

Weather patterns over the past two weeks have been excellent for field operations across the majority of the Virginia-Carolina region. Rainfall totals over the past two weeks have ranged from zero to 0.33 inches (8 mm) across locations in North Carolina. Temperatures have been average to above average for this time of the cropping cycle across the region. Frost has not occurred in North Carolina or South Carolina during this period. While frost was observed in Virginia, the vast majority of peanuts were threshed and out of the field when those events occurred. No frost is predicted for the next seven days (beginning November 7.) Approximately 99% of peanuts are dug in the Virginia-Carolina region with 95% of the peanut crop threshed (harvested.)

Yield and market grades have been good across the region. Excessive rain in September prevented farmers from digging pods and inverting vines prior to optimum maturity in many fields. Conditions for threshing have been ideal since Tropical Storm Helene moved through the region. One caveat is that peanuts dried quickly in the field prior to threshing leading to a higher percentage of loose shelled kernels in some cases. Yield potential for peanuts in the region has increased to is 4,648 kg/ha (4,150 lbs/acre).

Peanut field near Halifax in northeastern North Carolina on November 4.



Peanut field near Halifax in northeastern North Carolina that was recently harvested.



Small grain cover crop that has emerged prior to threshing peanuts. Growers in areas with erodible soils often seed cover crops after digging pods and inverting vines prior to threshing.





Peanuts being threshed in a field near Halifax in northeastern North Carolina.





Harvested peanuts being dumped from a combine into a peanut wagon.







Peanut harvest in a field near Weldon in northeastern North Carolina on November 2.



Peanut pods and kernels in a field near Weldon in northeastern North Carolina. Rapid drying across fields in October and November have led in some cases to a higher percentage of loose shelled kernels.







Peanuts in a field near Weldon in northeastern North Carolina immediately prior to threshing.

