



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
2301 N Cameron St, Rm G-19 · Harrisburg, PA 17110
(717) 787-3904 · (717) 782-4011 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov

Week Ending November 4, 2007

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This report can be found on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/pa and click on "Pennsylvania Publications."

Good week for Field Work: The Keystone state experienced some very low temperatures this week. Nighttime temperatures got as low as 32 degrees in some areas of the state. The rain received from the previous week greatly improved the conditions of many Pennsylvania crops. Overall, 5 days were suitable for field work and principal farm activities included fall plowing, filling silos, mowing pastures, repairing equipment, making hay, baling fodder, liming fields, planting wheat and barley, and harvesting corn, soybeans, grapes, and apples.

and dry weather favored the harvest of spring crops and planting and emergence of winter wheat. Farther east, on the northern Great Plains, warmer than average temperatures and dryness aided fieldwork and development of winter wheat. Meanwhile, the eastern half of the central and southern Great Plains, received slightly cooler than normal temperatures and showers were evident, with central Oklahoma receiving 2 to 4 inches of rainfall. In the western Corn Belt, winter wheat emergence and spring crop harvest activities were aided by dry, warm conditions. Rain fell across much of the eastern United States, bringing needed drought relief to many areas. More than four inches were received in parts of the Tennessee Valley, Ohio Valley, Mississippi Delta, and the Mid-Atlantic region.

Corn: Seventy-three percent of the corn crop was harvested, 8 and 4 points ahead of last year and the five-year average, respectively. The corn harvest was complete in North Carolina and Tennessee, and was more than 95 percent complete in Illinois, Kentucky, and Texas. Meanwhile, harvest progress was lagging behind last year and normal in the Dakotas, Iowa, Michigan, and Pennsylvania. Elsewhere, producers were harvesting ahead of the normal pace.

Soybeans: Soybean harvest, at 84 percent, was 2 points ahead of last year but 1 point behind the normal pace. In North Carolina and the southern and eastern Corn Belt, harvest was at or ahead of the previous year's pace, with harvest more than 20 points ahead in Indiana, Missouri, and Ohio. When compared to normal progress, the western Corn Belt was at or behind the normal pace, as Nebraska, South Dakota, and Wisconsin lagged behind the 5-year average by 10 or more points.

Winter Wheat: Producers planted 88 percent of the wheat crop, 2 points behind last year and normal. When compared with last year's pace and the normal pace, Kansas, North Carolina, and the southern Great Plains States were lagging behind. In Idaho and Oregon, planting was lagging behind last year, but was at or ahead of normal. Meanwhile, planting progress was ahead of last year and normal in California, Montana, Washington, and in the western Corn Belt. Emergence, at 70 percent, was 1 point behind last year and 3 points behind normal. Due to the lag in planting, development was delayed in Kansas and the southern Great Plains. In California, wheat was developing behind last year and normal, although planting was not delayed. In Arkansas, Idaho, Nebraska, and Oregon, although development of the crop was lagging behind last year, the crop was developing at or ahead of the normal pace.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending November 4, 2007

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
16	19	61	4

Crops: Corn harvest is now 67 percent complete. This is 2 points higher than this time last year and 2 points lower than the five-year average. Harvesting of soybeans is still ahead of schedule, as 70 percent of the crop is now harvested. This is 4 points higher than this time last year and 16 points higher than the 5-year average. Ninety-three percent of the wheat crop has been planted. This is 1 point lower than this time last year and 3 points higher than the 5-year average. Seventy-seven percent of the planted wheat has now emerged. This is 4 points higher than this time last year and 6 points higher than the 5-year average. Ninety-eight percent of the barley crop has been planted, which is right in line with this time last year and the 5-year average. Eighty-eight percent of the planted barley has now emerged. This is 9 points behind this time last year and 6 points lower than the 5-year average. Sixty-nine percent of the hay made was in good or excellent condition as 91 percent of the fourth cutting of alfalfa has been completed.

Ninety-four percent of the apples have now been harvested, which is 6 points behind this time last year, and 1 point behind of the 5-year average. The grape harvest is looking really good as 90 percent of the crop has been harvested. The weather conditions have been wonderful for a great grape harvest!

Livestock: Pastures across the state are looking great because of the rain received last week. Twenty-two percent of the pastures are in good or excellent condition. Pasture conditions were reported as follows: very poor 19%, poor 21%, fair 38%, good 19%, and excellent 3%.

U.S. as of October 28, 2007: West of the Rocky Mountains, California suburban forest wildfires raged during the week, with limited effects on crops and rangeland. Elsewhere in the west, mild

Weather Data For Week Ending November 4, 2007

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - November 4, 2007					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	67	32	49	1	0.22	1	21.30	-5.63	70	3,215	578	5,202
Franklin	66	28	43	-3	0.08	1	22.94	-5.46	85	2,899	494	4,869
Meadville	63	28	45	1	0.06	1	20.31	-8.55	82	2,975	774	4,938
Mercer	64	26	43	-2	0.08	1	25.12	-1.86	80	2,872	491	4,835
Springboro	65	27	44	-4	0.18	1	24.87	-1.06	96	2,576	-3	4,510
Warren	67	28	43	-2	0.12	1	28.64	-0.19	84	2,664	344	4,611
North Central												
Bradford Region	63	22	40	-2	0.04	1	24.80	-3.74	91	2,065	410	3,903
Emporium	69	23	43	0	0.02	1	27.70	-0.42	80	2,701	816	4,668
Kane	65	21	39	-3	0.11	1	28.51	-0.75	82	2,065	451	3,910
Laporte	59	27	42	-4	0.08	1	26.27	-0.21	86	2,427	54	4,323
Lock Haven	64	25	45	-2	0.02	1	17.58	-8.36	64	3,202	676	5,196
Port Allegany	67	20	40	-3	0.04	1	23.13	-4.14	76	2,275	439	4,157
Renovo	70	25	45	-1	0.02	1	23.05	-2.89	70	3,048	522	5,034
Ridgway	67	21	41	-3	0.03	1	23.43	-4.69	82	2,348	463	4,250
Stevenson Dam	70	26	45	3	0.00	0	19.90	-8.22	72	2,890	1,005	4,869
Towanda	65	27	43	-3	0.07	1	20.58	-1.46	76	2,690	296	4,614
Wellsboro	63	25	42	-2	0.00	0	25.43	3.26	84	2,242	462	4,119
Williamsport	63	28	46	-2	0.00	0	19.50	-6.45	67	3,440	654	5,463
Northeast												
Hawley	66	26	42	-3	0.00	0	29.59	4.60	74	2,483	444	4,404
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	67	29	46	-1	0.01	1	27.23	3.02	65	3,177	536	5,168
Susquehanna	65	28	43	1	0.04	1	29.49	2.53	79	2,637	714	4,575
West Central												
Butler	66	25	43	-4	0.05	1	22.25	-4.35	79	2,868	372	4,836
New Castle	69	26	45	-1	0.04	1	22.00	-2.49	73	3,216	716	5,212
Slippery Rock	67	26	45	0	0.06	1	25.34	-0.86	79	3,075	836	5,070
Central												
Altoona/Blair	66	23	44	-3	0.00	0	21.86	-1.72	78	3,036	378	5,016
DuBois	65	27	43	-2	0.02	1	21.81	-4.96	92	2,800	523	4,747
Lewistown	67	28	46	-3	0.00	0	24.08	-1.18	70	3,281	359	5,297
Middletown	67	34	49	-1	0.00	0	26.21	1.09	62	3,946	629	6,001
Prince Gallitzi	69	22	40	-5	0.00	0	23.94	-6.11	71	2,515	386	4,443
Selinsgrove	65	30	45	-2	0.00	0	19.81	-6.49	63	3,236	522	5,239
State College	65	28	44	-2	0.00	0	20.09	-3.72	72	3,229	623	5,226
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	66	30	47	-2	0.00	0	27.28	0.06	73	3,512	487	5,535
Lehighton	59	30	44	-4	0.00	0	32.82	5.54	80	3,019	105	5,009
Matamoras	65	29	44	-3	0.00	0	30.81	3.31	72	2,771	162	4,739
Mt_Pocono	59	27	44	3	0.00	0	32.56	2.86	89	2,563	818	4,487
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	67	29	46	-1	0.05	2	22.52	-2.30	79	3,586	902	5,607
Derry	72	29	45	-2	0.06	1	32.99	7.27	71	3,030	503	5,014
Myersdale	68	18	39	-7	0.00	0	23.27	-4.89	76	2,322	-170	4,210
Mount Pleasant	68	26	43	-2	0.05	1	26.91	-2.49	76	2,914	660	4,892
Pittsburgh Intl	67	28	46	-2	0.04	1	21.88	-1.20	70	3,464	653	5,470
Connellsville	69	27	45	-4	0.05	2	27.83	0.63	87	3,413	544	5,428
Waynesburg	70	24	43	-3	0.04	1	24.34	-0.77	76	3,104	516	5,094
South Central												
Biglerville	65	32	47	-3	0.00	0	22.03	-2.00	62	3,600	357	5,641
Everett	66	22	42	-6	0.00	0	22.76	-0.44	74	2,597	-55	4,553
Hanover	67	28	46	-4	0.00	0	19.29	-4.74	60	3,553	310	5,579
Harrisburg_AP	68	32	48	-2	0.00	0	20.96	-4.16	51	3,839	512	5,892
South Mountain	63	27	43	-4	0.00	0	24.66	1.08	66	2,863	215	4,833
York	69	28	48	-2	0.00	0	23.50	-1.92	62	3,494	252	5,530
Southeast												
Green Lane	66	32	47	-1	0.00	0	28.43	2.04	68	3,555	673	5,586
Hamburg	65	32	47	2	0.00	0	29.30	-1.40	77	3,597	993	5,635
West_Chester	68	28	46	-5	0.00	0	32.15	3.40	65	3,460	232	5,477
Lancaster	65	31	47	-2	0.00	0	26.76	0.09	62	3,595	538	5,631
Neshaminy Falls	67	31	46	-3	0.00	0	34.77	4.48	69	3,345	331	5,356
New Holland	65	32	48	0	0.00	0	29.04	2.37	65	3,708	651	5,743
Philadelphia	69	38	52	2	0.00	0	27.13	1.51	58	4,292	735	6,370
Philadelphia NE	69	37	51	0	0.00	0	28.24	2.62	69	4,218	661	6,295
Reading	66	31	48	-1	0.00	0	26.71	-1.58	70	3,772	781	5,813
Valley Forge Na	68	28	47	-4	0.00	0	31.43	3.83	76	3,572	142	5,604
Willow Grove	66	35	50	3	0.00	0	28.56	-1.73	74	3,781	767	5,831

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 (FSA) - Adams County had a nice week of weather after the rainfall received last Friday. Daytime temperatures were 50-60's and nighttime temperatures were low 30's a few days this week with other days being 40-50 degrees. No rainfall was received this week and was sunny most days.

Corn and soybeans continue to be harvested. Some corn and soybeans that were still green last week got hit by frost the beginning of this week when nighttime temps dipped to 30 degrees. Barley seeded for the 2008 crop has pretty much been completed and is now emerging since the rainfall last week and sun this week. Wheat continues to be planted. What had been planted within the last month finally emerged due to moisture we received and the sunny days this week. Some hay continues to be made this week also.

Apple harvest is close to being completed. Another week for the bigger producers and it will be completed. Quality was an issue as far as size of apples and also a lot of sunburn damage due to hot and sunny days this growing season. These apples are more or less cooked on the trees and brown mushy inside.

Overall the producers in the county are still plenty busy with harvesting the crops that we have. The weather conditions this week felt more like fall than any of the past weeks weather that we have had.

ADAMS COUNTY, Thomas Kerr - Cool, dry fall weather. A combination of soybeans and shelling corn were the major activities. Yields for corn and beans are better than expected, but not exceptional. Some late alfalfa was cut for forage since there has not been a freeze yet. Apple harvest is winding down with only a few big growers left to finish. Yields vary, but most are what producers expected.

BUCKS COUNTY, Michael Fournier (EXT) - Wheat looks good. Last week's rains really made it jump out of the ground, even though some was planted late. Corn and soybean harvest continues at a good pace. Yields are above average for many farms.

CAMBRIA COUNTY, Dolly Little (FSA) - Corn and soybean harvesting continues. We finally received a killing frost last week a number of times. Seasonal weather has finally hit the county.

CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker - Very dry, we need rain.

CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS) - Combines were busy this weekend doing corn and soybeans in anticipation of upcoming bad weather. Some producers were making the last haylage for the year and trying to finish up cover cropping on corn silage fields.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY, John Rowehl - After a good soaking rain the week before, soil moisture was ample. Corn harvesting resumed quite quickly despite the wet soil. Grain moisture is quite low, saving some drying costs. Late in the week after some drying days, soybean harvest resumed. Soils just began to dry out enough to work by Wednesday to plant wheat or cover crop. Still lots of C&S to get out of the field.

DAUPHIN COUNTY, Paul H. Craig (EXT) - First frosts of the year put an end to unusual long growing season. Many producers taking a final cutting of forage, grain harvest proceeding and small grain and cover crop planting is in a hurry.

Mold growing on remaining corn ears is reported across the area. Some crop targeted for picking is now being combined to minimize mycotoxin risks. Corn and beans remaining unharvested is still standing fairly well and harvesting is progressing well.

LANCASTER COUNTY, Jeffrey Graybill - With the recent rains, cover crops and small grains are starting to fill in and look good.

LANCASTER COUNTY, Burell Whitworth Jr - Some slight showers last week, but field work was not affected very much. Farmers continued harvesting corn, soybeans and 5th cutting of hay. Cover crops and winter grain are showing good progress.

POTTER COUNTY, Dave Stratton - High moisture corn is being harvested and they are reporting some very good yields. Ground moisture continues to be low.

SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer - The growing season came to an end with heavy widespread frost nearly every morning. The corn and soybean harvest is progressing toward completion. The winter grain and alfalfa stands are looking good since the rains; however, there are spots of chickweed showing up and will need to be sprayed. The main activities for the week were corn and soybean harvest.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr (FSA) - The county had the first frost of the season this week with several mornings well below freezing. Corn and soybean harvests are continuing with excellent yields being reported.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending November 4, 2007

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fall plowing	79	80	77
Corn, harvested	67	65	69
Barley, planted	98	98	98
Barley, emerged	88	97	94
Wheat, planted	93	94	90
Wheat, emerged	77	73	71
Soybeans, harvested	70	66	54
Alfalfa, 4th cutting	91	95	90
Apples, harvested	94	100	95
Grapes, harvested	90	97	96

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending November 4, 2007

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Wheat	0	1	36	47	16
Quality of hay made	0	6	25	45	24
Pasture	19	21	38	19	3

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