

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
Westfields Marriott Washington Dulles
14750 Conference Center Drive
Chantilly, VA 20151

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

1 P.M.

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. Approval of draft Board meeting minutes from May 21, 2026
4. Board member reports
5. Commissioner's Report to Board – Charles Green, Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services
6. Proposed stage to amend 2 VAC 5-320 (Regulations for the Enforcement of the Endangered Plant and Insect Species Act) – David Gianino, Deputy Director, Division of Consumer Protection
7. Annual electronic meeting policy adoption – Kevin Schmidt, Director, Office of Policy, Planning, and Research
8. New business
9. Future Board meetings
10. Public comment period
11. Adjourn

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DRAFT MINUTES

Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Patrick Henry Building
East Reading Room
1111 E. Broad St
Richmond, Virginia

Thursday, May 21, 2026

The meeting of the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services (Board) convened at approximately 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 21, 2026, at the Patrick Henry Building. President Smith called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

The Board Secretary called the roll:

PRESENT

Keith Harris
William Gwaltney
Raymond Keating
Brittany Jones
Cecil Shell
Margaret Ann Smith
Amanda Weakley-Scott
Brantley Ivey
Renee Munasifi
Ginny Barnes
Lonnie Johnson

Jewel Bronaugh

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st
2nd
3rd
4th
5th
6th
7th
9th
11th
Pesticides – Commercial Agricultural
Representing Dr. Timothy D. Sands, President,
Virginia Tech
Representing Dr. Makola Abdullah, President,
Virginia State University

ABSENT

VACANT
Tyler Wegmeyer
Charles Church

8th
10th
Pesticides – Commercial Structural

STAFF PRESENT

Charles Green, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS)
Kevin Schmidt, Secretary, Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Erin Williams, Assistant Director, Office of Policy, Planning, and Research, VDACS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Gwaltney moved that the draft minutes of the March 26, 2026, meeting be approved. Mr. Ivey seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion. Mr. Keating had not yet arrived to vote.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

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President Smith asked Commissioner Green to preside over the election of the President. Commissioner Green called for nominations for President from the Board. Mr. Harris nominated Margaret Ann Smith. There being no other nominations, Commissioner Green closed the nomination and called for a vote on the nominee. The Board elected Ms. Smith as President by a unanimous vote. Commissioner Green then asked President Smith to preside over the remaining elections.

President Smith opened the floor for nominations for Vice President. Secretary Schmidt reminded the Board that the current Vice President is Charles Church. Mr. Church could not attend this meeting. President Smith suggested maybe leaving this appointment open until the summer meeting. Mr. Harris nominated William Gwaltney. There being no other nominations, President Smith closed the nomination and called for a vote on the nominee. The Board elected Mr. Gwaltney as Vice President by a unanimous vote, with Mr. Gwaltney abstaining.

President Smith then called for nominations for Secretary. Renee Munasifi nominated Kevin Schmidt. There being no other nominations, President Smith closed the nomination and called for a vote on the nominee. The Board elected Mr. Schmidt as Secretary by a unanimous vote.

All three officer positions become effective July 1, 2026, and run through June 30, 2027.

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

President Smith invited the members of the Board to highlight important updates from their districts, universities, or industries.

Lonnie Johnson

Mr. Johnson mentioned written reports from Dean Ferruzzi and others at Virginia Tech that he would send to Secretary Schmidt to distribute to the Board. He mentioned new leadership changes for the School of Plant and Environmental Sciences, the Department of Food Science and Technology, and the Department of Entomology. He provided updates on the College of Agriculture and Life Science's strategic plan, applications, enrollment, graduation, and research expenditures. He also provided an update on the Alliance to Advance Climate Smart Agriculture grant led by Virginia Tech, an \$80 million grant covering four states. Of this amount, \$57 million is for direct payments to farmers to adopt practices. The Virginia application deadline is June 15, 2026. He also provided an update on Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE), including a new reporting system for VCE data and the second phase of a pilot project for supervisors.

Dr. Jewel Bronaugh

Dr. Bronaugh mentioned that she has officially been named Dean of the College of Agriculture at Virginia State University (VSU). Dr. Bronaugh provided an update on enrollment, graduation, and the retention rate at VSU. She mentioned that the Hospitality Management Program has received accreditation and accolades and that the Small Farm Outreach Program just finished focus groups across the Commonwealth. Dr. Bronaugh also mentioned that VSU hosted Governor Spanberger and Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry Frazier at Randolph Farms in February and that VSU and VT are beginning a joint beef cattle research project.

Renee Munasifi

Ms. Munasifi provided an update on the status of the federal Farm Bill and the year-round E15 legislation. She also mentioned the good news related to agriculture coming out of President Trump's recent visit with President Xi Jinping of China.

Brantley Ivey

Mr. Ivey provided an update on the extremely dry weather and the Virginia Farm Recovery Block Grants payments. He mentioned that the Virginia Beef Cattle University will be held in July.

Dr. Amanda Weakley-Scott

Dr. Weakley-Scott mentioned that it is dry in her district as well, which is impacting production. She reminded Board members that the Department of Environmental Quality does have water withdrawal reporting requirements for those agricultural operations with pollution abatement permits. In her district, there is concern over the loss of working lands from both new transmission lines and substations.

Cecil Shell

Mr. Shell reiterated that the weather is extremely dry, making it difficult to plant. He mentioned that some tobacco companies have cut tobacco farmers' production quotas by 50 percent and others cut by 20 percent, which is quite a shock to the industry in his area. He is hoping that his area gets some rain soon.

Brittany Jones

Ms. Jones mentioned that the dry weather remains a concern in her district as well. She provided an update on milk prices and dairy cull and replacement prices. Ms. Jones also provided information regarding the Dairy Alliance Adopt-A-Cow Program. Richland Dairy is serving as a host for this program.

Raymond Keating

Mr. Keating provided updates regarding the Perdue Grain Terminal, stating that March, April, and May were all record months for exports over the past 25 years. He expects the China soybean market to be active after President Trump's visit to China and reiterated that the port is the best place to export from in the country.

William Gwaltney

Mr. Gwaltney provided an update on corn, soybean, and peanut planting and mentioned the same concerns regarding dry weather.

Keith Harris

Mr. Harris is also concerned regarding the dry weather and the impact on crop quality. In his area, they are also concerned about the increase in water salinity because of the dry weather and the negative impact this salinity has on oysters. However, he said the corn has looked really good so far, so a good rain will help things immediately.

Virginia Barnes

Ms. Barnes mentioned the impact that the situation in Iran has had on fertilizer prices, increasing the cost for many fertilizers. Agricultural chemicals have already been purchased by sellers for this year, so prices should remain flat for now. She mentioned the increase in the number of generic products on the market. This is good for farmers but makes it hard for sellers to figure out whom to work or what to stock. She also mentioned that the Virginia Ag Expo will be held indoors this year on July 30 at Meadow Event Park in Doswell.

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Margaret Ann Smith

President Smith provided an update on the prices in the cattle market, which remains at historic highs. However, input and other costs, such as trucking and trucking insurance, are also quite high as well. Given the drought, she encouraged producers to work with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Services Agency now to complete acreage reports ahead of time. She also mentioned the ongoing challenge with Theileria in Virginia. While the Commonwealth has done a great job addressing this concern, buyers in other states may be hesitant to buy Virginia cattle because of Theileria concerns.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Green gave a brief report on VDACS's activities since the last Board meeting, including drought issues, the Virginia Farm Recovery Block Grants, and the March and April freeze impacts on fruit. Commissioner Green also introduced several new key VDACS staff. A copy of the written report for this and other information was included in the Board meeting agenda and materials.

VIRGINIA BEER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY BOARD APPOINTMENTS

President Smith called on Commissioner Green, who brought to the Board's attention the recommended nominees for the Virginia Beer Distribution Company board of directors. This request to the Board is made pursuant to subdivision (B)(3) of Va. Code § 3.2-102, which (i) requires the Commissioner to establish and operate a nonprofit, nonstock corporation to promote, develop, and sustain markets for Virginia breweries and limited breweries and (ii) authorizes the Board to appoint the four members to this board of directors who serve with the Commissioner.

Mr. Harris moved the following motion:

That the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services reappoint Aden Short, P.A. Short Distributing Co, to fill a term from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2030, on the board of directors of the Virginia Beer Distribution Company as an owner or manager of a Virginia beer wholesale licensee;

That the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services appoint Chelsea Taglang, Blue Ridge Beverage Company, to fill Greg White's unexpired term through June 30, 2028, as an owner or manager of a Virginia beer wholesale licensee; and

That the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services reappoint Matt Mullett, RichBrau, to fill a term from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2030, on the board of directors of the Virginia Beer Distribution Company as an owner or manager of a brewery or limited brewery licensee.

Mr. Ivey seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

MEETING RECESS

At 10:07 a.m., President Smith recessed the meeting. The Board reconvened at 10:27 a.m.

OFFICE OF PESTICIDE SERVICES – CASE DECISION – BECK I, LLC, DBA LAWN DOCTOR OF STAFFORD (CASE # 74414)

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President Smith called on Emily Little, Office of Attorney General and legal counsel for the Board on this matter, to explain to the Board its roles and responsibilities pertaining to the Board's review of the case decision for Beck I, LLC, dba Lawn Doctor of Stafford, (Case # 74414) and the recommendation of the Hearing Officer for the formal hearing held in this case.

After Ms. Little advised the Board, President Smith provided both VDACS and a representative of Beck I, LLC up to 15 minutes each to present their positions regarding the case. President Smith explained that the presentations by VDACS and Beck I, LLC are not meant to provide new information about the case but, instead, to focus on what is provided in the case file.

President Smith first called for a representative of Beck I, LLC. Chris Bradford, owner of Beck I, LLC, spoke on behalf of the company. Mr. Bradford expressed his concerns and frustration regarding this case and VDACS's enforcement process.

Following Mr. Bradford's comments, President Smith called on Justin Bell, legal counsel for VDACS. Mr. Bell briefed the Board on this case decision concerning Beck I, LLC.

Several Board members directed questions to Mr. Bradford, Mr. Bell, and VDACS staff. These questions included clarification on pesticide testing, application, and certification requirements; training and assistance provided to Beck I, LLC, as a franchisee of Lawn Doctor; changes in the law and associated regulations since 2020; and VDACS registration processing and turnaround times.

After discussion, Dr. Weakley-Scott introduced a motion that the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services accept the Hearing Officer's recommendation in Office of Pesticide Services Case Number 74414 concerning Beck I, LLC to uphold VDACS's decision in full – its factual findings, cited legal standards, and penalties assessed – without modification. Mr. Shell seconded the motion. Mr. Harris asked to call the roll.

Aye (10): Mr. Harris, Mr. Gwaltney, Mr. Keating, Ms. Jones, Mr. Shell, Ms. Smith, Dr. Weakley-Scott, Ms. Barnes, Mr. Johnson, Dr. Bronaugh

Nay (2): Mr. Ivey, Ms. Munasifi

The motion passed by a vote of 10 to 2.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business brought before the Board.

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

President Smith asked Secretary Schmidt to provide an update regarding the next Board meeting, which will be held July 27 – 29 in Chantilly as part of the meeting and tours hosted by Mr. Wegmeyer and held in conjunction with the Virginia Agricultural Council. The final meeting for 2026 will be December 10 in Richmond.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

President Smith invited public comment. Joe Domino spoke to the Board on behalf of the Cannabis Small Business Association regarding the Board's support for hemp as part of the ongoing debates surrounding cannabis enforcement and the creation of Virginia's adult-use cannabis program.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at approximately 11:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Ann Smith
Board President

Kevin Schmidt
Board Secretary

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT TO
BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
July 28, 2026

PERSONNEL NEWS

Melissa Ball was promoted to Deputy Director, Division of Marketing and Development, effective June 25. Ms. Ball previously served as Business and Special Projects Manager for the Division, assisting with administration, budgeting, and legislative affairs and managing grant programs such as the Specialty Crop Block Grants. She has provided a vital role in management and administration for key VDACS programs residing in the Division. Ms. Ball's extensive 20-plus years of experience with the Division budget and programs will be invaluable in her new role.

David Gianino was promoted to the role of Deputy Director for the Division of Consumer Protection. David has served as the Program Manager for the Office of Plant Industry Services in the Division of Consumer Protection for the last seven years. Prior to VDACS, David worked in the agriculture industry as a small farm manager, and he holds a bachelor's and master's degree in horticulture.

Lindsey McDonald was promoted to the position of Manager of the Office of Promotions in the Division of Marketing and Development on June 25. Ms. McDonald previously served as the NW Regional Marketing Specialist in the Office of Domestic Marketing and Promotions, having worked in this position since June 2023. Prior work included two years as a Relationship Manager at Colonial Farm Credit. McDonald also served as program manager for the Virginia Wine Board and worked with major event promotional and marketing activities, including the Virginia Grown presence in the Southeast Produce Council Exhibition and management of the Wine Industry Governors Cup Awards and Wine Association Conference.

Sarah Jane Thomsen is slated to start as Manager of the VDACS Office of Domestic Marketing on August 10. Ms. Thomsen previously served as Manager of Agriculture Education and Strategic Partnerships Programming for the State Fair of Virginia / Virginia Farm Bureau Federation, having been in this role since June 2021. She formerly worked for the Virginia Agribusiness Council as Director of Member Services and Benefits from 2019 through 2021. Thomsen has completed the two-year VALOR (Virginia Agriculture Leaders Obtaining Results) Program, Class V Fellow.

AGENCY OPERATIONS

Commissioner's Office

One June 14-17, Deputy Commissioner Shifflett attended the 2026 Southern Association of State Departments of Agriculture (SASDA) in Cambridge, Maryland. SASDA is comprised of the Commissioners, Secretaries, and Directors of Agriculture from 14 southern states as well as Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Agenda topics during this meeting included an update from the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, federal updates, and agricultural immigration as well

as tours of the Perdue Agribusiness Hatchery and J.M. Clayton Company Blue Crab Processing Plant. SASDA 2027 will be held June 13-16, 2027, in Savannah, Georgia.

On June 24, Commissioner Green participated in the spring meeting of the Cannabis Public Health Advisory Council. The Council's statutory purpose is to assess and monitor public health issues, trends, and impacts related to cannabis and cannabis legalization. The Council also makes recommendations regarding health warnings; retail cannabis and retail cannabis products safety and product composition; and public health awareness, programming, and related resource needs. The Commissioner serves on the Council as an ex-officio member with voting privileges.

The Office of Hemp Enforcement (OHE) has reduced enforcement activities in the month of June in preparation for the transfer of the program to the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority (CCA). VDACS has issued a joint press release with CCA that provides updates regarding that transfer, as authorized and required by the 2026 Appropriation Act. VDACS and the CCA are planning for this move to occur on August 10. Current Hemp Product Retail Facility Registrations will remain valid until their expiration, and OHE sent an email to the registrants and hemp product retailers providing further details of the program's transition and contact information for the CCA.

On July 17, Commissioner participated in the Invasive Species Working Group in Richmond. During the meeting, the Commissioner provided updates to the Working Group summarizing regulatory and legislative actions that impacted VDACS's invasive species programs.

Division of Marketing and Development (DMD)

Farm Aid announced that its annual festival is heading to Virginia Beach for the first time on September 26 at Veterans United Home Loans Amphitheater, Virginia Beach. This festival is a day full of music, family farmers, and HOMEGROWN food and agricultural experiences and will feature performances by Willie Nelson, Neil Young, John Mellencamp, Dave Matthews, and several others. The festival will highlight the vital role that family farmers play in their communities — growing food, strengthening local economies, and helping sustain the places we call home. DMD has sponsored the event and has reached out to Virginia Grown and Virginia's Finest participants to encourage their participation in the HOMEGROWN Village. The HOMEGROWN Village is a collection of interactive exhibits and activities that showcases exhibits about soil, water, energy, food, and farming through art, games, and hands-on activities.

On June 23 in Richmond, Office of Agriculture and Forestry Development (OAFD) staff and the DMD Director attended the quarterly meeting of the Virginia Wood Council lead by the Department of Forestry and joined by various state agencies, forestry organizations, and private industry representatives. Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry Frazier and Secretary of Commerce and Trade Chenery provided opening remarks followed by the State Forester, who introduced the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources. Updates were made by the three sub-committee workgroups – Biomass Markets, Business Recruitment and Development, and Workforce Training and Initiatives. Following additional discussion items, a brief presentation was made by Michael Harold, who encouraged the Council to include a fourth sub-committee representing Business Retention Strategies; the Council agreed that this fourth committee would be beneficial. The newly formed Council is quickly gaining momentum and making strides in its work on the sub-committee level and collaboration between partner agencies.

On June 4, Office of Domestic Marketing Eastern Shore staff arranged and attended a tour of the Eastern Shore of Virginia with the Secretary Frazier. The group visited Lipman Family Farms to look at its large-scale tomato operation; HM Terry & Co., where they took a boat tour of their clam and oyster operation; C&E Farms packing facility to observe fresh market green beans being packed for market; and Chatham Vineyards for a tour of its vineyard and tasting room. After the tour of the vineyards, Secretary Frazier hosted an agricultural roundtable dinner at Chatham Vineyards to discuss issues growers in the agriculture, aquaculture, and nursery industries on the Eastern Shore face. During the dinner, Delegate Bloxom presented Ellen Walker, the daughter of Tom Walker, with a General Assembly proclamation patroned by Delegate Bloxom honoring her father and his contribution to the aquaculture industry.

The 2026 National Restaurant Association show was held May 16-19 in Chicago, Illinois. This show featured four days of exhibits, education, and networking. Over 2,000 exhibitors showcased products across 900 categories including food, beverage, equipment, and technology. Two Virginia's Finest companies participated, Pumjil and FoodMatch, and had the opportunity to showcase their products, build meaningful connections, and grow their businesses to the over 60,000 professionals in the restaurant, foodservice, and hospitality industry.

Secretary Frazier and the DMD Director attended the Specialty Food Association's *Summer Fancy Food Show* in New York City. The show took place from June 28 to June 30 and was hosted by the Specialty Food Association. *Summer Fancy Food Show* is North America's largest business-to-business only specialty food and beverage event, featuring over 2,400 exhibiting companies and thousands of specialty products. Eight Virginia's Finest program participants exhibited within the Virginia Pavilion: Belmont Peanuts, Clark & Hopkins, Dave's Friggin' Awesome, Gearharts Fine Chocolates, Salsa Don Sebastian, Sous Casa, The Crisperry, and Tropical Green Organics. In addition, two more Virginia companies, The Virginia Diner and 7 Muffins a Day, exhibited in the Southern United States Trade Association pavilion. Secretary Frazier and the DMD Director met with the show's manager to better understand the show itself and visited all 10 companies while at the show to learn more about their products and the importance of attending the show for these companies.

On June 8, Secretary Frazier and Deputy Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry Rowe visited three tobacco operations for Virginia Ag Week. Twenty-two producers, representing tobacco, cattle, forestry, small grains, corn, produce, and soybeans, attended from nine counties. Virginia Cooperative Extension agents and specialists also attended in addition to representation from Virginia State University (VSU), Farm Credit, Virginia Agricultural Growers Association, Virginia Farm Bureau Federation, and others. The Secretariat visited three tobacco operations (Brunswick, Lunenburg, and Mecklenburg counties) with four stops, learning about flue-cured and dark-fired tobacco production, and heard from producers regarding their challenges and concerns within the agriculture and forestry industries.

The Office of Food Distribution (OFD) received 41 submissions for Virginia Agricultural Food Assistance Program Grant (VAFAP). VAFAP provides grants to charitable food-assistance organizations to purchase Virginia Grown agricultural products. These products must be distributed to food insecure persons in Virginia in accordance with the food distribution guidelines for each charitable food assistance organization. A total of \$1.1 million in reimbursable funding was available for this

round of funding. Out of the 41 received, 29 completed applications from across the Commonwealth are in review stage. Reviews have been completed and awards will be announced in July.

The spring round of the Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development (AFID) Fund Infrastructure Grant Program closed on April 30. A total of 19 applications were received, representing \$770,183.25 in requested funding. OAFD is currently conducting application reviews and evaluations to assess project eligibility, competitiveness, and alignment with program objectives.

On May 20 in Harrisonburg, OAFD staff along with representatives from the Virginia Grain Producers Association, the Virginia Soybean Association, Harrisonburg Economic Development, and Rockingham County Economic Development, joined Commissioner Green, Deputy Secretary Rowe, and Secretary Frazier for meetings with local leadership of Pitman Farms (formerly Cargill) and Rockingham Cooperative. The meetings provided an excellent opportunity to discuss grain procurement and opportunities for expanded Virginia sourcing and handling as well as operational goals and challenges. A variety of resources were shared to support future growth initiatives.

On May 21 in Charlottesville, OAFD staff participated in the Food & Beverage Producers Roundtable co-hosted by the economic development offices of the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County. The roundtable provided local food and beverage businesses with the opportunity to come together to discuss their successes and challenges and opportunities for collaboration and cross-promotion as well as a one-stop meeting to learn more about local and state resources available to them. Staff presented on agency resources as well as the AFID program and will follow up with those businesses who need additional information and support.

Market News published the *Cattle & Crops* newsletter on a weekly basis. The publication provides prices and summary information from Virginia livestock auctions and state graded sales. Also included are Virginia grain prices as well as national production and supply reports of interest to Virginia producers. Market News published *Virginia Ag Brief* on a weekly basis. The report contains a weekly summary of Virginia livestock and grain prices and is distributed to print and broadcast media throughout the state. The broadcast version is sent to 20 radio stations, and the print version is emailed to 30 newspapers throughout the Commonwealth.

Market News published the *Hay Clearing House*. Hay supplies are much lighter than normal due to the drought conditions. Most of the hay producers contacted by Market News stated that their yields are down significantly this year due to the dry conditions. Many hay producers are currently not listing hay for sale because they are uncertain if they will have adequate supplies for their own needs. The May issue included 26 producers selling hay and one hay auction, which is down significantly from last year when Virginia reported 45 producers selling hay and one hay auction. Some producers did express hope that recent rainfall will improve pasture conditions and possibly aid later cuttings of hay. Market News continues to make online updates as more listings are submitted.

Market News started the 34th year of the *Retail Farmers' Markets* publication. The publication serves as a valuable source of price information for Virginia producers and helps promote the availability of locally grown produce and meat to potential buyers. To promote individual markets, each participating market has its own listing that includes information on locations, times, website links, and contact information as well as product availability and prices. In addition, the first issue of the year has a section with

historical prices showing annual average prices over the past five years. Many market managers and vendors have stated that the historical prices are a helpful tool in helping them determine their current pricing.

Market News provided a cattle market outlook to VSU. The update was requested for use in the inaugural issue of VSU's *Animal Systems Newsletter*. Market News reported that Virginia feeder cattle prices are at record high levels for many grade and weight classes. April 2026 Virginia feeder cattle prices are over 30 percent higher than last year and are nearly double the five-year average. Low cattle inventories are the primary reason for the high feeder cattle prices. National cattle inventories have been declining in recent years due in large part to drought conditions that forced producers to downsize their herds. The USDA January 2026 Cattle Inventory report showed that the cattle inventory was the lowest since 1951. Market News included information on the *Hay Clearing House* newsletter in the article to publicize the newsletter and the need for hay.

Market News provided state graded feeder cattle data to the Virginia Cattlemen's Association. Head count data from state graded feeder cattle sales was requested by the association for use in a market analysis study.

From mid-May through June, the Office of International Marketing (OIM) supported over 40 Virginia companies through trade shows, market visits, promotions, and lead generation. Twenty-six Virginia companies attended VDACS-sponsored tradeshows. These included three animal health and nutrition shows (China Animal Husbandry Show (four companies), ILDEX Vietnam (six companies), VIV Europe (four companies)), one beverage show (London Wine Fair (eight companies)), and one forest products show (Carrefour du Bois (four companies)). Immediate sales were reported at the time of the trade shows totaling over \$2.3 million with an additional \$8 million in sales before end-of-year.

OIM also supported three companies to conduct market visits and meet new customers. VDACS's Chinese contractor, SMH International, conducted two visits and arranged tours and meetings with buyers for Virginia Distilling Co. and Northland Forest Products, and VDACS' Southeast Asia contractor, Orissa International, assisted Virginia Distilling Co. and Rappahannock River Oysters with meeting buyers in Singapore, Vietnam, and the Philippines.

As of July 1, the VDACS website has been updated to include an international activity calendar including trade shows and trade missions in key growth markets and webinars focused on export training and market education. These events promote international trade in line with targets set forth in the Governor's Executive Order 5.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) is a federal USDA initiative implemented by OFD that supplies high-quality, American-grown food to local food banks and pantries for free distribution. It is designed to supplement the diets of low-income Americans and older adults. The TEFAP household program received \$559,947.77 in U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) entitlement commodity deliveries across the seven Virginia food banks. The seven food banks collectively ordered \$949,851.20 in bonus USDA foods, including chicken and a variety of fresh fruits. These items are scheduled for delivery by the end of July 2026. Fresh fruits and vegetables have been the main source of all USDA bonus offering this year. The food banks ordered a little over 3 million in entitlements which are due to be delivered between October and December of 2026.

Division of Commodity Services (DCS)

Since May 22, Division of Commodity Services (DCS) staff:

- Conducted Terminal Market and Shipping Point Inspections on approximately 960,057 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables and approximately 540,000 pounds of potatoes exported to Canada; processed Food Inspections on approximately 1,004,047 pounds of processed products; and completed 17 Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Audits for Virginia fruit and vegetable growers;
- Inspected and certified grain commodities including soybeans, corn, wheat, soybean meal, and soybean hull pellets, with a total value of more than \$201 million destined for 25 countries;
- Conducted one Yellow Soybean, and two Soft Red Winter Wheat training classes;
- Provided livestock evaluation services on approximately 29,856 cattle, and 1,185 lambs/goats; provided 105 Market News Reports on 23,020 head of livestock at livestock markets and 46 bales of hay or straw; and provided 4-H & FFA Market Animal Show evaluation to approximately 600 head of livestock projects;
- Inspected and certified approximately 53,941,000 pounds of Farmers' Stock peanuts and regrades, approximately 42,029,805 pounds of shelled and in-shell milled peanuts, and approximately 3,153,150 pounds of imported peanuts from Argentina and Paraguay;
- Analyzed approximately 1,275 samples of peanuts for the presence and levels of aflatoxin to determine if the peanuts were safe for human consumption;
- Certified 2,373,058 pounds of various poultry parts for the USDA Feeding Program for School Lunch Products;
- Graded, via contracted full-time grading services, 57,122,637 pounds of chicken and 22,313,861 pounds of turkey for the Virginia poultry and egg industry;
- Provided non-contract fee grading and certification services for 2,791,069 pounds of poultry based on U.S. Consumer Grades to fulfill necessary specifications and contract requirements for the Virginia poultry and egg industry; and
- Performed three USDA Food Defense Audits.

Division of Consumer Protection (DCP)

On April 8–9, staff from the Office of Pesticide Services (OPS) attended the EPA Region III Spring Grants & Pre-State FIFRA Issues Research & Evaluation Group (SFIREG) Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The meeting brought together EPA Region III and state pesticide regulatory officials to discuss cooperative agreement administration, enforcement and compliance activities, pesticide registration and labeling updates, Endangered Species Act (ESA) implementation, certification and

training, and other emerging pesticide regulatory issues. The meeting provided an opportunity for states to exchange information, share program experiences, and provide input to EPA on the implementation of Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) programs throughout the region. The Full SFIREG meeting was held virtually June 2–4, 2026,

On April 14-16, OPS enforcement staff attended the EPA Week in Residence (WIRE) training at EPA Region III headquarters in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The training provided specialized instruction on federal, state, and tribal cooperation under FIFRA; federal inspection procedures; case development; and report writing. Participants also accompanied EPA inspectors during a pesticide-producing establishment inspection and a marketplace inspection, gaining firsthand experience with federal inspection protocols and applying that knowledge through report-writing exercises.

On June 22 – June 25, OPS staff attended the Pesticide Regulatory Education Program (PREP) New Technology and Emerging Issues course in Fort Collins, Colorado. Sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and administered through Colorado State University, the course provided specialized training to staff who work under a FIFRA cooperative agreement. Key topics covered included emerging pesticide application technologies; worker protection considerations associated with new technologies; regulatory implications for pesticide labeling, applicator certification, compliance, and enforcement; and publicly available data tools and resources to support pesticide regulatory programs. The course was attended by regulatory officials from state, tribal, and federal agencies across the United States.

The Office of Plant Industry Services (OPIS) continues to work with VDACS's Information Systems team on the development of detailed system requirements for its new online regulatory platform. The programs include the nursery licensure and inspection program, the ginseng licensing and export certification program, and the apiary inspection program. The system will allow VDACS to accept online license and registration applications and facilitate online inspections.

On May 28, OPIS received funding from the Spongy Moth Slow the Spread (STS) Foundation in the amount of \$508,535 to support trapping and treatment activities for 2026, as well as the full-time staff working in the program. Funding for this program is sub-awarded by the foundation from the USDA Forest Service (USDA-FS) and supports spongy moth trapping to detect isolated infestations, as well as larvicide treatments to curb the growing populations of spongy moths detected along the leading edge of the pest's range. On June 3-5, the USDA-FS conducted aerial treatments of a mating disruption of approximately 30,000 acres of forested land in Virginia, specifically in the counties of Halifax, Mecklenburg, Pittsylvania, Russell, Smyth, Tazewell, and Washington. Mating disruption is a biological control strategy that utilizes a synthetic mating pheromone to disrupt the natural mating patterns of spongy moths, which prevents the moths from mating and laying eggs.

On June 29-July 1, OPIS staff conducted surveys and set traps for the box tree moth in the counties of Frederick, Clarke, Loudoun, Page, and Shenandoah, as well as in the City of Winchester. Surveys indicated that the populations of box tree moth were not as prolific as they were in 2025 at the previously discovered locations. Staff discovered limited infestations, minimal feeding damage, and evidence that a late frost in May significantly impacted the first and second generations of box tree moth larva and pupae. OPIS continues to treat boxwood plants as a management strategy to slow their

spread within the quarantined area. No additional populations of box tree moth have been identified outside of the current quarantined counties of Clarke and Frederick and the City of Winchester.

On May 28, staff from the Office of Weights and Measures (OWM) participated in the Wytheville Farmers Market Vendor Meeting held in Wytheville. OWM was invited to test and inspect scales, answer questions, provide clarification about methods of sale, and provide technical assistance with National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Handbook 44 and Handbook 133. There were five vendors in attendance, and staff approved three scales.

OWM staff attended Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) training hosted by TESCO Metering on July 1 at the Harrisonburg VDACS Regional Laboratory. Staff was introduced to the test equipment and the metrological components required for testing EVSE's. OWM staff used the equipment for in field training and tested multiple EVSE charging stations utilizing the test procedures outlined in the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Publication 14, Electric Vehicle Fueling Systems; Technical Policy, Checklist and Test Procedures.

On June 22 staff from the Office of Charitable and Regulatory Programs (OCRCP) participated in the monthly conference call with the National Association of State Charity Officials to discuss upcoming training webinars focused on charity compliance, ongoing national investigations into charity's fundraising practices, and the latest compliance action by the Internal Revenue Service as it relates to organizations' federal tax-exempt status.

Since mid-February, 5,414 users have registered in the new Evoke system, which enables charitable solicitation applicants to submit their registration application and renewals online to OCRCP. The system has received over 6,257 online transactions since going live.

Division of Animal and Food Industry Services (AFIS)

From April to June, the Office of Dairy and Foods (ODF) Food Safety Program conducted 3,376 inspections, investigated 219 consumer complaints, collected 215 food samples, and supported the opening of 149 new food businesses. Of the 149 new food businesses, 90 were retail food establishments and 59 were food manufacturers or food storage warehouses.

From April to June, ODF's Dairy Services Program conducted 317 dairy farm and 87 plant inspections, collected 1,258 product samples, and supported the opening of two new cheese manufacturing plants (Holy Smokes Cheese Company of Rapidan and Goshen Homestead Creamery of Russell County) and one new ice cream manufacturing plant (Good Vices of Henrico County). Dairy Services assisted these manufacturers over a significant amount of time by completing extensive plan reviews, evaluating new equipment, and verifying that equipment operation and design, as well as facility design and construction, are compliant with state and federal regulatory requirements.

Since July 1, the ODF Produce Safety Program has conducted 112 inspections and completed 177 visits. Effective April 7, all large, covered farms must now comply with all federal pre-harvest agricultural water requirements. Additionally, the Program has continued work on the new Produce Safety pathway project for the farm-to-school program in conjunction with colleagues at the Department of Education and Virginia Tech.

Since April 1, ODF's Rapid Response Team has responded to 12 food emergency related incidents (one fire, 10 truck wrecks, and one boil water advisory) involving over 75,650 pounds of food, helping prevent adulterated food products from entering into commerce.

On June 4, in the case of LZD Investments vs. VDACS OHE, the hearing officer issued a recommendation agreeing with the violations and civil penalties as assessed by VDACS on the date of inspection. The Commissioner issued the final case decision on June 16 agreeing with the decision of the hearing officer. The business has been ordered to pay civil penalties in the amount of \$16,000 by July 15. This formal hearing is the final administrative process for those that contest their assessed civil penalties.

On April 24, the Office of Meat and Poultry Services (OMPS) received an email from the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service Chief Financial Officer transferring additional funds to OMPS for federal fiscal year 2025. The additional funds amount was \$115,999 for the VDACS Talmadge/Aiken (T/A) Cooperative Agreement, which covers most establishments in Virginia, and allows the state to perform the inspections necessary for meat products to be sold interstate. This brings the total federal funds received for the VDACS T/A base funding award to \$2,523,999, which is approximately 50 percent of the costs associated with operating the meat inspection program at the state level.

On May 7, a staff member from OMPS met with officials of the Big Stone Gap Farmer's Market. This meeting was to discuss the Virginia Meat and Poultry Act in detail, focusing on Va. Code § 3.2-5407.2, which pertains to the sale, offer for sale, and transportation of uninspected/misbranded meat and poultry products; labeling requirements for red meat, poultry, and shell eggs; and the differences between custom exempt red meat products vs. products produced under a Grant of Inspection.

On May 19-20, OMPS program management and the AFIS Deputy Director attended the spring meeting of the Association of State Meat Inspection Directors (ASMID) in Des Moines, Iowa. This meeting was hosted by the Iowa Department of Agriculture. The purpose of the meeting was to share information between state inspection programs concerning meat inspection and to provide a forum for this discussion. Also, the Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) requirements for state meat inspection programs were discussed. The Iowa Department of Agriculture provided information on their compliance program cases and an overview of the Iowa Department of Agriculture. A short course for dry and semi-dry sausages was provided by Iowa State University (ISU), which included a tour of the ISU meat processing lab and the activities conducted there.

Laboratory testing for the second quarter of the year comprised of over 61,000 individual tests, of which 56 percent were poultry testing. Over 6,900 tests were performed for Equine Infectious Anemia. 410 necropsies were performed, of which 67 percent were on livestock and poultry. Annual spring fish testing in conjunction with and in support of the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources is complete. A total of six health inspections on fish were completed during spring 2026 - five state hatcheries and one private producer. In total, 1,740 fish were tested. From May 17 - 19, the Office of Laboratory Services (OLS) Program Manager hosted the Southeast Laboratory Directors Meeting at the Harrisonburg Regional Animal Health Laboratory (RAHL). All RAHL Directors and the quality manager were in attendance either in person or virtually. This meeting is held annually at a different laboratory throughout the southeast region and had participants from states including Texas, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Alabama,

Mississippi, Kentucky, West Virginia, Georgia, and Florida. The National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) Program Coordinator was in attendance as well as the Region 2 Representative for the NAHLN-NBAF (National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility) Program. Speakers included Commissioner Green; the NAHLN Coordinator, Dr. Bruce Akey; Dr. Kevin Lahmers with ViTALS; and others.

During the week of June 1-5, OLS underwent its biennial audit from the American Association of Laboratory Accreditation (Certificate # 3602.01). This audit included on-site auditor examination of tests on the scope of accreditation to the ISO 17025:2017 standard. At each laboratory location, new tests were brought on to scope, including Foreign Animal Disease/NAHLN testing: AI/NDV at the Warrenton Laboratory, ASF/CSF at both Lynchburg and Wytheville, and FMD in Lynchburg. The auditor stated that the audit of the OLS system was “both a pleasant and a refreshing experience to see the cohesive group dynamics surrounding continual improvement.” Once finalized, this audit will renew accreditation through 2028.

As of July 1, the additional funding of \$506,920 has been fully approved and all three projects have been approved for the Office of Laboratory Services Capital Expansion Projects at the Harrisonburg, Warrenton, and Lynchburg labs. Final paperwork and contracts have been sent to contractors for signature, and pre-construction meetings were held July 14 -16 in the laboratories. VDACS anticipates that construction on the additions will commence later this summer or early fall and plans to have a ceremonial groundbreaking at the Harrisonburg lab on September 2 and fall open houses at the Lynchburg and Warrenton labs on dates to be determined.

From May 18-22, the State Veterinarian attended the Annual General Conference of the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH), which was held in Paris, France. He attended the meeting as part of the U.S. Delegation, in his role as the current President of the United States Animal Health Association (USAHA), which funded the travel expenses. The goal of WOAH and of the General Conference is to help provide a common framework for countries to use in their efforts to eradicate costly diseases of livestock and poultry as they negotiate trade arrangements that often depend on the status of those diseases in each country.

On May 20, Office of Veterinary Services (OVS) staff attended the Virginia Poultry Health Seminar in Harrisonburg sponsored by the Virginia Poultry Federation. The meeting is held annually for commercial poultry companies and growers and includes presentations on current poultry diseases and industry updates. The OVS Program Manager presented on the role of the State Veterinarian’s office in approving veterinary biologics and provided an update on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI).

On June 12, OVS staff attended the Virginia Dairy Expo held in Dayton. A booth was displayed with information about HPAI in dairy cattle, biosecurity practices, and RFID tags. The expo was open to dairy producers from around the state.

OVS staff monitors the imports and exports of agricultural animals in Virginia. Throughout the previous six months, Virginia has averaged approximately 8 million poultry imported and 8 million poultry exported every month, thus demonstrating the importance of Virginia’s poultry industry to its economy.

Project 8645 - Proposed

Department of Agriculture And Consumer Services

Amendments to the lists of endangered and threatened plant and insect species

2VAC5-320-10. Listing of endangered and threatened plant and insect species.

A. The Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services hereby adopts the following regulation in order to protect designated plant and insect species that exist in this Commonwealth. All designated species are subject to all sections of the Virginia Endangered Plant and Insect Species Act (§ 3.2-1000 et seq. of the Code of Virginia).

B. The following plant and insect species are hereby declared an endangered species:

1. *Boltonia montana*, valley doll's-daisy.
2. *Bombus affinis*, rusty patch bumble bee.
3. *Cardamine micranthera*, small-anthered bittercress.
4. *Carex juniperorum*, juniper sedge.
5. *Clematis addisonii*, Addison's leatherflower.
6. *Corallorhiza bentleyi*, Bentley's coralroot.
7. *Fimbristylis perpusilla*, Harper's fimbriatylis.
8. *Helenium virginicum*, Virginia sneezeweed.
9. *Helonias bullata*, swamp-pink.
10. *Ilex collina*, long-stalked holly.
11. *Iliamna corei*, Peter's Mountain mallow.
12. *Isoetes virginica*, Virginia quillwort.

13. Isoperla major, Big Stripetail Stonefly.
14. Isotria medeoloides, small whorled pogonia.
44. ~~15.~~ Ludwigia ravenii, Raven's seedbox.
16. Marshallia legrandii, Tall Barbara's buttons.
45. ~~17.~~ Neonympha mitchellii, Mitchell's satyr butterfly.
46. ~~18.~~ Ophiogomphus edmundo, Edmund's snaketail.
19. Phemeranthus piedmontanus, Piedmont fameflower.
47. ~~20.~~ Pseudanophthalmus holsingeri, Holsinger's cave beetle.
48. ~~21.~~ Pseudanophthalmus parvicollis, Hupp's Hill cave beetle.
49. ~~22.~~ Pseudanophthalmus thomasi, Thomas' cave beetle.
20. ~~23.~~ Ptilimnium nodosum, harperella.
21. ~~24.~~ Puto kosztarabi, Buffalo Mountain mealybug.
22. ~~25.~~ Pycnanthemum clinopodioides, basil mountainmint.
26. Scirpus ancistrochaetus, Northeastern bulrush.
23. ~~27.~~ Sigara depressa, Virginia Piedmont water boatman.
24. ~~28.~~ Spiraea virginiana, Virginia spiraea.
25. ~~29.~~ Stachys appalachiana, Appalachian hedgenettle.
30. Stachys eplingii, Epling's hedgenettle.
31. Stachys matthewsii, Yadkin hedgenettle.
32. Trifolium calcaricum, running glade clover.
33. Viola tenuisecta, Shale Barren Violet.

C. The following plant and insect species are hereby declared a threatened species:

1. *Aeschynomene virginica*, sensitive-joint vetch.
2. *Amaranthus pumilus*, seabeach amaranth.
3. *Arabis serotina*, shale barren rockcress.
4. *Cicindela dorsalis dorsalis*, Northeastern beach tiger beetle.
5. *Clematis viticaulis*, Millboro leatherflower.
6. *Echinacea laevigata*, smooth coneflower.
7. *Houstonia purpurea* var. *montana*, Roan Mountain bluet.
8. *Juncus caesariensis*, New Jersey rush.
9. *Ludwigia brevipes*, Long Beach primrose-willow.
10. *Nuphar sagittifolia*, narrow-leaved spatterdock.
11. *Ophiogomphus susbehcha*, St. Croix snaketail.
- ~~40.~~ 12. *Paxistima canbyi*, Canby's mountain-lover.
- ~~44.~~ 13. *Phlox buckleyi*, sword-leaf phlox.
- ~~42.~~ 14. *Platanthera leucophaea*, Eastern prairie fringed orchid.
- ~~43.~~ 15. *Pycnanthemum torreyi*, Torrey's mountain-mint.
- ~~44.~~ 16. *Pyrgus wyandot*, Appalachian grizzled skipper.
- ~~45.~~ 17. *Rhus michauxii*, Michaux's sumac.
- ~~46.~~ 18. *Rudbeckia heliopsidis*, sun-facing coneflower.
- ~~47.~~ 19. *Scirpus flaccidifolius*, reclining bulrush.

Plant and Insect Species Recommended for Listing as Threatened or Endangered Species

Background

The Virginia Endangered Plant and Insect Species Act (EPISA) (Va Code § 3.2-1000 *et seq.*) establishes a role for the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) in the conservation of plant and insect species that are at risk of extinction.

Endangered species are defined in EPISA as any species or variety of plant life or insect life determined by the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services (Board) to be in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant part of its range. A threatened species is defined as any species that is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its native range. Equal protection is afforded an endangered or threatened species under EPISA.

EPISA contains one endangered species, Virginia round-leaf birch, and one threatened species, American ginseng. An additional 25 endangered and 14 threatened species are currently listed in *Regulations for the Enforcement of the Endangered Plant and Insect Species Act*, 2 VAC 5-320-10.

EPISA provides that it is unlawful for any person to dig, take, cut, process, or otherwise collect, remove, transport, possess, sell, offer for sale, or give away any species native to or occurring in the wild in the Commonwealth that are listed as endangered or threatened. However, exceptions established in EPISA allow for the taking of a threatened or endangered plant or insect on a person's own land. The Commissioner may also issue a permit to non-property owners where necessary for the removal or destruction of endangered or threatened species to alleviate damage to property, the impact on progressive development, or protect human health. In addition, a permit may be issued for the taking or possessing of any state endangered or threatened species for scientific, biological, or educational purposes or for propagation in order to ensure their survival.

Listing as endangered or threatened offers the following benefits for a species:

1. Restriction on the take and trafficking in listed species.
2. Funding for conservation and recovery of the species or for surveys to search for new populations or occurrences.
3. Greater recognition of a species' status, encouraging voluntary conservation efforts by other agencies, organizations, and individuals.
4. Preservation of species for future research and utilization in beneficial programs.
5. Increased genetic diversity in populations ensuring resistance to disease and adverse environmental conditions.
6. Protection of supporting habitat to promote diversity and harborage for insect species.
7. Establishment of programs for the management and conservation of listed species to help assure the species survival.

8. Protection for landowners, on whose property a listed species occurs, from unauthorized collecting, taking, cutting, etc. of these valuable natural resources.
9. Management of the legal harvest and export of threatened species under an approved program.

Federal list:

If actions will impact the habitat outside of their land.

VDACS maintains a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) for the conservation of federally protected plant and insect species. FWS oversees the federal listing of plant and animal species as endangered and threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Criteria for federal listing of a species recognizes the low occurrences or individual populations of a species, present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range, disease or predation, natural or manmade factors affecting it's a species' survival, and inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms. The latter factor would include state regulation of species populations. Among the benefits in federal listing of a species are protection from destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat, restrictions on take and trade, authorization to seek land purchases or exchanges for important habitat, and federal aid to State and Commonwealth conservation departments with cooperative endangered species agreements. A list of state and federal endangered and threatened species in Virginia, as well as candidate plant and insect species recommended under EPISA, is located in Appendix 1.

Endangered and Threatened Plant and Insect Species Recommendations

Section 3.2-1002.B of EPISA authorizes the Board to approve species for addition or deletion from the list of endangered and threatened species, or transfer of species from one list to the other.

A list of recommended candidate species for addition to the lists of endangered and threatened species is below. Twenty-three (23) candidate species were recommended by DCR to VDACS. VDACS is supporting ten (10) of the proposed 23 species. Additional information is provided below, to support VDACS' recommendation. Specific recommendations for listing, transfer between endangered and threatened lists, or delisting of a plant or insect species are based on the global status and available information on extant Virginia populations.

Plants:

Species Name	Global / State Rank	DCR Recommendation	VDACS Recommendation
<i>Abies fraseri</i>	G2 S1	Endangered	Continue
<i>Campylopus carolinae</i>	G2 S1	Endangered	Continue
<i>Eupatorium maritimum</i>	G2? S1	Endangered	Continue
<i>Geum geniculatum</i>	G2 S1	Endangered	Continue
<i>Iliamna remota</i>	G1Q S1	Endangered	Continue
<i>Ludwigia brevipes</i>	G2 S2	Threatened	Threatened
<i>Marshallia legrandii</i>	G1 S1	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Minuartia godfreyi</i>	G1 S1	Endangered	Continue
<i>Orthotrichum keeverae</i>	G2 S1	Endangered	Continue

Species Name	Global / State Rank	DCR Recommendation	VDACS Recommendation
<i>Pycnanthemum clinopodioides</i>	G1G2 S1	Threatened	Threatened
<i>Ranunculus ambigens</i>	G2 S1	Threatened	Continue
<i>Solidago lancifolia</i>	G2 S1	Endangered	Continue
<i>Stachys appalachiana</i>	G1G2 S1	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Stachys eplingii</i>	G1G2 S1	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Stachys matthewsii</i>	G1G2 S1	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Stenanthium leimanthoides</i>	G2 S1	Endangered	Continue
<i>Viola tenuisecta</i>	G1G2 S1	Endangered	Endangered

Insects:

Species Name	Global / State Rank	DCR Recommendation	VDACS Recommendation
<i>Isoperla major</i>	G1 S1	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Ophiogomphus edmunds</i>	G2 S1	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Ophiogomphus susbehcha</i>	G2 S1	Threatened	Threatened
<i>Pseudanophthalmus hubbardi</i>	G2 S1	Endangered	Continue
<i>Pseudanophthalmus sericus</i>	G2 S1	Endangered	Continue
<i>Pseudanophthalmus limicola</i>	G2 S1	Threatened	Continue

Global (G-rank) and State (S-rank) species status are as follows:

- 1 - Critically imperiled: typically having 5 or fewer occurrences, or 1,000 or fewer individuals.
- 2 - Imperiled: typically having 6 to 20 occurrences, or 1,001 to 3,000 individuals.
- 3 - Vulnerable: rare; typically having 21 to 100 occurrences, or 3,001 to 10,000 individuals.
- 4 - Apparently secure: uncommon but not rare, but with some cause for long-term concern; typically having 101 or more occurrences, or 10,001 or more individuals.
- 5 - Secure: common, widespread, abundant, and lacking major threats or long-term concerns.
- ? - Inexact Numeric Rank, number of occurrences and individual records border between status rankings.

Species Status and Distribution in Virginia

Plant Species:

Ludwigia brevipes

Common name: Long Beach primrose-willow

Description: *Ludwigia brevipes* is an aquatic or marsh-dwelling perennial herb native to the southeastern U.S. Coastal Plain.

Habitat: Pondshores, blackwater rivers, interdunal swales, borrow ponds, ditches, impoundments, tidal freshwater marshes, other marshes.

Status: Imperiled Globally and in VA. G2 S2

DCR Comments: Long Beach primrose-willow is a globally rare species known from nine extant populations in Virginia. There are six additional historical populations known, meaning they have not been seen in decades, and their status cannot be verified. Recommend listing as Threatened.

Recommendation: VDACS supports listing the species in the EPISA regulations as Threatened.

Marshallia legrandii

Common name: Tall Barbara's buttons.

Description: *Marshallia legrandii* is a rare, herbaceous perennial in the composite family, Asteraceae. It grows up to 3 feet tall with basal, lance-shaped leaves and blooms in late May to July with striking, deep pink to pale pink disc florets.

Habitat: Woodlands – Hardwood & Mixed, Savanna, Grassland/herbaceous, Barrens. *Marshallia legrandii* occurs on open fire-maintained woodlands over greenstone in the Piedmont of Virginia.

Status: Critically Imperiled Globally and in VA. G1 S1

DCR Comments: Tall Barbara's- buttons is a globally rare species known from two extant populations in Virginia. One other population was documented in 1973 in Mecklenburg County but has not been seen since. Recommend listing as Endangered.

Recommendation: VDACS supports listing the species in the EPISA regulations as Endangered.

Pycnanthemum clinopodioides

Common name: Basil mountainmint

Description: *Pycnanthemum clinopodioides* is a critically imperiled perennial herbaceous wildflower in the mint family (Lamiaceae) native to the eastern U.S. It grows up to 3 feet tall with a 2-foot spread, producing aromatic foliage and dense clusters of white or lavender-spotted flowers from July through September

Habitat: *Pycnanthemum clinopodioides* prefers dry or moist rocky ground of wooded slopes and watersides, as well as dry open ledges, rock outcrops, bluffs, and open thickets, frequently over alkaline soils, such as traprock (diabase), calcareous bedrock, limestone or mafic substrates. It is mostly a plant of the Coastal Plain in the northern portion of its range and found along the mountains towards the south of its range.

Status: Critically Imperiled Globally and in VA. G1G2 S1

DCR Comments: Basil Mountain-mint is a globally rare species known from six extant populations in Virginia, two in Buckingham County and one each in Augusta, Bland, Fauquier, and Greenville counties. Recommend listing as Threatened.

Recommendation: VDACS supports listing the species in the EPISA regulations as Threatened.

Stachys appalachiana

Common name: Appalachian hedgenettle.

Description: *Stachys appalachiana* is a rare perennial wetland herb discovered in the Blue Ridge region. It features a robust, upright stem, hairy, deeply-veined elliptic leaves, and produces clusters of pink to white flowers.

Habitat: *Stachys appalachiana* is found primarily in open bogs and fens, mostly on soils derived from mafic or ultramafic substrates, although not restricted to these soils.

Status: Critically Imperiled Globally and in VA. G1G2 S1

DCR Comments: The Appalachian hedgenettle is a globally rare species known from two extant populations in Grayson County, Virginia. Recommend listing as Endangered.

Recommendation: VDACS supports listing the species in the EPISA regulations as Endangered.

Stachys eplingii

Common name: Epling's hedgenettle.

Description: *Stachys eplingii* is a rare, perennial Appalachian wildflower belonging to the mint family (Lamiaceae). It features square stems, hairy, opposite leaves, and whorls of two-lipped purple-pink flowers. It typically grows in moist mountain woods and wetlands.

Habitat: Forest/Woodland, Grassland/herbaceous. Occurs in "mesic" forests, bogs, wet meadows over calcareous or mafic substrates.

Status: Critically Imperiled Globally and in VA. G1 S1

DCR Comments: Epling's Hedge-nettle is a globally rare species known from five extant populations in Virginia, two in Bath County and one each in Augusta, Caroline, and Fauquier counties. Recommend listing as Endangered.

Recommendation: VDACS supports listing the species in the EPISA regulations as Endangered.

Stachys matthewsii

Common name: Yadkin hedgenettle.

Description: *Stachys matthewsii* is a rare, low-growing perennial herb endemic to the southeastern United States. It produces delicate pink to lavender flowers and oppositely arranged, sessile to elliptical leaves. This shade-intolerant plant typically grows in wet meadows, floodplain forest edges, and calcareous shores.

Habitat: *Stachys matthewsii* grows in floodplain forest edges, wet meadows, and clearings in the Piedmont, and on shrubby or openly wooded calcareous river shores and shell-marl bluffs of the Coastal Plain.

Status: Critically Imperiled Globally and in VA. G1 S1

DCR Comments: The Yadkin Hedge-nettle is a globally rare species known from five extant populations in Virginia, two in Surry County and one each in Charlotte, Goochland, and Halifax Counties. Recommend listing as Endangered.

Recommendation: VDACS supports listing the species in the EPISA regulations as Endangered.

Viola tenuisecta

Common name: Shale Barren Violet.

Description: *Viola tenuisecta* is a rare, narrow endemic perennial herb native to western Virginia. It is distinguished by its completely glabrous foliage, striking tri-to-tetra ternately dissected summer leaf blades, and deep blue-green, purple-tinged coloration

Habitat: *Viola tenuisecta* grows in dry-to-seasonally-moist, less acidic, sandy soils and rock outcrops in shaded microsites in and around shale barrens openings.

Status: Critically Imperiled Globally and in VA. G1 S1

DCR Comments: The Shale Barren Violet is a globally rare species known from four extant populations in Bath and Alleghany counties, Virginia. This is the entire global range for the species. Recommend listing as Endangered.

Recommendation: VDACS supports listing the species in the EPISA regulations as Endangered.

Insect Species:

Isoperla major

Common name: Big Stripetail Stonefly.

Description: *Isoperla major* is a rare, highly specific aquatic insect belonging to the Perlodidae family. In North America, it is classified as critically imperiled and is primarily found in high-quality, cold headwater streams in the mountainous regions of Virginia

Habitat: This species is restricted to a cool-water habitat at a single site in Virginia with high threats from grazing and livestock activities.

Status: Critically Imperiled Globally and in VA. G1 S1

DCR Comments: The Big Stripetail Stonefly is a globally rare species with a very restricted distribution. Described in 1983, it is known only from two cold springs in and near Burkes Garden in southwestern Virginia. Potential threats include destruction or alteration of the spring habitats and associated groundwater. Recommend listing as Endangered.

Recommendation: VDACS supports listing the species in the EPISA regulations as Endangered.

Ophiogomphus edmundo

Common name: Edmund's snaketail.

Description: *Ophiogomphus edmundo* is an incredibly rare, boldly marked clubtail dragonfly. Averaging about 2 inches in length, it features a bright green thorax, dark or mostly black legs, and a primarily black abdomen.

Habitat: Clear moderately flowing mountain streams and rivers.

Threat: Imperiled Globally and Critically Imperiled in VA. G2 S1

DCR Comments: Edmund's snaketail is a globally rare dragonfly that was feared to be extinct prior to its rediscovery in North Carolina in 1994. It is currently known from fewer than 10 populations in the southern Appalachians (Virginia south to Georgia and Tennessee), including small populations in Amherst and Nelson counties, Virginia. The species inhabits

clear, fast flowing rocky rivers. Potential threats include pollution and siltation of its riverine habitat. Recommend listing as Endangered.

Recommendation: VDACS supports listing the species in the EPISA regulations as Endangered.

Ophiogomphus susbehcha

Common name: St. Croix snaketail.

Description: *Ophiogomphus susbehcha* is a rare clubtail dragonfly discovered in 1989. Measuring about 5 cm (2 inches), it is distinguished by a bright green thorax, gray eyes, and a black and yellow abdomen that ends in a cobra-like, serpent-shaped clubtail.

Habitat: Larvae burrow in bottom in deep water of medium to large, clear, fast-flowing rivers and streams with mixed gravel, sand, and rock bottoms. Adults forage in fields, and perhaps in trees.

Threat: Imperiled Globally and Critically Imperiled in VA. G2 S1

DCR Comments: The St. Croix snaketail is a globally rare dragonfly that has a very disjunct range. Its known distribution is limited to three rivers in northern Wisconsin and adjacent Minnesota, a small section of the Potomac River along the Maryland-Virginia border, and the Piedmont section of the James River (City of Richmond upstream to Buckingham and Nelson counties) in Virginia. Historically, this species also occurred on the Susquehanna River in central Pennsylvania, where it was last seen more than a century ago. The James River population is one of the largest known. Potential threats to this species include pollution and siltation of its riverine habitat. Recommend listing as Threatened.

Recommendation: VDACS supports listing the species in the EPISA regulations as Threatened.

Appendix 1: Threatened and Endangered Plant and Insect Species in Virginia

Scientific Name	Common Name	State Status	Federal Status
<i>Aeschynomene virginica</i>	Sensitive joint-vetch	Threatened	Threatened
<i>Amaranthus pumilus</i>	Seabeach amaranth	Threatened	Threatened
<i>Arabis serotina</i>	Shale barren rock-cress	Threatened	Endangered
<i>Betula uber</i>	Virginia round-leaf birch	Endangered	Threatened
<i>Bombus affinis</i>	Rusty patch bumble bee	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Boltonia montana</i>	Valley doll's-daisy	Endangered	
<i>Cardamine micranthera</i>	Small-anthered bittercress	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Carex juniperorum</i>	Juniper sedge	Endangered	
<i>Cicindela dorsalis dorsalis</i>	Northeastern beach tiger beetle	Threatened	Threatened
<i>Clematis addisonii</i>	Addison's leatherflower	Endangered	
<i>Clematis viticaulis</i>	Millboro leatherflower.	Threatened	
<i>Corallorhiza bentley</i>	Bentley's coralroot	Endangered	
<i>Echinacea laevigata</i>	Smooth Coneflower	Threatened	Endangered
<i>Fimbristylis perpusilla</i>	Harper's fimbristylis	Endangered	
<i>Helenium virginicum</i>	Virginia sneezeweed	Endangered	Threatened
<i>Helonias bullata</i>	Swamp pink	Endangered	Threatened
<i>Houstonia purpurea</i> var. <i>montana</i>	Roan Mountain bluet	Threatened	Endangered
<i>Ilex collina</i>	Long-stalked holly	Endangered	
<i>Iliamna corei</i>	Peter's Mountain mallow	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Isoetes virginica</i>	Virginia quillwort	Endangered	
<i>Isotria medeoloides</i>	Small whorled pogonia	Endangered	Threatened
<i>Juncus caesariensis</i>	New Jersey bulrush	Threatened	
<i>Ludwigia ravenii</i>	Raven's seedbox	Endangered	
<i>Lycopodiella margueriteae</i>	Northern appressed clubmoss	Threatened	
<i>Neonympha mitchellii</i>	St. Francis' satyr	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Nuphar sagittifolia</i>	Narrow leaved spatterdock	Threatened	
<i>Panax quinquefolius</i>	Ginseng	Threatened	CITES ¹
<i>Paxistima canbyi</i>	Canby's mountain-lover	Threatened	
<i>Phemeranthus piedmontanus</i>	Piedmont fameflower	Endangered	
<i>Phlox buckleyi</i>	Sword-leaf phlox	Threatened	
<i>Platanthera leucophaea</i>	Eastern prairie fringed orchid	Threatened	Threatened
<i>Pseudanophthalmus holsingeri</i>	Holsinger cave beetle	Endangered	
<i>Pseudanophthalmus parvicollis</i>	Hupp's Hill cave beetle	Endangered	

<i>Pseudanophthalmus thomasi</i>	Thomas' cave beetle.	Endangered	
<i>Ptilimnium nodosum</i>	Harperella	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Puto kosztarabi</i>	Buffalo Mountain giant mealybug	Endangered	
<i>Pycnanthemum torreyi</i>	Torrey's mountain-mint	Threatened	
<i>Pyrgus wyandot</i>	Appalachian grizzled skipper	Threatened	
<i>Rhus michauxii</i>	Michaux's sumac	Threatened	Endangered
<i>Rudbeckia heliopsisidis</i>	Sun-facing coneflower	Threatened	
<i>Scirpus ancistrochaetus</i>	Northeastern bulrush	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Scirpus flaccidifolius</i>	Reclining bulrush	Threatened	
<i>Sigara depressa</i>	Virginia Piedmont Waterboatman	Endangered	
<i>Spiraea virginiana</i>	Virginia spiraea	Endangered	Threatened
<i>Trifolium calcaricum</i>	Running glade clover	Endangered	

Candidate Species	Common Name	Proposed State Status	Federal Status
<i>Ludwigia brevipes</i>	Long Beach Seed Box	Threatened	N/A
<i>Marshallia legrandii</i>	Tall Barbara's-buttons	Endangered	N/A
<i>Pycnanthemum clinopodioides</i>	Basil Mountain-mint	Endangered	N/A
<i>Stachys appalachiana</i>	Appalachian Hedge-nettle	Endangered	N/A
<i>Stachys eplingii</i>	Epling's Hedge-nettle	Endangered	N/A
<i>Stachys matthewsii</i>	Yadkin Hedge-nettle	Endangered	N/A
<i>Viola tenuisecta</i>	Shale Barren Violet	Endangered	N/A
<i>Ophiogomphus edmundi</i>	Edmund's snaketail	Endangered	N/A
<i>Ophiogomphus susbehcha</i>	St. Croix snaketail	Threatened	N/A
<i>Isoperla major</i>	Big Stripetail Stonefly	Endangered	N/A

¹Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) entered into force in 1975 to ensure that international trade in plants and animals does not threaten their survival in the wild. Under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has been designated to carry out the provisions of CITES.

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

POLICY ON PARTICIPATION IN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES MEETINGS BY ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS PURSUANT TO VA. CODE § 2.2-3708.3

Approved ~~August 5, 2025~~ July 28, 2026

It is the policy of the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services (Board) that individual members of the Board may participate in meetings of the Board by electronic communications as permitted by § 2.2-3708.3 of the Code of Virginia. This policy shall apply to the entire membership and without regard to the identity of the member requesting remote participation or the matters that will be considered or voted on at the meeting. This policy shall be adopted at least once annually.

Whenever an individual member wishes to participate from a remote location, the law requires a quorum of the Board to be physically assembled at the primary or central meeting location.

When such individual participation is due to a personal matter, such participation is limited by law to two meetings per calendar year or 25 percent of the meetings held per calendar year rounded up to the next whole number, whichever is greater.

Further, it is the policy of the Board that the Board may hold all-virtual public meetings pursuant to subsection C of § 2.2-3708.3. Such all-virtual public meetings are limited by law to two meetings per calendar year or 50 percent of the meetings held per calendar year rounded up to the next whole number, whichever is greater. Additionally, an all-virtual public meeting may not be held consecutively with another all-virtual public meeting.

Requests for remote participation or that the Board conduct an all-virtual public meeting shall be conveyed to the Secretary of the Board, who shall then relay such requests to the President of the Board.

Individual participation from a remote location shall be approved unless such participation would violate this policy or the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (§ 2.2-3700 et seq. of the Code of Virginia). If a member's participation from a remote location is challenged, then the Board shall vote whether to allow such participation.

The request for remote participation or that the Board conduct an all-virtual public meeting shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. If the Board votes to disapprove of the member's participation because such participation would violate this policy, such disapproval shall be recorded in the minutes with specificity. The minutes shall include other information as required by §§ 2.2-3707 and 2.2-3708.3 depending on the type of remote participation or all-virtual public meeting.

This policy applies to all committees and subcommittees of the Board.

Version History		
Version	Date	Change Summary
1	12/10/2021	Original
2	3/24/2023	Revised to reflect electronic meeting changes to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act effective September 1, 2022
3	7/31/2024	Revised to reflect electronic meeting changes to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act effective July 1, 2024; annual approval of policy

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
Future Meeting Dates

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Thursday, December 10, 2026

Patrick Henry Building
East Reading Room
1111 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219