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Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup

Week Ending June 13, 2004

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This report can be found on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/pa

Average week for Field Work: There were 4 days suitable for field work. Soil moisture was rated as 58 percent adequate and 42 percent surplus. Principal farm activities included planting spring crops, cutting the first hay crop, spreading fertilizer, spreading manure, applying herbicides and pesticides, and repairing fences and machinery.

Crops: The corn crop in Pennsylvania is currently 94 percent planted, which is behind last year at 79 percent, and ahead of the 5-year average of 92 percent. Corn emergence, at 86 percent complete, is ahead of last year at 67 percent, and close to the 5-year average of 85. Corn is at an average height of 20 inches across the state, and is rated at 2 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 29 percent excellent. Winter wheat progress reached 42 percent yellow, compared to 4 percent last year and 19 percent for a 5-year average. The winter wheat crop was rated as 1 percent very poor, 13 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 49 percent good and 13 percent excellent. Barley turning yellow reached 90 percent last week, which is greater than last year's 46 percent and ahead of the 5 year average of 76 percent. Barley is 30 percent ripe, as compared to this week last year, barley was just on the verge of ripening, while the five year average is 25 percent. Oats is currently 27 percent headed, opposed to just 8 percent in 2003, but close to the five year average of 28 percent. Oats condition is 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 52 percent good and 7 percent excellent. Soybeans are 79 percent planted, compared to 58 percent in 2003 and 79 percent for a 5-year average. Soybeans emerged are 62 percent, which is ahead of last year at 43 percent, but behind the 5-year average of 66 percent. Soybeans condition is rated statewide at 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 61 percent good, and 20 percent excellent. Tobacco transplanted is 87 percent complete, compared to 29 percent last year, and 74 percent for the five year average. Alfalfa first cutting is 74 percent complete, compared to 45 percent last year and 66 percent for a 5-year average. Alfalfa stand last week was rated as 1 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 54 percent good and 18 percent excellent. The timothy clover stand was rated 1 percent very poor, 3 percent

poor, 25 percent fair, 60 percent good and 11 percent was excellent. Cutting on the timothy clover hay is 37 percent complete, compared with 17 percent last year and 34 percent for a 5-year average. The quality of the hay made is 2 percent very poor, 16 percent poor, 46 percent fair, 31 percent good, and 5 percent excellent.

Peach condition is rated as 2 percent poor, 5 percent fair, 77 percent good, and 16 percent at excellent. Apple condition is rated as 4 percent fair, 85 percent good, and 11 percent excellent.

Livestock: During the last week, the weather conditions have pasture land in Pennsylvania rated at 3 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 55 percent good and 14 percent excellent.

U.S. As of June 6, 2004: Temperatures were below normal across the Corn Belt, slowing crop development. Light to moderate precipitation in most areas of the region limited fieldwork. In the middle and northern Atlantic Coast States, temperatures were below normal, while light to moderate precipitation helped to improve pasture conditions.

Corn: Ninety-five percent of the crop had emerged, 7 percentage points ahead of last year and 5 points ahead of normal. **Soybeans:** Planting advance to 85 percent complete, compared with 81 percent last year and 84 percent for the 5-year average. Emergence, at 70 percent, was 15 points ahead of last year and 7 points ahead of normal. **Winter Wheat:** Ninety-one percent of the crop was at or beyond the heading stage, 4 points ahead of last year and the average. Growers had harvested 12 percent of the crop, 6 points ahead of last year and 5 points ahead of normal. Ninety-two percent of the barley crop had emerged, the same as last year but 4 points ahead of normal. Emergence of oats advanced to 96 percent complete, the same as last year but 2 points ahead of normal. Heading, at 10 percent complete, was 4 points ahead of last year and the 5-year average. In Pennsylvania, 21 percent of the crop emerged during the week, bringing total emergence to 98 percent.

Weather Data For Week Ending June 13, 2004

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - June 13, 2004					GDD Base 40F Total
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	
Northwest												
Eric	86	50	69	4	0.21	3	9.97	1.48	38	693	219	1,257
Franklin	91	45	67	2	0.99	2	12.99	3.67	46	676	215	1,260
Meadville	88	46	66	4	1.39	3	10.47	1.40	42	633	226	1,187
Mercer	87	38	63	-2	0.80	3	10.72	1.57	34	532	64	1,073
Springboro	87	47	67	2	1.25	3	14.51	6.46	46	614	124	1,157
Warren	89	41	65	0	0.60	3	15.53	5.85	45	622	179	1,190
North Central												
Bradford Region	85	33	62	2	0.32	4	11.27	1.62	48	543	249	1,076
Emporium	89	41	65	5	0.34	3	10.83	0.99	43	674	336	1,256
Kane	82	32	57	-4	0.25	2	11.58	1.70	37	300	12	777
Laporte	85	43	63	-2	0.11	2	11.95	2.61	47	559	96	1,107
Lock Haven	90	47	66	2	0.06	1	12.77	3.92	35	779	267	1,426
Port Allegany	86	38	62	1	0.42	1	11.34	2.11	39	552	198	1,086
Renovo	91	44	66	0	0.34	2	9.67	0.82	36	748	236	1,365
Ridgway	86	39	61	-1	0.80	2	13.65	3.81	37	546	208	1,085
Stevenson Dam	89	44	65	5	0.30	3	11.18	1.34	41	707	369	1,307
Towanda	92	43	64	-1	0.04	2	9.02	1.06	37	688	213	1,279
Wellsboro	86	42	63	3	0.49	3	11.87	4.36	39	535	231	1,078
Williamsport	91	46	67	0	0.69	4	10.67	1.69	47	821	222	1,478
Northeast												
Hawley	87	40	62	0	0.26	2	10.39	1.27	34	549	183	1,099
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	88	44	66	-1	0.23	2	10.56	2.21	34	741	194	1,367
Susquehanna	92	41	65	4	0.44	3	10.62	1.15	36	682	341	1,285
West Central												
Butler	87	47	66	2	1.57	3	12.01	2.78	43	690	193	1,274
New Castle	90	49	68	3	1.12	3	11.26	2.99	37	757	262	1,352
Slippery Rock	89	47	67	4	1.06	3	12.78	3.96	47	723	280	1,328
Central												
Altoona/Blair	87	51	66	0	0.84	2	11.89	3.34	38	770	205	1,371
DuBois	85	41	63	-2	1.43	4	14.42	4.93	51	661	204	1,233
Lewistown	90	50	67	-2	1.80	3	12.45	3.46	38	818	183	1,465
Middletown	91	54	70	-1	1.15	2	11.05	1.79	32	966	238	1,650
Prince Gallitzi	88	48	65	2	1.88	4	14.28	3.46	39	673	264	1,244
Selinsgrove	92	47	66	0	0.62	2	11.49	2.42	38	777	212	1,412
State College	89	49	65	-1	0.77	2	10.05	1.73	34	785	237	1,401
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	91	47	67	-2	0.38	1	8.68	-0.71	33	833	188	1,499
Lehighton	89	46	66	-3	0.46	3	12.10	2.71	37	738	124	1,376
Matamoras	90	43	64	-2	0.41	2	8.17	-1.76	33	597	64	1,189
Tobyhanna	90	43	64	4	0.43	3	15.06	4.61	44	603	305	1,174
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	86	54	69	3	0.90	3	11.05	1.94	39	895	328	1,529
Derry	86	52	68	3	1.46	4	14.74	5.77	45	766	255	1,378
Myersdale	83	48	64	-2	2.05	3	13.40	3.46	34	604	107	1,164
Mount Pleasant	85	52	68	5	0.79	2	11.48	1.15	29	773	342	1,376
Pittsburgh Intl	87	55	70	4	1.06	3	11.39	3.08	37	924	317	1,556
Rector	87	49	68	5	0.75	2	14.32	3.99	48	785	354	1,400
Waynesburg	87	53	68	3	2.42	4	12.90	3.85	40	790	249	1,399
South Central												
Biglerville	89	50	66	-5	1.52	4	14.38	5.69	38	867	143	1,521
Everett	87	49	64	-3	0.88	3	11.15	2.76	35	636	95	1,202
Hanover	90	50	68	-2	1.05	2	13.91	5.22	32	915	191	1,573
Shippensburg	91	48	69	-2	1.49	3	13.22	4.70	33	935	198	1,590
South Mountain	85	47	65	-2	0.89	2	15.40	6.85	29	737	179	1,334
York	88	51	68	-2	0.90	3	13.19	4.00	35	893	159	1,558
Southeast												
Green Lane	95	50	68	1	0.28	2	9.43	0.28	35	945	343	1,634
Hamburg	92	47	67	1	0.25	3	9.55	-1.33	39	844	324	1,509
Hopewell	91	50	68	-4	0.69	3	12.02	2.56	44	855	88	1,522
Lancaster	91	50	68	-2	1.03	2	11.41	2.40	38	896	249	1,571
Neshaminy Falls	94	53	69	0	0.23	2	10.60	0.43	33	918	277	1,599
New Holland	91	49	67	-2	0.74	3	10.53	1.52	37	889	242	1,550
Philadelphia	92	56	70	0	0.87	2	11.42	2.49	34	1,050	262	1,746
Philadelphia NE	92	55	70	-2	0.09	2	10.62	1.69	34	998	210	1,691
Reading	91	50	68	-1	0.34	2	9.68	-0.45	36	910	288	1,589
Valley Forge Na	95	48	69	-3	0.51	2	9.94	0.48	32	907	140	1,576
Willow Grove	91	52	69	1	0.07	2	7.49	-2.68	35	940	299	1,628

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.

CAMBRIA COUNTY, Dolly Little (FSA) – I saw some oats fields that were headed in the northern part of the county. This week again, was a very wet week. It's been impossible to get hay made.

CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker – The rains continued with 1" in my gauge for the week. We need sunshine for haymaking and field work.

DAUPHIN COUNTY, Paul H. Craig (EXT) – Still challenge to get sufficient drying weather for dry hay. Haylage producers starting to begin second cutting while many first cuttings are still unharvested. Excellent looking corn crop that is beginning to really grow tall. Diseases are moving into the wheat crop. Head scab and now glume blotches are popping up all over the place. Barley harvest should begin this week in many areas.

FAYETTE COUNTY, Don Fretts (EXT) – Rain showers mid and late week prevented a good week of hay harvest.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr (FSA) – Another wet, cool week; however, we did get a few days to finish the corn planting and a start on the barley harvest. Hay making was a challenge as well this week. Barley delivered to the local mills has been average to less than average yield with light test weight. The wheat crop is suffering from Fusarium Head Blight. It gets worse as you progress toward the Maryland state line. In the affected fields the yields are expected to be reduced by as much as 30-40 percent. Fruit is still looking good at this time, but June drop in peaches has been unusually heavy.

FULTON COUNTY, Russ McLucas – Wheat is really taking a hit from disease pressure. Probably every disease known to man and few as yet unnamed out there this year.

HUNTINGTON COUNTY, Marina Kemper – Another 3 inches of rain on Friday 6/11. Got a little hay made early in the week, but with all this rain, fields will be too wet for several days now. All the grass hays are way past time now, this is just like last year all over again.

JUNIATA COUNTY, Dave Stetler – Another week, another two inches of rain; those problem wet spots are still wet.

LANCASTER COUNTY, Axel Linde – Amazing

how fast corn, beans, weeds, hay can grow when the conditions are like they are. Some of the earliest corn is over 5 feet tall. Some pastures are extremely mature while others are ready for the fourth grazing

SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer – The corn and soybeans made significant growth this week as a result of warmer and drier conditions; except, for the heavy rains on Thursday and Friday. Good haymaking weather at the beginning of the week. Second cutting of alfalfa is showing some promise. The barley is near ready for harvesting, while the wheat is in jeopardy of a loss due to disease. Activities included, haymaking, spraying herbicides and insecticides, corn planting and sowing of soybeans.

TIOGA COUNTY, Pamela Barnes – A good week to be in the field. Crop planting is finally making good progress. Hay is being made and haylage is being chopped. Grass hay fields that were cut early are ready to be mowed again. Some are overly mature. Alfalfa fields appear to have good quality. Corn emergence looks very good. Late plantings are already up and growing. Normal field work is commencing; plowing, fertilizing, spreading, disking, planting. Pastures are lush and green. Lots of feed for livestock currently.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY, Eric Oesterling (EXT) – Some localized hail damaged crops.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr (FSA) – Several hot, dry days during the first half of the week allowed for some of the season's first dry hay to be baled. Rain Thursday and Friday stopped field activity for the week. With more rain this week, progress on the hay harvest continues to lag well behind normal. Growing crops generally are making excellent progress with adequate moisture and temperatures.

YORK COUNTY, Wayne Kurtz (FSA) – Unfavorable weather pattern is still in place for hay harvest and small grain progress. A few acres of barley was harvested with moisture at 12%, low test weight at 41 and green straw. Wheat diseases are appearing and will have significant impact on yields and discounts. Corn and soybeans are progressing well with early plantings showing the best appearance to date.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending June 13, 2004

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, planted	94	79	92
Corn, emerged	86	67	85
Corn average height, inches	20	5	9
Barley, turning yellow	90	46	76
Barley, ripe	30	0	25
Wheat, turning yellow	42	4	19
Oats, heading or headed	27	8	28
Soybeans, planted	79	58	79
Soybeans, emerged	62	43	66
Tobacco, transplanted	87	29	74
Alfalfa, 1st cutting	74	45	66
Timothy clover, 1st cutting	37	17	34

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending June 13, 2004

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	16	53	29
Wheat	1	13	24	49	13
Oats	1	4	36	52	7
Soybeans	1	2	16	61	20
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand	1	5	22	54	18
Timothy clover stand	1	3	25	60	11
Quality of hay made	2	16	46	31	5
Pasture	3	3	25	55	14
Peaches	0	2	5	77	16
Apples	0	0	4	85	11

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