolina region. Further north, optimum maturity is often not reached until the middle of September, with the vast majority of peanuts being dug from mid-September through mid-October. As with each year, there are some peanuts that set pegs in late July or early August because of poor growing conditions earlier in the year, but this is generally not the case across most of the region. Heat unit accumulation and precipitation through August 16 are presented in the table. Virginia market type cultivars require approximately 2500 heat units ( $DD_{56}$ ) to reach optimum maturity assuming adequate soil moisture and limited biotic and abiotic stresses.

Estimated yield potential continues to be 4,480 kg/ha (4,000 lbs/acre.) Estimates of market type varieties grown in the region remains the same. Estimated land area planted to peanuts in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia is 42,500 ha (105,000 acres), 34,400 ha (85,000 acres), and 11,300 ha (28,000 acres), respectively.

**Heat Unit Accumulation (HUA) and recorded rainfall at Wakefield (Virginia), Lewiston-Woodville and Wallace (North Carolina), and Orangeburg (South Carolina) in 2021.**

	Wakefield, VA		Lewiston-Woodville, NC		Wallace, NC		Orangeburg, SC	
Period or Month	HUA	Rainfall	HUA	Rainfall	HUA	Rainfall	HUA	Rainfall
	DD <sub>56</sub>	inches	DD <sub>56</sub>	inches	DD <sub>56</sub>	inches	DD <sub>56</sub>	inches
May 1 through August 16	1976	20.8	1969	25.5	2139	23.2	2280	19.1
May 16 through August 16	1881	20.0	1861	24.4	1977	22.2	2105	17.7
June 1 through August 16	1674	18.9	1632	23.3	1708	21.2	1820	17.7
June 16 through August 16	1379	18.8	1345	15.4	1393	16.2	1479	12.6
May	297	1.9	336	2.2	423	2.0	450	1.4
June	566	4.2	576	12.3	603	6.6	662	6.1
July	730	9.6	702	5.4	711	9.3	745	7.5
August 1 through 16	360	4.1	353	5.6	375	5.2	397	3.7

Peanut field near Rocky Mount, North Carolina showing application of prohexadione calcium (Apogee or Kudos as commercial products) on August 18. The image of pod set is from the prohexadione calcium-treated peanuts.





Above-ground growth and pod and kernel development from a field near Lewiston-Woodville, North Carolina on August 17. The Virginia market type variety Bailey II was planted in early May.





Peanut field near Oak City, North Carolina on August 17. These peanuts were planted in early May.



Pod set from a field near Whiteville, North Carolina in the southeastern part of the state.

