



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup

For The Week Ending June 22, 2003

Poor week for Field Work: There was 1 day suitable for field work. Soil moisture was rated as 19 percent adequate and 81 percent surplus. Principal farm activities included planting corn, soybeans, and potatoes; cutting hay, maintaining machines; caring for livestock; spraying herbicides and pesticides and fixing fences.

Crops: It has now been six weeks in a row where there have been limited days that the farmers could get in the fields and do any work. Farmers reported that the continuing rain limited the amount of planting they could accomplish. Corn planted was rated at 82 percent, 15 percent behind last year and 17 percent behind the five-year average. The percent of corn emerged is 72 percent, 19 percent behind last year and 23 percent behind the five-year average. Corn height increased to 9 inches, 8 inches behind last year and 7 inches behind the five-year average. The condition of corn was rated 5 percent very poor, 15 percent poor, 39 percent fair, 33 percent good and 8 percent excellent. Soybean planting is rated at 62 percent complete, 24 and 29 percent behind last year and the five-year average, respectively. Soybeans emerged is rated at 49 percent emerged, 27 percent behind last year and 36 percent behind the five-year average. Soybean condition was rated 4 percent very poor, 10 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 38 percent good and 11 percent excellent. The percent of winter wheat turning yellow increased to 29 percent, 33 percent below last year and 37 percent below the five-year average. Wheat condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 56 percent good and 10 percent excellent. The percent of barley turning yellow was rated 86 percent, 6 and 8 percent below last year and the five-year average, respectively. The percent of barley ripe was rated 8 percent, 64 percent behind last year and the five-year average. Tobacco transplanted increased to 45 percent, 55 percent behind last year and 50 percent behind the five-year average. With the continued rains, the hay conditions remained poor. The quality of hay made was rated 28 percent very poor, 30 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 17 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Fifty-eight percent of the first cutting of alfalfa was completed, 28 percent behind last year and 27 percent behind the five-year average. Twenty-two percent of the first cutting of timothy clover was completed, 33 and 35 percent behind last year and the five-year average, respectively.

Livestock: The rain continued to fall for most of the week but there were some days with sun which has kept the pasture conditions favorable. One percent of the pasture land was rated very poor, 8 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 50 percent good and 24 percent excellent.

Fruit & Vegetable: Weather conditions continue to be favorable for fruit tree growth. Peach tree conditions were rated 18 percent fair, 80 percent good and 2 percent excellent. Apple tree

conditions were rated at 4 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 67 percent good and 12 percent excellent.

U.S. As Of June 17, 2003: Highlights: Warm and dry weather conditions continued in the Pacific Northwest, which resulted in irrigating some crops earlier or more than normal. In northern California, the warm and dry conditions accelerated crop development after a wetter and cooler than normal spring. Temperatures remained above freezing in the northern Rocky Mountains, enhancing crop development. Widely scattered showers in the Great Plains delayed spraying and stopped some growers from planting. Severe weather moved across most of the southern Great Plains and Delta States, providing beneficial precipitation for crop development. Soil moisture levels were mostly adequate in the central Great Plains. Rain fell across the Corn Belt with the heaviest showers occurring in the central and eastern portions. This precipitation along with warm temperatures promoted growth and crop development. Fieldwork and crop development were delayed by continued wet conditions across the Southeast and along the Atlantic Coastal Plains. Corn: Ninety-six percent of the crop was emerged, the same as last year but 2 percentage points behind the 5-year average. Rain in the southern Great Plains was beneficial to fields that were not damaged by hail and wind. Fields quickly emerged in Pennsylvania due to warm weather conditions, but emergence remained well behind their 5-year average. Fields also quickly emerged in Michigan, South Dakota, and Wisconsin, despite below-normal temperatures. Virtually all fields were emerged in the western Corn Belt and adjacent areas of the Great Plains. Rain continued in the middle Mississippi Valley and Ohio Valley, which caused standing water in some fields. Soybeans: Eighty-nine percent of acreage was planted, 2 percentage points behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average. Planting advanced more than 10 points in Arkansas, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, and Tennessee. However, progress is still slightly behind normal in the eastern Corn Belt and well behind normal in Louisiana, North Carolina, and Tennessee. Emergence, at 79 percent, was 1 point behind last year and 5 points behind the average. The crop rapidly emerged in the Great Lakes region and Dakotas. However, most States remained behind their 5-year average emergence pace. Ninety-four percent of the crop was at the heading stage or beyond, and 13 percent was harvested. Acreage headed or beyond was 2 percentage points ahead of last year but 1 point behind the 5-year average. Conditions deteriorated in central and eastern Corn Belt due to wet weather conditions. Small grains: The barley crop was 98 percent emerged, the same as last year and 1 percentage point ahead of the 5-year average. The oat crop was at 17 percent headed or beyond, 1 percentage point behind last year and 4 points behind the average. The oat crop was most advanced in Nebraska and Ohio, where 69 and 41 percent were headed, respectively. The cool, wet conditions delayed growth and development in Iowa and Pennsylvania.

Weather Data For Week Ending June 22, 2003

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						April 1, 03 - June 22, 03					GDD BASE 40F TOT
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
NORTHWEST												
Erie	74	50	63	-5	0.66	5	9.50	-0.21	37	556	-57	1207
Franklin_AG	79	49	62	-5	0.84	5	12.70	+1.99	54	524	-69	1221
Meadville	79	48	62	-3	0.42	5	11.75	+1.34	40	513	-15	1198
Mercer	80	41	60	-6	0.51	3	11.75	+1.20	37	451	-146	1123
Springboro	78	46	61	-7	1.27	5	14.11	+4.85	46	462	-167	1108
Warren	80	49	62	-5	0.62	5	11.38	+0.24	44	492	-78	1158
NORTH CENTRAL												
Bradford_Region	76	42	58	-4	0.50	4	11.43	+0.26	46	384	-2	1005
Emporium	81	47	62	-2	1.10	4	11.07	-0.16	49	539	+97	1239
Kane	76	41	56	-7	0.59	3	11.54	+0.20	41	205	-175	738
Laporte	74	45	59	-8	3.31	5	12.84	+2.17	47	386	-206	1007
Lock_Haven	82	50	64	-4	1.90	4	11.51	+1.29	49	645	-4	1366
Port_Allegany	78	43	60	-4	1.00	5	9.53	-1.24	40	389	-69	1011
RenoVo	83	49	63	-5	1.48	4	11.35	+1.13	50	605	-44	1321
Ridgway	79	49	62	-2	0.58	3	10.10	-1.13	42	410	-32	1072
Stevenson_Dam	82	48	62	-2	1.26	5	12.55	+1.32	54	520	+78	1218
Towanda	77	45	61	-6	2.41	5	12.76	+3.77	55	472	-134	1137
Wellsboro	77	42	59	-5	1.91	3	11.48	+2.78	44	380	-23	1002
Williamsport_AP	81	47	64	-6	3.07	4	12.44	+2.16	47	678	-69	1399
NORTHEAST												
Hawley	77	42	60	-5	3.32	4	11.70	+1.47	38	388	-89	1052
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	79	46	63	-6	4.52	3	13.45	+3.89	44	620	-71	1314
Susquehanna	79	44	63	-2	3.36	5	14.72	+4.02	40	554	+104	1226
WEST CENTRAL												
Butler	83	48	63	-5	1.14	6	12.52	+2.00	50	624	-8	1353
New_Castle	84	49	65	-3	0.40	2	12.62	+3.13	38	667	+36	1403
Slippery_Rock	83	44	63	-3	0.43	5	13.29	+3.13	44	628	+62	1356
CENTRAL												
Altoona/Blair_C	78	51	63	-6	0.97	4	11.94	+2.21	57	616	-92	1317
Du_Bois	79	50	60	-7	0.62	4	11.73	+0.85	50	520	-63	1199
Lewistown	81	54	65	-5	1.52	4	11.71	+1.46	45	710	-80	1441
Middletown	80	53	66	-7	1.86	5	14.73	+4.34	49	764	-139	1500
Prince_Gallitzi	78	52	63	-3	1.33	5	12.33	+0.17	46	548	+23	1221
Selinsgrove	79	53	64	-6	2.31	4	10.50	+0.12	48	609	-104	1324
State_College_P	77	53	63	-5	2.20	4	12.14	+2.61	51	648	-43	1362
EAST CENTRAL												
Allentown-Bethl	81	50	65	-6	4.05	5	12.74	+2.28	49	679	-128	1397
Lehighton	80	49	63	-7	4.90	5	15.53	+5.07	52	568	-201	1265
Matamoras	77	44	60	-8	2.66	5	12.69	+1.60	45	423	-253	1084
Tobyhanna	86	48	63	+0	4.23	5	17.17	+5.51	47	594	+196	1292
SOUTHWEST												
Pittsburgh/Alle	79	52	64	-5	2.98	5	13.79	+3.62	49	826	+115	1588
Derry	79	53	64	-4	0.73	3	13.45	+3.33	45	682	+36	1397
Meyersdale	75	50	60	-8	1.76	5	16.29	+5.18	50	406	-224	1061
Mount_Pleasant	78	51	64	-2	1.37	4	13.87	+2.13	50	677	+123	1411
Pittsburgh_Intl	81	51	64	-5	0.98	4	12.30	+2.89	47	812	+55	1569
Rector	81	53	63	-3	1.53	5	14.04	+2.30	44	672	+118	1399
Waynesburg	78	51	65	-4	3.18	5	16.72	+6.51	49	725	+44	1474
SOUTH CENTRAL												
Biglerville	80	54	64	-8	2.31	5	17.99	+8.24	56	709	-188	1443
Everett	80	54	65	-3	1.42	5	16.20	+6.83	54	623	-59	1342
Hanover	81	55	65	-7	1.82	5	14.55	+4.80	45	726	-171	1458
Shippensburg	83	56	65	-6	1.87	5	16.20	+6.60	47	769	-138	1510
South_Mountain	78	53	62	-7	2.39	5	20.25	+10.52	50	528	-173	1206
York_AP	80	54	65	-7	2.46	5	13.57	+3.10	49	738	-167	1470
SOUTHEAST												
Green_Lane	89	46	67	-3	3.51	3	16.63	+6.49	44	744	-12	1478
Hamburg	83	49	64	-4	3.75	5	14.32	+2.13	46	666	+3	1384
Hopewell	81	48	64	-9	3.07	4	14.33	+3.79	43	618	-330	1320
Lancaster_AP	82	50	66	-6	2.55	4	12.87	+2.63	43	696	-115	1423
Neshaminy_Falls	84	49	66	-5	2.48	5	13.99	+2.64	45	702	-104	1425
New_Holland	81	49	64	-7	4.56	5	16.25	+6.01	45	673	-138	1394
Philadelphia	84	54	69	-5	2.88	4	14.51	+4.44	39	919	-50	1674
Philadelphia_NE	82	49	66	-7	2.39	3	14.08	+4.01	41	787	-182	1524
Reading_AP	82	53	66	-5	3.60	5	12.74	+1.37	45	734	-48	1456
Valley_Forge_Na	84	49	65	-8	2.67	5	16.13	+5.59	43	623	-325	1334
Willow_Grove	80	48	65	-7	2.28	3	11.14	-0.21	38	716	-90	1438

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).
 Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) and Pan Evap in inches.
 Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.
 Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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INTERNET REPORTERS' COMMENTS, BY COUNTY:

*Reporters are from Extension Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service,
Farm Service Agency, farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.*

"Rain again off and on throughout the week kept farmers out of the fields. There are only a few farmers that have made any dry hay. Most of the first cutting has been taken off as silage or baleage. Corn fields are starting to show growth."

- Ron McCorkle, Crawford County

"Apples are falling from trees due to stem rot. IT is so wet, hay that hasn't been harvested for haylage is headed and the quality is more than likely to be poor once able to harvest. Corn, oats and many vegetable crops are turning yellow due to excess moisture. The counties moisture fall this year is greater than last year rain fall. It has been impossible to make dry hay."

- Thomas Tanner, Forrest County

"Conditions improved slightly during the past week with a few sunny days, but soil moisture was still marginal for corn planting. Some farmers were getting it in but it wasn't pretty. Other farmers were talking about switching to shorter season corn to still give it a try. Even getting the hay off fields that were already cut muddied up the fields."

- Wes Ramsey, Warren County

"Rain - rain - rain has come our way once again slowing corn growth and hampering hay cutting. Will we see summer? Over 2 1/2 inches of rain since Friday. Haylage that has been cut is too wet to put in the silo. Hay keeps growing but the ground is too wet to run equipment over without making tracks. Barley is starting to head out despite the weather conditions. Oat crop is growing where fertilizer was applied and reaching maturity. Praying for sun and warmth to make hay in the coming week."

- Pamela Barnes, Tioga County

"Excessive rainfall is damaging fields of corn, wheat, tomatoes, and assorted vegetables. Tree fruit crops still looks to have the potential to have a good crop."

- Lackawanna County

"Another wet week, 3+ inches of rain fell Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The creeks reached flood stage and many low lying fields had large pools of water on them. The quality of hay that will be made this year will be very poor. It will be several days with dry weather before anyone can get back into most fields."

- Willie Keeney, Susquehanna County

"The percent of corn and beans planted increased greatly this week without any being planted. That is due to many growers, especially grain growers (not silage) deciding to not plant due to seven weeks of rain!"

- Brad Wise, Butler county

"Again, it rained most of the week. Hay was cut but only the hay that was wrapped as forage or put in the silo was made. The hay will soon be too mature and the quality will be poor. The oats fields are yellow. Many of our farmers are giving up planting corn while others are hoping that they will get those last fields planted."

- Dolly Little, Cambria County

"Two more inches of rain. We need a dry sun filled week."
- Dick Decker, Centre County

"Too wet now, 3.5 inches of rain last week. A lot of corn and beans still remain to be planted. Getting close to the end of the window of opportunity unfortunately."
- Paul H. Craig, Dauphin County

"Still more RAIN!! It is so wet now it would take a month to get in to most of our fields. We have never seen it this wet here before."

- M.K., Huntington County

"We have had 3" of rain this past week. Another week without any field work done. We are getting desperate for dry days. Have decided not to plant any more corn this year, getting too late in the season. I noticed the cherries on our tree have rotten spots and are still green."

- Northumberland County

"More of the same wet conditions. Many producers will now be opting not to plant remainder of corn and soybeans. Corn height and wet fields will soon restrict the application of much-needed nitrogen side dressing. Many fields will also need additional weed-control measures. Early-planted sweet corn under plastic is short and maturing quickly."

- John Lohr, Westmoreland County

"Weather has been the major problem all spring and this week was no exception. Rain and wet mornings has prevented any quality hay making. Lots of hay has been cut in anticipation of drying weather, but just cannot get it to cure. Poor quality hay and other factors has caused milk production to fall this spring. Most of the early season corn has been planted around the wet spots, however corn normally going in after first cutting of hay has been delayed or will not get planted. Soybeans are behind in planting as well. Barley harvest should start this week but with much of it flattened by the rains and wet fields, it will be difficult to get the full crop harvested."

- Thomas Kerr, Franklin County

"This is beginning to get beyond frustrating. Sure is one for the record books."

- Russ Mclucas, Fulton County

"Only about 50% of the corn ground has been planted due to the rain - another 3" last week. Many farmers are now considering taking advantage of the prevented planting provision of their insurance policies. Even if it does not rain at all this week, most fields will still be too wet to get into by week's end. This is shaping up to be worse than a drought year."

- Fournier, Bucks County

"Very wet week but some did venture into the field to try to catch up. Some corn, tobacco, and soybeans were planted. Hay was cut. Some areas had over 7 inches of rain for the week making everything extremely wet."

- Bob Anderson, Lancaster County

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending June 22, 2003

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>		
Corn, planted	82	97	99
Corn, emerged	72	91	95
Corn, height (inches)	9	17	16
Barley, yellow	86	92	94
Barley, ripe	8	72	72
Winter wheat, yellow	29	62	66
Oats, headed	35	63	62
Soybeans, planted	62	86	91
Soybeans, emerged	49	76	85
Tobacco, transplanted	45	100	95
Alfalfa, 1 st cutting	58	86	85
Timothy clover, 1 st cutting	22	55	57

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending June 22, 2003

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>				
Corn	5	15	39	33	8
Winter wheat	1	5	28	56	10
Oats	5	17	36	36	6
Soybeans	4	10	37	38	11
Quality of Hay Made	28	30	23	17	2
Pasture Conditions	1	8	17	50	24
Peaches	0	0	18	80	2
Apples	4	4	13	67	12

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