

Peanut growth and development has changed dramatically across much of the Virginia-Carolina region with more abundant rainfall. Peanuts across much of the region have lapped and are establishing pegs and pods.

Growers in the lower section of the Virginia-Carolina region are on the third and fourth fungicide sprays for protection from leaf spot and stem rot diseases. In the central and northern areas of the region, many growers are making their second and some cases third fungicide spray.

Boron and manganese are being applied with fungicide sprays. A considerable number of growers are applying prohexadione calcium to manage vine growth. This plant growth regulator allows growers to track rows more effectively during digging and vine inversion. Growers are controlling weed escapes that include Palmer amaranth, sicklepod, morningglory and annual grasses. Worm and caterpillar populations are currently relatively low but are expected to increase over the next two weeks in some areas of the region.

Increased rainfall has created the opportunity for a very good peanut crop in the region. However, final yield and quality will depend in large part of weather patterns for the balance of the growing season and conditions at harvest.

Estimates of plantings for North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia are 42,500 ha (105,000 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.

Peanut near Rocky Mount, North Carolina on July 20.



Sicklepod in the peanut canopy.



Peanut near Lewiston-Woodville, North Carolina on July 19.



Texas panicum in the peanut canopy near Lewiston-Woodville.



Common ragweed in the peanut canopy.



Spots on peanut leaves not associated with the pathogens causing early or late leaf spot. These spots are most likely caused by chemical burn.



