



Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service

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Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup

Week Ending July 4, 2004

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Excellent week for Field Work: There were 6 days suitable for field work. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent very short, 10 percent short, 69 percent adequate and 20 percent surplus. Principal farm activities included cutting 2nd hay crop, spreading fertilizer, spreading manure, applying herbicides and pesticides, harvesting barley and wheat, repairing fences and machinery, and baling straw.

Crops: Corn silking was 15 percent complete, which was slightly ahead of last year and the 5-year average of 2 percent. Corn was at an average height of 51 inches statewide, and was rated 1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 43 percent good, and 39 percent excellent. Winter wheat progress reached 97 percent yellow, compared to 81 percent last year and 91 percent for the 5-year average. Winter Wheat ripe increased considerably last week to 74 percent due to the hot, dry weather, compared to 8 percent in 2003, and the 5-year average of 47 percent. The winter wheat harvest began and was 33 percent complete, with 1 percent last year and 11 percent for a 5-year average comparatively. The winter wheat crop condition improved and was rated as 2 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 54 percent good and 8 percent excellent. Barley was 98 percent ripe, compared to 84 percent ripe last year, and the 5-year average of 87 percent. Barley was 85 percent harvested, while last year barley was 64 percent harvested, and the 5-year average is 76 percent. Oats were 87 percent headed, compared with 77 percent in 2003, and 85 percent for the 5-year average. Oat condition was 2 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 49 percent good and 11 percent excellent. Soybeans emerged were 95 percent, which was ahead of last year at 69 percent, and ahead of the 5-year average of 90 percent. Soybean condition improved and was rated 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 11 percent fair, 66 percent good, and 20 percent excellent. Alfalfa first cutting was 88 percent complete, compared to 86 percent last year and 93 percent for a 5-year average. Alfalfa second cutting was 38 percent complete, compared to 18 percent last year, and 42 percent for the 5-year average. Alfalfa stand was rated as 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 55 percent good and 21 percent excellent. Cutting of the timothy clover hay was 74

percent complete, compared with 65 percent last year and 77 percent for the 5-year average. The timothy clover stand was rated 1 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 53 percent good and 14 percent was excellent. The quality of the hay made was 4 percent very poor, 12 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 38 percent good, and 15 percent excellent.

Peach harvest began last week, and was 5 percent complete, which is ahead of last year, and slightly ahead of the 5-year average of 2 percent. Peach condition was rated as 1 percent poor, 9 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 46 percent excellent. Apple condition was rated as 9 percent poor, 26 percent fair, and 64 percent good and 1 percent excellent.

Livestock: During the last week, the pasture condition in Pennsylvania was rated at 4 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 45 percent good and 22 percent excellent.

U.S. As of June 27, 2004: Below-normal temperatures and mostly dry conditions dominated across the Corn Belt and northern and central Great Plains, encouraging winter wheat harvest but limiting summer crop development. Temperatures were also below normal in the southern Great Plains, but light to moderate precipitation fell across the region. In the Mississippi Delta, heavy rainfall continued to limit fieldwork, while moderate to heavy precipitation across the Southeast further eased soil moisture concerns. Temperatures were below normal in the Rocky Mountains, with light to moderate precipitation. Along the Pacific Coast and in the Northwest, hot weather promoted maturation of winter grains and development of spring-sown crops. Corn silking advanced to 9 percent complete, 5 percentage points ahead of last year and the 5-year average. Soybeans were ninety-five percent of the Nation's soybean acreage had emerged, compared with 91 percent last year and 94 percent for the 5-year average. Blooming, at 7 percent complete, was 5 points ahead of last year and 1 point ahead of normal. Winter wheat growers had harvested 51 percent of their acreage, 12 points ahead of last year and 10 points ahead of normal. Oat heading, at 53 percent complete, was 5 points behind last year and 2 points behind normal.

Weather Data For Week Ending July 4, 2004

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - July 4, 2004					GDD Base 40F Total
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	
Northwest												
Erie	81	54	67	-3	0.30	2	11.59	0.32	50	1,047	182	1,821
Franklin	85	49	67	-3	0.34	1	15.59	2.89	56	1,019	187	1,813
Meadville	83	50	66	-3	0.36	1	12.76	0.51	52	959	210	1,723
Mercer	86	43	63	-6	0.26	2	13.65	1.25	43	812	-18	1,563
Springboro	85	50	67	-4	0.79	2	16.49	5.56	57	966	86	1,719
Warren	85	47	65	-4	1.06	2	18.91	5.89	58	941	138	1,719
North Central												
Bradford Region	80	40	61	-3	0.71	3	13.70	0.53	63	792	232	1,535
Emporium	84	46	65	-1	0.24	1	12.45	-0.75	50	1,013	377	1,805
Kane	78	38	58	-7	0.34	1	13.85	0.61	46	474	-78	1,158
Laporte	80	47	63	-7	0.42	2	15.10	2.64	57	852	23	1,610
Lock Haven	87	49	67	-3	0.15	1	15.67	3.65	44	1,146	248	2,003
Port Allegany	83	45	63	-3	0.56	2	13.07	0.27	50	839	192	1,583
Renovo	85	51	67	-4	0.22	1	12.03	0.01	45	1,120	222	1,947
Ridgway	83	45	63	-3	0.17	1	16.17	2.97	44	827	191	1,576
Stevenson Dam	85	50	66	1	0.46	2	13.01	-0.19	52	1,061	425	1,871
Towanda	84	50	66	-3	0.23	1	10.62	0.29	46	1,044	201	1,845
Wellsboro	80	47	63	-3	0.37	2	13.65	3.32	48	831	243	1,584
Williamsport	86	52	68	-4	0.19	2	13.01	1.00	57	1,228	214	2,095
Northeast												
Hawley	81	46	63	-4	0.13	1	11.60	-0.06	39	853	168	1,613
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	83	52	67	-5	0.28	2	12.23	1.07	44	1,119	168	1,955
Susquehanna	84	50	67	1	0.15	1	12.64	0.32	43	1,048	396	1,861
West Central												
Butler	85	49	66	-4	0.46	4	15.91	3.68	56	1,032	157	1,826
New Castle	88	49	67	-3	0.29	1	13.95	2.74	44	1,134	256	1,939
Slippery Rock	88	50	68	0	0.39	3	16.07	4.12	57	1,094	306	1,909
Central												
Altoona/Blair	88	51	67	-4	0.32	1	13.10	1.80	45	1,145	180	1,956
DuBois	81	49	64	-4	0.32	1	16.50	3.87	60	975	163	1,757
Lewistown	89	52	69	-4	0.38	2	13.95	1.97	45	1,232	167	2,089
Middletown	88	57	72	-3	0.44	2	12.72	0.87	39	1,451	237	2,345
Prince Gallitzi	83	48	64	-4	0.30	1	16.78	2.75	45	997	260	1,778
Selingsgrove	87	50	68	-3	0.06	1	12.93	0.78	46	1,184	205	2,029
State College	84	54	68	-3	0.16	1	11.55	0.43	40	1,179	232	2,005
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	88	53	70	-4	0.13	1	10.83	-1.18	41	1,276	179	2,152
Lehighton	84	52	67	-6	0.46	2	14.19	2.15	47	1,119	73	1,967
Matamoras	83	50	65	-6	0.14	1	9.91	-2.80	39	944	9	1,746
Tobyhanna	85	45	65	0	0.29	3	16.92	3.56	56	936	352	1,717
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	85	54	69	-2	0.13	1	13.88	2.15	48	1,295	328	2,139
Derry	84	51	66	-4	0.37	1	18.31	6.54	55	1,125	235	1,947
Myersdale	82	45	63	-7	0.14	2	14.33	1.42	43	906	37	1,676
Mount Pleasant	85	51	67	-2	0.48	1	15.60	2.02	37	1,147	371	1,960
Pittsburgh Intl	86	53	69	-3	0.47	1	14.39	3.40	45	1,336	313	2,178
Rector	87	47	66	-2	0.39	1	17.81	4.23	56	1,157	381	1,982
Waynesburg	87	51	67	-3	0.69	2	15.57	3.78	50	1,172	239	1,991
South Central												
Biglerville	87	55	71	-4	0.18	2	18.73	7.71	45	1,312	112	2,176
Everett	85	45	64	-7	0.38	1	12.31	1.58	41	942	6	1,718
Hanover	88	53	70	-4	0.24	1	17.18	6.16	38	1,368	168	2,236
Shippensburg	90	53	71	-3	0.21	1	14.89	3.83	39	1,392	190	2,257
South Mountain	82	50	67	-4	0.26	1	17.16	5.86	35	1,098	140	1,905
York	87	52	70	-4	0.10	1	13.67	1.55	38	1,337	134	2,212
Southeast												
Green Lane	95	54	73	2	0.22	1	12.01	0.43	42	1,439	405	2,338
Hamburg	88	53	70	-2	0.52	2	11.36	-2.76	48	1,273	348	2,148
Hopewell	88	55	71	-5	0.47	3	14.64	2.55	54	1,306	42	2,183
Lancaster	86	54	71	-3	0.34	2	14.96	2.96	45	1,352	252	2,237
Neshaminy Falls	92	56	72	0	0.59	2	12.63	-0.55	41	1,406	310	2,297
New Holland	87	55	71	-2	1.45	2	14.59	2.59	44	1,343	243	2,214
Philadelphia	91	62	75	0	0.22	2	14.23	2.56	42	1,576	285	2,482
Philadelphia NE	91	58	74	-2	0.46	2	11.81	0.14	42	1,517	226	2,420
Reading	87	55	71	-3	0.38	1	13.40	0.33	42	1,371	302	2,260
Valley Forge Na	95	50	71	-5	0.03	1	11.34	-0.75	39	1,344	80	2,223
Willow Grove	88	59	73	1	0.47	2	8.74	-4.44	42	1,427	331	2,325

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.

Berks County, Theresa Tracey (FSA) - Another great week for field work. Corn crop looks good. Wheat harvest should be complete this week. Wheat crop also looks good.

Bucks County, Michael Fournier (EXT) - Rain has been very spotty. Some corn fields starting to suffer.

Cambria County, Dolly Little (FSA)- This was the first week that you could actually make and bale hay. Potatoes have really greened up and are in blossom.

Centre County, Dick Decker - Good week for field work. Top soil moisture good but could use a shower for crops. No measured rainfall.

Franklin County, Thomas Kerr (FSA) - Weather is finally coming around to summer conditions. Excellent crop of corn at this time in the county. Rain has been sporadic in the past few weeks and a few farms are in need of rain to help set crop. Hay made this week was excellent. Harvest of barley finished and wheat is now looking good. Fruit is still in good conditions. Cherry harvest is winding down.

Lackawanna County, John Esslinger (EXT) - Vegetable crops continue to develop. Cool nights slowed down what was thought to be advanced maturity. Irrigation of plasticulture crops is intensively underway.

Mercer/Lawrence Counties, D. Earl Smith (FSA) - No rain this week! Lots of hay being made this week. Crop spraying being completed. Corn very uneven with corn in southern Lawrence tasseling to corn 2" tall. Soybeans all look good, they don't appear to be affected by the wet weather. Wheat just starting to be taken off.

Potter/McKean/Cameron, David Stratton (FSA) - A very good week for haymaking. Hot humid weather has made the crops grow extremely well.

Snyder County, William C. Sheaffer - This was a good week, a lot of dry hay was made, especially second cutting. The barley harvest has been completed and it won't be very long until the wheat will be ready. The corn and soybeans have made very good progress this past week. The main activities were haymaking, spraying, baling straw, and completing the seeding of soybeans.

Washington County, Tom Sierzega (NRCS) - First dry week of the season allowed for some hay making catch up. Early planted corn and soybeans excellent. Top soil moisture dry.

Westmoreland County, John Lohr (FSA) - Another good week for harvesting. Good progress made with both first and second cuttings of hay. Wheat harvest has begun with no quality problems reported yet. The early sweet corn planted under plastic is ready for sale just ahead of the holiday weekend.

York County, Wayne Kurtz (FSA) - Barley harvest is winding down and wheat harvest shifted to high gear with 50% complete. Harvest of over mature hay continued with near ideal conditions. Green bean harvest began making this acreage available for double cropping soybeans. Corn and soybean plantings are good as of now.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending July 4, 2004

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, silk	15	0	2
Corn average height, inches	51	23	30
Barley, ripe	98	84	87
Barley, harvested	85	64	76
Wheat, turning yellow	97	81	91
Wheat, ripe	74	8	47
Wheat, harvested	33	1	11
Oats, heading or headed	87	77	85
Oats, turning yellow	17	4	26
Soybeans, emerged	95	69	90
Alfalfa, 1st cutting	88	86	93
Alfalfa, 2nd cutting	38	18	42
Timothy clover, 1st cutting	74	65	77
Peaches, harvested	5	0	2

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending July 4, 2004

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	1	3	14	43	39
Wheat	2	9	27	54	8
Oats	2	9	29	49	11
Soybeans	1	2	11	66	20
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand	1	4	19	55	21
Timothy clover stand	1	5	27	53	14
Quality of hay made	4	12	31	38	15
Pasture	4	6	23	45	22
Peaches	0	1	9	44	46
Apples	0	9	26	64	1

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