

2009 Crop & Weather Summary: The average monthly temperature for January was 25.9 degrees. January recorded a precipitation of 1.92 inches. February temperatures were above normal as the monthly average was 34.2 degrees. It was a drier dry February with an average of 0.65 inches of precipitation, which is 2.23 inches below normal. March had near normal temperatures. The average monthly temperature was 41.9 degrees. Average rainfall for the month was at 1.25 inches, which was 2.33 inches below normal.

In April, the average temperature for the month was 53.5 degrees, which was 1.4 degrees above normal. The reported precipitation average for the state was 3.69 inches, which is 0.38 inches above normal. On average, 14 days were suitable for field work for the month, which led to delays in plowing and planting. Producers were able to get only 50 percent of the plowing finished by the month's end. Approximately 7 percent of the corn acreage was planted in April. Temperatures were fairly normal in the month of May, with an average temperature of 62.5 degrees. Pennsylvania had a wet month of May, with an average of 6.99 inches of rainfall. This is 2.39 inches above normal. Nineteen days were suitable for fieldwork for the month. Roughly 85 percent of corn acreage and 57 percent of the soybean acreage had been planted by the end of the month. Producers were well into the first cutting of alfalfa hay and had a good start for timothy clover. June temperatures were around normal, as the average temperature was 70.2 degrees. The rainy weather continued into June. An average of 6.14 inches of rain fell across the state of Pennsylvania, which was 2.15 inches wetter than normal. Transplanting tobacco was almost completed during June. Most producers finished planting their corn and soybean acreage during the month, while others were well into the harvest for barley. As some farmers were completing the first cutting of alfalfa, others already had a good start on the second cutting.

The temperature in July averaged 73.0 degrees, which is 2.9 degrees below the average. There was 3.20 inches of precipitation, which is close to normal. Crop conditions continued to do very well throughout the month of July. The barley harvest was completed, and nearly all of the wheat acreage was harvested during the month. The added moisture aided corn progress, as the average corn stalk height was above last year. The average August temperature was 75.4 degrees, which was 1.4 degrees above normal. The average precipitation for August was 4.84 inches, which is 1.60 inches above normal for the month. Tobacco harvest was advancing slower than the previous year and the 5 year average. Potatoes on the other hand were progressing ahead of the average. Peach and apple harvests continued steadily. Most producers were well on their way to completing their third cutting of alfalfa and second cutting of timothy clover. September was cooler than August, with an average temperature of 65.7 degrees, which is close to normal. September, however, had less rain than August. The precipitation total for the month was 3.95 inches, which is also close to normal. Corn harvesting for both grain and silage were the main activities for the month. Operators were behind in these tasks as compared to historic trends. The tobacco harvest was near completion by the end of the month, while producers also worked on harvesting potatoes, peaches, apples, and grapes. Producers neared the completion of the fourth cutting of alfalfa as well as the second cutting of

timothy clover. Barley and wheat were also planted during the month.

October average temperatures were 53.3 degrees, which is 1.2 degrees less than normal. The precipitation total for the month was 6.10 inches, which is 3.04 inches above normal.

Producers nearly finished harvesting their corn for silage and continued harvesting corn for grain, with 32 percent of the state's acreage harvested by month's end. The potato harvest was completed by the end of the month, and the soybean harvest was 33 percent complete by the beginning of the next month. November had an average temperature of 48.1 degrees, which was 3.8 degrees above normal. The precipitation total for the month was 1.61 inches, which is 1.92 inches below normal. Producers wrapped up their fourth cutting of alfalfa during the month while continuing to harvest corn and soybeans. Farmers also were preparing equipment for the next growing season.

Small Grains: Production of winter wheat was 9,800,000 bushels, 17.2 percent less than 2008. There were 175,000 acres harvested in 2009, 10,000 acres less than in 2008. Yield was 56 bushels per acre in 2009, down 8 bushels per acre from 2008. There were 4,880,000 bushels of oats produced in 2009, up 5.2 percent from 2008. Harvested acreage was at 80,000 in 2009, the same as in 2008. Yield was 61 bushels per acre in 2009, an increase of 3 bushels per acre from 2008. Barley production for 2009 was 3,375,000 bushels, down 18.2 percent from 2008. Harvested acreage was at 45,000, down 10,000 acres from 2008. Average yield was 75 bushels per acre, the same as in 2008.

Hay: Production of all dry hay in 2009 was 3,655,000 tons, down 155,000 tons from 2008. Total acres were harvested were 1,550,000 in 2009, down 200,000 acres from 2008. Yield was 2.36 tons per acre, up 8.3 percent from 2008. Alfalfa hay production was 1,450,000 tons, down 12.1 percent from 2008's production. Alfalfa acreage harvested was 500,000, down 50,000 acres from 2008. Yield was 2.90 tons per acre, down 3.3 percent from 2008. Other hay production was 2,205,000 tons, up 2.1 percent from 2008. Other hay acreage harvested was 1,050,000, down 150,000 acres from 2008. Yield was at 2.10 tons per acre, up 16.7 percent from the previous year.

Row Crops: Corn for grain production was 131,560,000 bushels, up 12.4 percent from 2008. Harvested acres amounted to 920,000 acres, up 40,000 acres from 2008. Yield was 143 bushels per acre, up 10 bushels from 2008. Corn for silage production was 8,190,000 tons, down 1.6 percent from 2008. Acres harvested totaled 420,000 acres, down 6.7 percent from 2008. Yield was 19.5 tons per acre, up 1 ton per acre from 2008. Soybean production for 2009 was 20,470,000 bushels, up 19 percent from 2008. Harvested soybean acreage was at 445,000, up 15,000 acres from 2008. Yield was 46 bushels per acre, up 6 bushels from 2008. Potato production was at 2,945,000 cwt., up 17 percent from 2008. Acres harvested remained the same at 9,500 acres. Yield increased to 310 cwt per acre, up 45 cwt from 2008. Total production of tobacco was 18,660,000 pounds, up 5.8 percent from 2008. There were 8,200 acres harvested in 2009, up 300 acres from 2009. The all tobacco yield was 2,276 pounds per acre, up 44 pounds from 2008.