



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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Week Ending June 3, 2007

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Excellent week for Field Work: Pennsylvania farmers had great weather this past week. The sun was shining for most of the week. The temperatures spiked to 90 degrees for the middle of the week. Ninety-three percent of the spring plowing is now complete. Warmer weather and sunny skies allowed better days during the planting season, as well as the emergence and growth of several crops. Overall, 6 days were suitable for field work and principal farm activities included completing tillage work, spraying corn and oats, rotating pastures, spring plowing, fixing fences, cutting hay, and planting corn, potatoes, soybeans, vegetables and oats.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending June 3, 2007

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
15	50	34	1

Crops: Ninety-four percent of the state's corn crop has been planted. This is only 1 percentage point ahead of this time last year, and 7 points above the five-year average. The planted crop is 5 percentage points farther along than the previous week. Pennsylvania's corn crop is now 75 percent emerged, which is 6 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Conditions are showing that 66 percent of the corn crop is in good or excellent condition. Seventy-eight percent of the state's soybeans have been planted. This is 12 percentage points higher than the 5-year average and 2 points above this time last year. Eighty-seven percent of the planted oats have emerged, 13 points behind this time last year and 7 points behind the five-year average. Sixty-three percent of the winter wheat is in good or excellent condition, this is 16 percentage points lower than the previous week. Ninety-five percent of the wheat is now in the heading stage, this is 7 percentage points ahead of the five-year average. Thirty-eight percent of the headed barley is now yellow. This is 17 points behind this time last year and 8 points behind the 5-year average. Ninety-five percent of the potato crop has been planted. This is 3 points behind last year, and 3 points ahead of the 5-year average. Fifty percent of the tobacco crop has been transplanted. Sixty percent of the alfalfa standing is in good or excellent condition. Sixty-seven percent of timothy hay standing is in good or excellent condition. Eighty-five percent of the hay made was in good or excellent condition as 66 percent of the first cutting of alfalfa and 27 percent of the first cutting of Timothy hay are complete.

Livestock: The temperatures last week were really high, and many of the pastures were dry. Many farmers were pleased with the grass growth. Overall pasture conditions were reported as follows: very poor 4%, poor 14%, fair 31%, good 43%, and excellent 8%.

U.S. as of May 27, 2007: Showers and thunderstorms soaked areas from the central and southern Great Plains to the middle Missouri Valley hampering fieldwork but maintaining abundant to locally excessive moisture for pastures, winter wheat, and emerged summer crops. Elsewhere, rain and snow showers provided beneficial moisture across the Northwest, but dry conditions persisted elsewhere west of the Rockies. Farther east, warm, dry weather continued to promote crop development and field activity, including soybean and final corn planting. However, the lack of moisture is causing concern in parts of the central and eastern Corn Belt. Worsening drought has continued to stress pastures and rain-fed summer crops in the Southeast, as well as increasing the use of irrigation.

Corn: Ninety-seven percent of the intended acreage had been seeded, 1 percentage point ahead of last year and 4 points ahead of the 5-year average. Emergence advanced to 85 percent, compared with 82 percent last year and the 5-year average of 75 percent. Progress was most rapid from the Dakotas stretching eastward into the Corn Belt, including Pennsylvania where warm, mostly dry weather proved beneficial.

Soybeans: Growers had planted 80 percent of their intended acreage, 5 points ahead of last year and 13 points ahead of the normal pace. With corn planting nearing completion, many growers were able to take advantage of the warm and dry conditions and concentrate on planting soybeans. Emergence, at 48 percent, was 10 points ahead of last year and 13 points ahead of normal. The crop was well ahead of the normal pace in most of the Corn Belt, including Minnesota where the crop was 38 points ahead of normal. However, emergence was behind normal in three States, which include Kansas, Missouri, and North Carolina.

Winter Wheat: Heading, at 80 percent complete, was 1 point ahead of last year and 3 points ahead of the 5-year average. Heading in Ohio and Nebraska advanced rapidly, progressing 50 points and 45 points during the week, respectively. Elsewhere, in the northern Rocky Mountains, heading was just getting underway, but had not yet begun in Montana.

Small Grains: Barley emergence, at 86 percent complete, is 9 points ahead of last year and 12 points ahead of the 5-year average. Seventy-nine percent of the crop was rated good to excellent, down slightly from the previous week.

Oat emergence advanced to 95 percent complete, the same as last year but 4 points ahead of the normal pace. Emergence was at or near completion in all States, except North Dakota and Pennsylvania. In Pennsylvania, however, the crop continued to lag behind normal. Twenty-nine percent of the crop was at or beyond the heading stage, 2 points ahead of last year and the 5-year average. Heading was just underway in most States, with the exception of Texas, where the crop is seeded in the fall.

Weather Data For Week Ending June 3, 2007

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - June 3, 2007					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	84	52	71	9	0.05	1	4.35	-2.72	22	447	136	917
Franklin	90	47	71	10	0.10	1	7.33	-0.41	28	478	174	970
Meadville	85	48	71	11	0.62	2	4.33	-3.20	29	497	233	979
Mercer	87	48	70	9	0.44	3	7.16	-0.42	27	474	161	958
Springboro	86	45	68	6	0.41	3	6.46	-0.24	36	386	62	839
Warren	88	45	68	8	0.42	2	6.77	-1.21	27	388	98	855
North Central												
Bradford Region	84	37	65	9	0.26	4	5.80	-2.09	33	316	129	731
Emporium	89	44	69	11	2.06	4	8.40	0.13	28	402	185	884
Kane	85	38	66	9	0.37	3	7.17	-1.03	30	280	98	696
Laporte	82	47	68	7	0.28	2	6.83	-0.92	29	342	32	783
Lock Haven	90	48	71	10	0.07	1	5.92	-1.35	22	507	160	1,001
Port Allegany	86	38	66	8	1.09	4	6.43	-0.97	29	315	84	744
Renovo	91	46	71	9	0.04	1	6.66	-0.61	23	500	153	993
Ridgway	86	41	67	9	0.81	4	7.60	-0.67	30	322	105	776
Stevenson Dam	89	45	69	11	0.09	3	5.63	-2.64	25	424	207	903
Towanda	90	45	69	8	0.20	2	5.00	-1.73	27	365	45	812
Wellsboro	85	43	66	9	0.96	3	6.86	0.79	24	320	128	744
Williamsport	93	48	73	10	0.20	2	4.65	-2.86	24	571	152	1,089
Northeast												
Hawley	88	43	68	10	0.23	3	7.23	-0.56	23	352	117	810
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	89	47	71	9	0.23	2	5.78	-1.23	23	502	128	999
Susquehanna	87	45	68	10	0.66	2	6.77	-1.27	27	363	147	819
West Central												
Butler	88	47	70	9	0.18	2	5.09	-2.61	25	480	144	970
New Castle	91	49	72	10	0.33	2	4.23	-2.69	23	525	194	1,026
Slippery Rock	91	49	71	11	1.28	2	6.90	-0.38	27	530	233	1,026
Central												
Altoona/Blair	88	51	71	9	0.74	4	4.89	-2.32	23	553	163	1,045
DuBois	86	49	69	8	0.46	3	7.48	-0.36	30	468	163	947
Lewistown	90	51	72	8	0.32	3	7.08	-0.39	21	548	99	1,052
Middletown	93	57	76	10	0.10	2	4.50	-3.42	17	684	168	1,213
Prince Gallitzi	89	42	68	9	0.52	3	5.64	-3.74	24	393	122	858
Selingsgrove	90	52	72	9	0.16	1	5.94	-1.58	21	478	91	973
State College	89	53	72	9	0.33	3	5.30	-1.63	23	579	206	1,077
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	90	50	73	8	1.03	2	8.44	0.33	22	570	122	1,080
Lehighton	90	49	71	7	0.75	2	7.04	-1.02	25	481	55	979
Matamoras	90	45	69	6	0.27	2	7.79	-0.83	22	399	38	881
Mt_Pocono	84	44	69	11	0.18	3	7.44	-1.59	28	395	210	846
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	87	58	74	12	0.17	2	5.81	-2.01	25	695	300	1,213
Derry	88	52	71	9	0.19	1	8.71	1.06	20	508	161	998
Myersdale	85	46	66	5	0.58	2	5.68	-2.96	25	337	1	782
Mount Pleasant	87	49	70	10	0.18	2	6.17	-2.61	27	496	211	997
Pittsburgh Intl	88	53	73	10	0.07	1	6.19	-0.91	23	642	216	1,155
Connellsville	91	56	73	10	0.61	2	6.26	-2.23	26	595	149	1,108
Waynesburg	87	54	71	9	0.58	2	5.35	-2.47	25	526	155	1,032
South Central												
Biglerville	93	55	74	8	0.75	3	6.03	-1.45	19	615	100	1,137
Everett	86	49	68	6	0.17	3	5.68	-1.60	21	392	21	874
Hanover	90	51	73	7	1.05	1	6.01	-1.47	16	582	67	1,095
Harrisburg_AP	92	54	75	9	0.04	2	3.49	-4.43	15	654	131	1,186
South Mountain	86	49	69	6	1.77	2	7.72	0.51	20	461	78	945
York	90	50	73	7	1.06	3	6.46	-1.27	21	566	41	1,086
Southeast												
Green Lane	91	52	73	10	0.67	3	9.77	1.72	24	581	165	1,092
Hamburg	93	51	74	11	1.27	3	10.17	0.93	21	615	266	1,132
West_Chester	91	50	72	7	0.43	2	11.46	2.84	17	553	50	1,060
Lancaster	91	53	74	9	0.21	2	6.38	-1.31	16	599	148	1,118
Neshaminy Falls	90	52	72	7	0.72	3	13.11	4.24	22	515	72	1,012
New Holland	91	57	75	10	0.26	2	7.06	-0.63	17	644	193	1,156
Philadelphia	90	60	76	9	0.52	2	11.74	4.01	17	734	168	1,276
Philadelphia NE	91	57	76	9	1.10	3	12.77	5.04	22	719	153	1,261
Reading	92	53	74	10	1.49	3	7.48	-1.18	20	642	214	1,164
Valley Forge Na	91	50	73	6	0.44	2	10.22	1.96	24	569	22	1,088
Willow Grove	90	56	74	9	0.00	0	9.65	0.78	19	634	191	1,151

DFN = Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation (rainfall or melted snow or ice) and pan evaporation in inches.

Precipitation days = days with precipitation of .01 inch or more.

Air temperatures in degrees fahrenheit.

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Internet Reporters' Comments, By County:

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

ADAMS COUNTY, Judy A Behney - Adams County's weather was very hot and humid last week. Some thunderstorms rolled through parts of the county Friday night with some areas getting rain and some not getting any. Rainfall amounts 2" of rain in the East Berlin area, 0.6" in Hunterstown area, in Gettysburg area 1.5", in Biglerville/Arendtsville 0.5" and York Springs had no rain. Saturday afternoon a shower was received in New Oxford, New Chester and Arendtsville. Sunday afternoon into Monday morning York Springs finally got 0.5" and Hunterstown received 0.3" of an inch. Cloudy conditions still remain this morning so hopefully we get a little more.

Corn and soybeans continue to be planted. With the recent moisture the corn and soybeans should have more emerging soon. What is emerged has grown since we got a little moisture. The soil is still extremely dry in some parts of the county due to the sporadic rainfalls. Hay continues to be made in the hot and humid weather. The hay crop is extremely short this year due to lack of rainfall.

The fruit crops continue to look good and the recent rainfall should be beneficial to the fruit crops also. Sweet corn is now starting to grow from the moisture also. Strawberries continue to be picked.

Overall nice week of weather but more rainfall would be beneficial to the crops and soil.

ADAMS COUNTY, Thomas Kerr - Dry week early with a few showers later. First cutting of hay has been completed. So far the hay has been of good quality. The corn is starting to look good and growing very well.

BUCKS COUNTY, Michael Fournier - Much needed rain from tropical storm on Sunday will really help corn and beans. Unfortunately, there was a good deal of hay down when pop-up thundershowers hit late last week. Hay quality has been good to this point. Corn planting about complete, many bean growers were waiting for some moisture before planting.

CAMBRIA COUNTY, Dolly Little - It has been a hot and dry this week with spotty rains in the county. Some areas of the county have not received rain for a month until this weekend. The hay crop is suffering from the lack of moisture and hot weather conditions.

CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker - Another good week for field work, we received 1 1/4 inches of rainfall.

COLUMBIA COUNTY, John O Yocum - We need rain!

CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS) - Overall the week was very productive. Quite a bit of haylage was chopped and some producers made dry hay. The rains were scattered throughout the weekend but overall it was a good work week. Pastures are still in good condition however rain is needed to keep them in a good vegetative stage.

FOREST COUNTY, Thomas Tanner (FSA) - Most spring planted crops are planted. Strawberries are being harvested. Many acres are haylage and dry hay made this week. The counties need rain.

FULTON COUNTY, Russ McLucas - Moisture stress coupled with lower than normal temps in May has dramatically lowered hay yields in this area.

LACKAWANNA COUNTY, John Esslinger - Some locations in Northeastern Pennsylvania received much need rain. Planting of vegetable crops proceeded nicely in the last week.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Andrew Frankenfield - This week was excellent for hay making, and then we got a good soaking rain. Crops look good. First corn planted is V5-V6 and side dressing will soon begin. Soybeans are still being planted, but first beans planted are in there first trifoliolate. Wheat is heading. Rye straw baling is nearly complete. Strawberries are being picked. As of Monday AM the county received a widespread inch of rain overnight and a total of 1.5-2.5" since Thursday.

SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer - Soil moisture continued to dry up with only hit and miss (mostly miss) showers during the week. The corn is showing very little growth; however, the stands are very good. The soybeans that were planted early are looking very good, while the later plantings are struggling to emerge. Haymaking is moving forward at a rapid pace due to the very dry air. The barley is turning color and will be ready to harvest in a few weeks. A good week for field activities. Hopefully, the tropical storm moving northward will bring some much needed rain.

TIOGA COUNTY, Pamela Barnes - Corn looks great! Weed control for the most part is very good. There was a very nice soaking rain over the weekend about a half inch. North of us very hard rain three to four inches.

WASHINGTON COUNTY, Chuck Shrump - Rain showers over this past weekend will help improve the dry field conditions. The producers that I have talked to tell me that their hay is near or slightly under what is normal for first cutting.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr (FSA) - Dry conditions with above normal temperatures is beginning to stress some of the newly planted crops. Hay harvest is going very well but yields are down because of the spring's early cold, wet conditions followed by the hot, dry second half of May.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending June 3, 2007

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Spring plowing	93	100	95
Corn, planted	94	93	87
Corn, emerged	75	78	69
Barley, turning yellow	38	55	46
Wheat, heading or headed	95	95	88
Oats, emerged	87	100	94
Soybeans, planted	78	76	66
Soybeans, emerged	47	38	35
Tobacco, transplanted	50	81	49
Potatoes, planted	95	98	92
Alfalfa, 1st cutting	66	65	50
Timothy clover, 1st cutting	27	19	19

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending June 3, 2007

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	0	2	32	51	15
Wheat	1	3	33	50	13
Oats	1	10	38	47	4
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand	0	5	35	47	13
Timothy clover stand	0	3	30	59	8
Quality of hay made	0	0	15	51	34
Pasture	4	14	31	43	8
Peaches	0	0	1	51	48
Apples	0	0	1	50	49

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