

Crop Production, 2007

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2007 Crop & Weather Summary: The average monthly temperature for January was 35.2 degrees. January had 2.37 inches total rainfall. February's average temperature was 25.8 degrees, with 2.99 inches of rainfall. The average monthly temperature for March was 41.1 degrees, with rainfall of 3.63 inches. Farmers spent these winter months repairing machinery and fences, milking cows, spreading manure, and preparing for the crop season.

In April, the average temperature was 49.2 degrees. The reported precipitation was 3.31 inches. On average, 13 days were suitable for field work for the month. Producers were able to get 43 percent of the plowing finished by the month's end. Approximately 7 percent of the corn and 44% of the oats planting was finished in April. Pennsylvania had a warmer May, with an average temperature of 65.2 degrees. We also experienced dry weather throughout the month, only receiving 1.07 inches of rain. Twenty-two days were suitable for fieldwork for the month of May. Sixty-seven percent of the soybean acreage, 96% of the oats, and 88% of the potatoes had been planted by the end of the month. Producers were well into the first cutting of alfalfa hay and had a good start for timothy clover. June was much warmer than May, as the average temperature was 73.5 degrees, with 3.70 inches of rain. Transplanted tobacco was well above the 5-year average. Spring plowing had finished in the month of June. Most producers finished planting their corn, potatoes and soybean acreage during the month. As some farmers were completing the first cutting of alfalfa, others already had a good start on the second cutting.

The average July temperature was 75.0 degrees, with 4.22 inches of precipitation. Crop conditions, except for pastures, continued to do well throughout the month of July. The oat, apple and peach harvests had started by the end of the month. The barley harvest was completed, and nearly all of the wheat acreage was harvested during the month. The average corn height was above average by the end of the month. Warm weather continued into August, as the average temperature for the month was also 75.0 degrees. August had 5.84 inches of rain. Producers finished the oat harvest by the end of the month. Tobacco harvest was advancing faster than the previous year, but slower than the 5-year average. Potato harvest was progressing much slower than the average. Peach and apple harvests continued strong. Most producers were well on their way to completing their third cutting of alfalfa and second cutting of timothy clover by the end of August. Fall plowing had also begun and was 18% completed by the end of the month. September had an average temperature of 69.7 degrees, with 4.41 inches of rain. The main activities for the month were harvesting corn for both grain and silage. Wheat and barley planting started in September. By the end of the month, 8 percent of the soybeans were harvested and corn for grain harvest was 23 percent complete. The tobacco harvest was near completion by the end of the month, while producers also finished up the peach harvest. Producers neared the completion of the second cutting of timothy clover, and the fourth cutting of alfalfa was 54% completed.

October temperatures in 2007 averaged 62.0 degrees. The precipitation total for the month was 3.40 inches. Producers finished harvesting their corn for silage and continued

harvesting corn for grain with 51 percent of the state's acreage harvested by month's end. The potato harvest was completed by the end of the month. November had an average temperature of 42.8 degrees, with a precipitation total 2.58 inches. The barley and wheat planting was completed during this month. The apple harvest was finished by the middle of the month. Harvest of corn and soybeans at the middle of November were 87% and 88% completed respectively. At mid-November, producers had nearly wrapped up their fourth cutting of alfalfa. The month was also spent preparing equipment for the next growing season, as fall plowing was 85% complete at the middle of November. December had an average temperature of 34.7 degrees, with 5.11 inches of rain.

Small Grains: Production of winter wheat was 8,990,000 bushels, 2 percent above the previous year. There were 155,000 acres harvested in 2007, 5,000 more than in 2006. Yield was 58 bushels per acre in 2007, down from 59 bushels per acre in 2006. There were 4,480,000 bushels of oats produced in 2007, down 36 percent from the 2006. Harvested acreage was at 80,000 in 2007, down 30,000 acres from 2006. Yield was 56 bushels per acre for 2007, down 8 bushels from 2006. Barley production for 2007 was 3,066,000 bushels, down 18 percent from 2006. Harvested acreage was at 42,000, down 4,000 acres from 2006. Yield was 73 bushels per acre, down 8 bushels from 2006.

Hay: Production of all hay in 2007 was 4,200,000 tons, down 18 percent from 2006. 1,800,000 total acres were harvested in 2007, up 50,000 acres from 2006. Yield was 2.33 tons per acre, compared to 2.93 tons in 2006. Alfalfa hay production was 1,800,000 tons, up 20 percent from 2006's production. Alfalfa acreage harvested was 600,000, up 100,000 acres from 2006. Yield was 3.00 tons per acre, the same as in 2006. Other hay production was 2,400,000 tons, down 34 percent from 2006. Other hay acreage harvested was 1,200,000, down 50,000 acres from 2006. Yield was at 2.00 tons per acre, down 31 percent from the previous year. Haylage production for 2007 was 2,549,000 tons, down 13 percent from 2006. Haylage harvested acreage was 490,000 acres, up 10,000 acres from 2006. Haylage had an average yield of 5.20 tons per acre, down 0.90 tons per acres from 2006.

Row Crops: Corn for grain production was at 125,440,000 bushels, up 7 percent from 2006. Harvested acres amounted to 980,000 acres, up 20,000 acres from 2006. Yield was 128 bushels per acre, up 6 bushels from 2006. Corn for silage production was 6,765,000 tons, down 1 percent from 2006. Acres harvested totaled 410,000 acres, up 30,000 from 2006. Yield is 16.5 tons per acre, down 1.5 tons from 2006. Soybean production for 2007 was 17,220,000 bushels, up 1 percent from 2006. Harvested soybean acreage was at 420,000, down 5,000 acres from 2006. Yield was 41 bushels per acre, up 1 bushel from 2006. Potato production was at 2,200,000 cwt., down 19 percent from 2006. Potato acres harvested dropped 500 acres to 10,000 acres. Yield decreased to 220 cwt per acre, down 40 cwt from 2006. Total production of tobacco was 17,200,000 pounds, up 6 percent from 2006. There were 7900 acres harvested in 2007, unchanged from 2006. The all tobacco yield was 2,177 lbs. per acre, up 121 pounds from 2006.