Approximately 98% of peanut hectares are planted across the Virginia-Carolina region as of June 8. In most cases, peanut stands are acceptable to realize optimum yield depending on weather conditions and management during the remainder of the season. Rainfall continues to be sporadic (see table). While in most cases, sufficient soil water has allowed adequate stand establishment, rain has been limited and peanut growth has slowed. However, peanut can withstand a period of dry weather prior to flowering with no negative impact on yield.

Fields are relatively weed free at this point in the season, although many growers are now applying postemergence herbicides to control escaped weeds. Thrips injury has been present but not excessive in most cases, and in-furrow insecticides have held relatively well. However, acephate is applied by many growers to protect peanut from damage. Injury from the herbicide Valor (flumioxazin) has been pronounced in some fields. Peanuts have recovered quickly in most instances where injury was observed. Injury from this herbicide is most pronounced when rain does not occur after planting until peanuts begin to emerge. Injury from this herbicide is considered transient and not yield limiting. In some fields, phytotoxicity from the insecticide Thimet (phorate) has been observed. Similar to Valor, this injury is not considered yield limiting and the suppression of thrips as well as the value of Thimet in reducing tomato sotted wilt exceeds risk from phytotoxicity.

In the next few weeks growers will begin applying gypsum (calcium sulfate) to both Virginia and runner market type cultivars. Gypsum is needed to ensure proper kernel development, especially for Virginia market types. Historically, a significant number of growers applied chlorpyrifos to prevent injury from southern corn rootworm. Currently, there are no chemical options for suppression of this pest. Injury is most often observed in fields with finer-textured soils that are relatively poorly drained as wells as fields that are irrigated. In late June, growers in the lower Virginia-Carolina region will begin applying fungicides to prevent epidemics from leaf spot.

Estimates of plantings for North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia are 44,534 ha (110,000 acres), 10,526 ha (26,000 acres), and 31,174 ha (77,000 acres), respectively. Yield potential for the year is 4,480 kg per ha (4,000 pounds per acre) across the region.

Rainfall accumulation from May 1 through June 6, 2022

City	State	Rainfall	
		mm	**inches**
Wakefield	Virginia	89	3.54
Emporia	Virginia	63	2.51
Lewiston-Woodville	North Carolina	126	4.99
Gatesville	North Carolina	147	5.81
Rocky Mount	North Carolina	72	2.85
Kinston	North Carolina	104	4.13
New Bern	North Carolina	160	6.30
Fayetteville	North Carolina	27	1.07
Clinton	North Carolina	128	5.07
Wallace	North Carolina	146	5.75
Maxton	North Carolina	60	2.4
Whiteville	North Carolina	134	5.28
Darlington	South Carolina	53	2.12
Florence	South Carolina	63	2.51
Aiken	South Carolina	106	4.19
Orangeburg	South Carolina	124	4.91
Barnwell	South Carolina	51	2.03
Average	**-**	**92**	**3.85**

Peanut stand near Rocky Mount, North Carolina on June 3. “J-Rooting” has been observed in some fields and is often associated with poor seed quality or environmental stress. The vast majority of peanut fields have adequate stands and good seedling vigor.

Peanut injury caused by thrips. Systemic in-furrow and foliar-applied insecticides are often needed to protect yield caused by this pest.

Phytotoxicity caused by the systemic insecticide Thimet (phorate). Chlorosis and subsequent necrosis are transient and not yield limiting.

Value of applying acephate to peanut foliage when control of thrips by systemic insecticides applied in the seed furrow is marginal.

Injury following imidacloprid applied in the seed furrow without a follow up spray of acephate.

Improvement in peanut growth approximately 10 days after acephate was applied to the seed furrow when imidacloprid was applied in the seed furrow at planting.

Peanut injury caused by the herbicide Valor (flumioxazin). Injury is transient and in most cases does not affect peanut yield.

Injury on May 25

Recovery from injury by June 3

Palmer amaranth that escaped soil-applied herbicides at planting.