

Temperatures across the Virginia-Carolina region moderated over the weeks of September 16 and 23, allowing pod maturity to progress at close to a normal pace. However, temperatures during the week of September 9 were lower than normal, slowing the maturation process by roughly half of the normal pace. Rainfall has been plentiful over the past two weeks in the middle and northern areas of the Virginia-Carolina region. Dry weather was not uncommon across the southern area of the region over the past two weeks.

Heat unit accumulation from May 1-September 24, May 15-September 24, and June 1-September 24 is provided for selected locations in North Carolina (Table 1). With the exception of emergence on June 1, at least 2,600 DD<sub>56</sub> have been reached at all locations. Rainfall amounts for May, June, July, August, and September 1-24 are presented in Table 2. Less than 15% of land area in the Virginia-Carolina region has been dug and vines inverted. Less than 5% of peanuts that have been dug are harvested. This pace of digging and harvesting is similar to 2023 at this time of the season. However, both 2023 and 2024 are lagging behind 2022 in terms of digging and harvesting. In 2022, 40% of peanut fields in the region were dug by late September with 15% of those fields harvested.

The primary issue for growers is declining plant health with implications for pod shed. Diseases influence plant health and mobilization of nutrients to pods. Areas of fields that were saturated early in the season have become more prominent over the past two weeks. Rainfall during the past two weeks have prevented digging of some fields that are currently at optimum maturity. In contrast, some fields in the southern area of the Virginia-Carolina region. Increased soil moisture under this circumstance will assist with efficient digging and less pod loss during this operation.

Yield potential for peanuts in the region is 4,340 kg/ha (4,050 lbs./acre). However, there is concern across much of the region that excessive rainfall amounts will occur in the coming week that can delay field operations and foster continued disease development.

**Rainfall in May, June, July, August, and September 1-24 at selected locations in North Carolina in 2024.**

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<b>Location</b>	<b>Rainfall in inches (mm) in May</b>	<b>Rainfall in inches (mm) in June</b>	<b>Rainfall in inches (mm) in July</b>	<b>Rainfall in inches (mm) in August</b>	<b>Rainfall in inches (mm) from September 1-24</b>
Lewiston-Woodville	3.84 (96)	1.33 (34)	10.50 (267)	4.84 (123)	4.21 (107)
Rocky Mount	5.60 (142)	2.07 (53)	12.87 (327)	5.82 (148)	5.21 (132)
Kinston	6.38 (162)	2.38 (61)	9.75 (248)	9.81 (239)	5.49 (140)
Clinton	3.99 (101)	0.80 (20)	11.84 (301)	9.23 (234)	4.12 (105)
Wallace	6.32 (161)	0.74 (19)	7.42 (188)	9.86 (250)	7.78 (198)
Whiteville	4.40 (112)	2.08 (53)	9.21 (234)	12.7 (323)	5.45 (138)

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**Heat unit accumulation (DD<sub>56</sub>) at selected locations in North Carolina in 2024 from May 1, May 15, and June 1 through September 24.**

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<b>Location</b>	<b>May 1-Sep 24</b>	<b>May 15-Sep 24</b>	<b>June 1-Sep 24</b>
Lewiston-Woodville	2794	2597	2353
Rocky Mount	2846	2640	2379
Kinston	2819	2707	2434
Clinton	2939	2726	2448
Wallace	2902	2698	2420
Whiteville	2954	2746	2453

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Peanut field near Oak City in northeastern North Carolina on September 25.



Peanut field near Oak City in northeastern North Carolina that was recently dug.





Peanut field near Lewiston-Woodville, North Carolina that was dug on September 23.







Peanut pods in a field near Whiteville in the southeastern area of North Carolina on September 23. Peanut pods were dug and vines inverted on September 12.



Peanut field near Whiteville in southeastern North Carolina. Excessive rainfall in this area of the region has damaged peanuts; especially in low areas of fields were ponding occurred several times during the cropping cycle.



