



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup

For The Week Ending June 29, 2003

Excellent week for Field Work: There were 6 days suitable for field work. Soil moisture was rated as 2 percent short, 74 percent adequate and 24 percent surplus. Principal farms activities included planting corn, soybeans, vegetables and oats; making haylage, baylage and dry hay; spraying herbicides; spreading manure; spreading lime and fertilizer; caring for livestock; building and fixing fences;

Crops: Finally there has been a week of sunshine and farmers being able to get field work done. Farmers reported this was the first week that they could really make dry hay. Corn height increased to 15 inches, 9 inches behind last year and the five-year average. The condition of corn was rated at 3 percent very poor, 10 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 42 percent good and 15 percent excellent. Soybean planting was rated at 77 percent, 18 percent behind last year and the five-year average. Soybeans emerged increased to 60 percent, 24 percent behind last year and 30 percent behind the five-year average. Soybean condition was rated at 3 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 35 percent fair, 47 percent good and 10 percent excellent. The percent of winter wheat turning yellow is 78 percent, 10 percent behind last year and 9 percent behind the five-year average. Wheat condition was rated at 2 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 57 percent good and 6 percent excellent. The percent of barley turning yellow is rated 87 percent, 10 percent behind last year and the five-year average. The percent of barley ripe jumped to 62 percent, 24 and 23 percent behind last year and the five-year average respectively. The percent of barley harvested increased to 24 percent, 38 percent behind last year and 41 percent behind the five-year average. Tobacco transplanted is rated at 85 percent, 15 percent behind last year and 13 percent behind the five-year average. With the extended sunshine hay conditions improved. The quality of hay made was rated at 8 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 36 percent good and 15 percent excellent. Seventy-six percent of the first cutting of alfalfa was completed, 15 percent behind last year and the five-year average. Seven percent of the second cutting of alfalfa was completed, 28 percent behind last year and 25 percent behind the five-year average. Forty-eight percent of the first cutting of timothy clover was completed, 25 percent behind last year and 23 percent behind the five-year average.

Livestock: The sun decided to shine for most of the week which has the pasture conditions favorable. Three percent of the pasture land was rated poor, 16 percent fair, 52 percent good and 29 percent excellent.

Fruit & Vegetable: Weather conditions continue to be favorable for fruit tree growth. Peach tree conditions were rated at 4 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 12 percent fair, 59 percent good and 17

percent excellent. Apple tree conditions were rated at 4 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 43 percent good and 25 percent excellent.

U.S. As Of June 23, 2003: Highlights: Dry weather conditions continued in the Pacific Northwest early in the week, but cooler temperatures were well received later in the week. In California, seasonal warm, dry conditions continued to accelerate crop development. Above-normal temperatures advanced growth and development in the northern Great Plains and upper Mississippi Valley. Topsoil moisture levels were above normal for all reporting States except New Mexico. Severe weather across most of the Delta, Southeast, and Atlantic Coast States caused localized flooding in low-lying areas. Fieldwork and crop development were delayed by continued wet conditions across the Southeast and along the Atlantic Coastal Plains. High winds and widely scattered showers in the Great Plains delayed spraying and stopped some growers from planting. Wet weather hampered harvest in the central Great Plains. Drier conditions across the Corn Belt promoted crop development and fieldwork activities. Corn: Most fields were emerged, but few were entering the reproductive stages. Development ranged from barely emerged in eastern Ohio Valley to nearly waist-high in the Tennessee Valley. More than 25 percent of the crop had reached the silking stage in Tennessee. Silking advanced slightly ahead of last year but behind the 5-year average in Missouri. Warm weather and adequate soil moisture promoted rapid growth and improved conditions in parts of the Great Plains and Mississippi Valley, while surplus soil moisture and cool temperatures deteriorated conditions in the Atlantic Coastal Plain. Soybeans: Ninety-four percent of acreage was planted, 2 percentage points behind last year and the 5-year average. Emergence, at 88 percent, was 2 percentage points behind last year and 3 points behind normal. Progress in most of the States east of the Mississippi River was behind last year and the 5-year average with planting well behind average in Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio and Tennessee. Winter Wheat: Ninety-eight percent of the crop was at the heading stage or beyond, and 25 percent was harvested. Acreage headed or beyond was 3 percentage points ahead of last year and 1 point ahead of the 5-year average. Harvest progress trailed last year's 31-percent pace and 33-percent 5-year average pace. Above-normal temperatures early in the week influenced maturity in the Intermountain Region. Small grains: The barley crop was 22 percent headed, compared to 13 percent last year and 20 percent for the 5-year average. Forty-one percent of the oat crop was headed, ahead of last year and slightly ahead of the 5-year average. In Pennsylvania, one-fourth of the crop headed during the week, but heading remained almost 3 weeks behind normal due to cool, wet weather conditions.

Weather Data For Week Ending June 29, 2003

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						April 1, 03 - June 29, 03					GDD BASE 40F TOT
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	
NORTHWEST												
Erie	90	53	72	+4	0.07	1	9.57	-1.07	38	712	-33	1433
Franklin_AG	87	51	69	+2	0.07	1	12.77	+0.92	55	658	-60	1425
Meadville	88	56	71	+5	0.08	1	11.83	+0.37	41	660	+16	1415
Mercer	86	43	66	-2	0.06	1	11.81	+0.18	38	564	-155	1306
Springboro	88	48	69	-1	0.04	1	14.15	+3.92	47	594	-166	1310
Warren	90	50	70	+3	0.00	0	11.38	-0.87	44	629	-63	1365
NORTH CENTRAL												
Bradford_Region	86	41	64	+2	0.00	0	11.43	-0.92	46	486	+10	1177
Emporium	91	49	70	+6	0.00	0	11.07	-1.28	49	678	+135	1448
Kane	84	40	62	-2	0.00	0	11.54	-0.92	41	288	-181	891
Laporte	87	54	70	+3	0.05	1	12.89	+1.17	48	530	-186	1221
Lock_Haven	93	54	72	+4	0.00	0	11.51	+0.24	49	804	+25	1595
Port_Allegany	88	46	67	+3	0.00	0	9.53	-2.44	40	508	-49	1200
Renovo	92	53	71	+3	0.01	1	11.36	+0.09	51	754	-25	1540
Ridgway	88	44	66	+2	0.00	0	10.10	-2.25	42	523	-20	1255
Stevenson_Dam	91	51	69	+6	0.00	0	12.55	+0.20	54	656	+113	1424
Towanda	90	53	70	+3	0.07	1	12.83	+3.07	56	615	-115	1350
Wellsboro	88	48	69	+5	0.02	1	11.50	+1.86	45	511	+12	1203
Williamsport_AP	92	54	72	+3	0.00	0	12.44	+1.17	47	834	-54	1625
NORTHEAST												
Hawley	91	51	68	+3	0.25	2	11.95	+0.88	40	518	-67	1252
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	90	55	71	+3	0.06	1	13.51	+3.04	45	770	-57	1534
Susquehanna	93	54	71	+7	0.00	0	14.72	+3.07	40	705	+149	1447
WEST CENTRAL												
Butler	89	49	69	+1	0.00	0	12.52	+1.02	50	758	-2	1557
New_Castle	91	50	70	+2	0.04	1	12.66	+2.19	39	809	+48	1615
Slippery_Rock	90	51	70	+4	0.02	1	13.31	+2.10	45	767	+85	1565
CENTRAL												
Altoona/Blair_C	88	51	70	+1	0.00	0	11.94	+1.30	57	758	-86	1529
Du_Bois	85	49	68	+2	0.00	0	11.73	-0.20	50	649	-55	1398
Lewistown	92	54	73	+3	0.00	0	11.71	+0.48	45	873	-62	1674
Middletown	92	58	75	+2	0.09	1	14.82	+3.59	50	940	-127	1746
Prince_Gallitzi	88	48	68	+3	0.00	0	12.33	-0.88	46	675	+39	1418
Selinsgrove	93	55	72	+3	0.01	1	10.51	-0.91	49	766	-87	1551
State_College_P	89	56	73	+5	0.01	1	12.15	+1.71	52	813	-13	1597
EAST CENTRAL												
Allentown-Bethl	93	56	74	+3	0.20	1	12.94	+1.60	50	851	-108	1639
Lehighton	91	54	72	+1	0.33	2	15.86	+4.50	54	721	-193	1488
Matamoras	92	55	72	+3	0.32	1	13.01	+1.00	46	577	-235	1308
Tobyhanna	95	55	74	+11	0.20	1	17.37	+4.73	48	763	+269	1531
SOUTHWEST												
Pittsburgh/Alle	90	54	71	+3	0.00	0	13.79	+2.74	49	976	+130	1808
Derry	87	51	70	+2	0.00	0	13.45	+2.41	45	821	+47	1606
Meyersdale	85	46	63	-5	0.00	0	16.29	+4.19	50	501	-254	1226
Mount_Pleasant	86	49	68	+2	0.05	1	13.92	+1.11	51	806	+136	1610
Pittsburgh_Intl	88	53	71	+1	0.10	1	12.40	+2.08	48	958	+60	1785
Rector	88	47	67	+2	0.13	1	14.17	+1.36	45	794	+124	1591
Waynesburg	88	50	68	-1	0.00	0	16.72	+5.60	49	856	+43	1675
SOUTH CENTRAL												
Biglerville	91	55	74	+2	0.04	1	18.03	+7.51	57	879	-178	1683
Everett	90	51	69	+1	0.00	0	16.20	+6.06	54	756	-60	1545
Hanover	91	54	73	+0	0.00	0	14.55	+4.03	45	887	-170	1689
Shippensburg	94	58	75	+3	0.00	0	16.20	+5.76	47	944	-120	1755
South_Mountain	85	53	69	+0	0.01	1	20.26	+9.62	51	663	-174	1411
York_AP	91	53	73	+0	0.07	1	13.64	+2.19	50	899	-164	1701
SOUTHEAST												
Green_Lane	99	55	76	+6	0.04	1	16.67	+5.74	45	925	+23	1729
Hamburg	93	56	75	+6	0.13	1	14.45	+1.18	47	840	+40	1628
Hopewell	91	56	73	-1	0.00	0	14.33	+2.93	43	783	-332	1555
Lancaster_AP	91	58	75	+4	0.05	1	12.92	+1.70	44	872	-91	1669
Neshaminy_Falls	100	58	78	+7	0.03	1	14.02	+1.66	46	901	-58	1694
New_Holland	92	57	75	+4	0.06	1	16.31	+5.09	46	850	-113	1641
Philadelphia	97	62	79	+6	0.00	0	14.51	+3.53	39	1126	-13	1951
Philadelphia_NE	95	55	78	+4	0.02	1	14.10	+3.12	42	985	-154	1792
Reading_AP	91	56	74	+3	0.08	1	12.82	+0.47	46	905	-28	1697
Valley_Forge_Na	95	54	74	+1	0.00	0	16.13	+4.73	43	794	-321	1575
Willow_Grove	92	58	76	+5	0.00	0	11.14	-1.22	38	900	-59	1692

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.

Copyright 2003: Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc. All rights reserved.

INTERNET REPORTERS' COMMENTS, BY COUNTY:

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

"Finally some hot and dry weather. Farmers were busy making hay and planting fields that have recently dried out. Forage quality is fair at best. Most of the dairy farmers have completed first cutting and are working on second. Beef producers are using the good weather to make dry round bales."

- Ron McCorkle, Crawford County

"The weather was cooperating. Many acres of corn, oats, soybean and new seedings were planted. Throughout Venango, Forest, Warren, and Clarion Counties many acres of hay were harvested. Many farmers were trying to harvest, plant and spray crops. The strawberries were late riping, and appears to be an excellent crop with some berry rot. Some reports of strawberry plants and cranberries freezing from winter and damage to other vegetable crops from May and June rainstorms."

- Thomas Tanner, Forrest County

"Finally, we had a good week of weather to allow the completion of corn planting and we saw our first dry hay of the season baled. Crops are way behind normal development due to prolonged wet weather and forage harvesting is way behind timely harvesting."

- Wes Ramsey, Warren County

"It was a very good week for making dry hay and haylage. Some producers finished planting on their wetter fields. Ground continues to dry out but some fields are still too wet to farm."

- David Stratton, Cameron County

"Field work is in full swing this week although producers are carefully choosing where they attempt to make hay or do any type of fieldwork. Corn has jumped with the hot and muggy weather we experienced this week. Hopefully we are not in a repeat of 2002."

- Sherri Butters, Tioga County

"Finally, sunshine. The corn crop is showing improvement with the much needed sunshine. Lots of late corn being planted this week. A lot of hay being harvested. However the wet ground conditions are making this a tough job. The talk in the coffee shops are how much longer can a person plant corn and expect a good crop? What else can I plant?"

- Willie Keeney, Susquehanna County

"The bright sunny days without the hint of rain enabled farmers to put dry hay in the barns this week. Other optimistic and hopeful farmers finished planting corn and soybeans. The extreme western edge of Pennsylvania did not receive the excessive rainfall that most parts of the state received and the warm sunny days proved that the soils can dry quickly. While soils here have adequate moisture to grow crops, timely adequate rainfall will still be needed to harvest high corn and soybean yields this fall."

- J. Lee Miller, Beaver County

"The tractors were running this week, night and day. Between finishing planting the corn and soybeans, many wagons of hay came off the fields. The farmers were busy trying to catch up on their field work. What didn't get planted, probably won't. Many are reporting that they didn't get planted what they intended. The wheat is looking good and just beginning to turn yellow. The oats does not look as great, the fields are yellow."

- Dolly Little, Cambria County

"We gave up planting corn this year, just too late. We are going to try planting sorgun-surdangrass instead. Starting to get some hay made, on the high land, but low land is still too wet."

- M.K., Huntington County

"Finally it is drying out. Must finish planting beans and will mow down the first field of timothy Monday."

- Viola Pfleeger, Northumberland Co.

"Some farmers has given up on planting all their corn. Hay making all week."

- Leonard Cottom, Fayette County

"Finally hot and dry conditions that allowed for hay baling and final corn and soybean planting. Some corn and soybean fields are being replanted because of poor stands. Early-planted sweet corn could be ready by end of next week."

- John Lohr, Westmoreland County

"The weather cooperated this week in allowing normal summer field work. Much of the week was spent catching up with manure hauling, corn planting and hay making. Best week of the spring for making hay. Few acres of early barley harvested early in the week, and most got started by Sat. Quality is light, but moisture is down to 12 or better."

- Thomas Kerr, Franklin County

"An 'extended period without rain' found producers operating at high speed attempting to catch up on all phases of field work. Temperatures soared into the 90's and hay making began in earnest. Some corn planting was completed with additional acreage shifted to soybeans throughout the county. There will be unplanted acreage in northern county areas. Barley harvest began at week's end. Test weights are low, falling into the upper 30's. Yields are off with initial reports stating 70 bu/ac. tops."

- D. Wayne Kurtz, York County

"Finally a week of sunshine and what a difference it made. Everything looks green and is finally growing. Tractors and horses were in the field everywhere, harvesting hay and barley, planting soybeans, tobacco, and corn. Most corn plants doubled in size. Corn planting is nearing completion."

- Bob Anderson, Lancaster County

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending June 29, 2003

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>		
Corn, height (inches)	15	24	24
Barley, yellow	87	97	97
Barley, ripe	62	86	85
Barley, harvested	24	62	65
Winter wheat, yellow	78	88	87
Oats, headed	63	70	80
Soybeans, planted	77	95	95
Soybeans, emerged	60	84	90
Tobacco, transplanted	85	100	98
Alfalfa, 1 st cutting	76	91	91
Alfalfa, 2 nd cutting	7	35	32
Timothy clover, 1 st cutting	48	73	71

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending June 29, 2003

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>				
Corn	3	10	30	42	15
Winter wheat	2	7	28	57	6
Oats	2	16	43	31	8
Soybeans	3	5	35	47	10
Quality of Hay Made	8	9	32	36	15
Pasture Conditions	0	3	16	52	29
Peaches	4	8	12	59	17
Apples	4	6	22	43	25

PENNSYLVANIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE
 2301 North Cameron Street, Room G-19
 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110-9405
 OFFICIAL BUSINESS
 PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300

RESORTED FIRST-CLASS MAIL POSTAGE & FEES PAID USDA PERMIT NO. G-38
