

Temperatures across the Virginia-Carolina region were relatively low during the week of October 14, with frost predicted in some areas of the region on October 18. Since October 18, temperatures have moderated across the region. Conditions have been ideal for threshing across the region for the past two weeks, and the outlook for early in the week of October 28 is good for harvesting. From October 10 through October 22, thirty-two heat units (DD<sub>56</sub>) were recorded across North Carolina. This constitutes just under three heat units per day. Growers have been encouraged to dig any remaining peanuts while the weather forecast shows no indications of significant rain, at least through October 30. Temperature are also projected to be moderate due in part to sunny weather. Digging as soon as possible will minimize potential for frost damage if weather patterns shift to cooler temperatures as we move into early November.

Currently, approximately 80% of peanuts are dug in the Virginia-Carolina region. This number should approach 95% by October 28. Approximately 50% of the peanut crop has been threshed (harvested.) Based on current weather forecasts, 80% of the peanut crop should be harvested by November 1. In 2023, approximately 75% of peanuts were dug by October 24 with 50% threshed. In 2022, by October 25, eighty-five percent of peanuts had been dug with 75% threshed. Ideal field conditions since Tropical Storm Helene have contributed to farmers' ability to move quickly with harvest in 2024.

Yield potential for peanuts in the region is 4,340 kg/ha (4,050 lbs/acre). Actual yield and market grades across the region has been variable. More details on market grades and segregation 2 and 3 status will be provided in subsequent reports.

Peanut pods being dug and vines inverted near Roanoke Rapids in northeastern North Carolina on October 12.





Peanuts in a drying trailer on October 18 near Rocky Mount in northeastern North Carolina.



Bales of peanut hay near Rocky Mount in northeastern North Carolina on October 18.



Peanuts with excessive soil attached to pods and roots. Wet weather in September led to less than ideal soil conditions during digging in October, especially in fields with a significant amount of fine-textured soil.









Dust created during the threshing process. Due to digging conditions, in many fields, higher than normal amounts of soil adhered to pods after digging creating dusty conditions.



Recently harvested peanut field near Rocky Mount in northeastern North Carolina.

