

Growers in the Virginia-Carolina region are well into peanut harvest with approximately 75% of peanut fields across the region have been dug with 30% threshed. Weather conditions for the past two weeks have been excellent for digging and vine inversion and threshing.

Adequate heat unit accumulation (2500 GDD<sub>56</sub>) for Virginia market type cultivars has been reached for peanuts emerging during May and into the first week of June in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. However, rainfall patterns and plant stress can cause peanuts to reach optimum maturity at some point past 2500 GDD<sub>56</sub>.

Some areas of the Virginia-Carolina region continue to be dry. Rainfall from August 20 through October 3 (45 days) ranged from 1.99 inches in Waverly, Virginia to 5.7 inches in Orangeburg, South Carolina; rainfall was between 3 and 4 inches at Lewiston-Woodville and Wallace in North Carolina. Dry soils can impact digging and cause pod loss.

Estimated yield potential is 4,450 kg/ha (3,970 lbs/acre.) This estimate is substantially lower than current NASS estimates for the region (NASS estimates are by state.) However, prolonged dry weather in some areas of the region is worrisome, especially for later-emerging peanuts. In addition to limited soil moisture for pod fill, some fields need moisture to prevent pod shed during the digging and vine inversion process. 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.

<b>Heat Unit Accumulation (HUA) and recorded rainfall at Wakefield (Virginia), Lewiston-Woodville and Wallace (North Carolina), and Orangeburg (South Carolina) in 2021.</b>								
	<b>Wakefield, VA</b>		<b>Lewiston-Woodville, NC</b>		<b>Wallace, NC</b>		<b>Orangeburg, SC</b>	
<b>Period or Month</b>	<b>HUA</b>	<b>Rainfall</b>	<b>HUA</b>	<b>Rainfall</b>	<b>HUA</b>	<b>Rainfall</b>	<b>HUA</b>	<b>Rainfall</b>
	DD <sub>56</sub>	inches	DD <sub>56</sub>	inches	DD <sub>56</sub>	inches	DD <sub>56</sub>	Inches
May 1 through October 3	2908	23.17	2859	30.34	3053	27.09	3270	24.91
May 16 through October 3	2812	22.44	2751	29.21	2891	26.09	3096	23.48
June 1 through October 3	2606	21.32	2523	28.15	2622	25.05	2810	23.48
June 16 through October 3	2311	18.22	2236	20.28	2307	20.09	2470	18.33
May	302	1.85	336	2.19	430	2.04	460	1.43
June	589	4.16	576	12.31	621	6.64	677	6.12
July	744	11.69	725	5.4	741	9.75	778	7.57
August	765	5.98	737	8.21	746	5.74	782	5.94
September	508	1.51	485	2.23	516	3.35	566	3.84
August 20 through October 3	-	1.99	-	3.95	-	3.36	-	5.70

Digging peanut and inverting vines on October 6 near Lewiston-Woodville, NC in northeastern North Carolina.



Peanut field within a few days after threshing near Lewiston-Woodville, NC.



Recently harvested peanut in a trailer just before drying.



Peanut field dug the week of September 27. The second image is of the same field after threshing on October 4.



