



# Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
2301 N Cameron St, Rm G-19 · Harrisburg, PA 17110  
(717) 787-3904 · (717) 782-4011 FAX · [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

Week Ending June 8, 2008

Issued weekly, April-November

Released June 9, 2008, 4 pm

*This report can be found on the Internet at [www.nass.usda.gov/pa](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa) and click on "Pennsylvania Publications."*

**Good week for Field Work:** Even though the official start of summer is not here yet, summer heat has begun. Temperatures throughout the state last week were reported in the 90's, with heat advisories in place. Last week's weather allowed for five days of productive field work. Corn and potato planting is nearly complete, with soybean planting advancing well. Replanting of corn was necessary in some areas with emergence problems due to unfavorable weather. Other than that, the crop conditions are good. Principal farm activities included plowing, spraying, cutting hay, as well as planting corn, potatoes, soybeans and oats. 96 percent of the plowing has been completed, which is 1 point ahead of last year and consistent with the five year average.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending June 8, 2008

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
2	13	71	14

**Crops:** The corn remains in fine condition, as 68% of the crop is in good or excellent condition. The state's corn is estimated at 91 percent planted, with 74 percent emerged. The corn appeared to have good growth last week as the average height grew from 5 to 8 inches. Soybean condition seems fine as 63% of the crops are estimated as good or excellent with only 7% rated as poor or very poor. The state's soybeans are 71 percent planted, which is 14 percentage points lower than last year and 6 points behind the average. The weather helped the planted soybeans emerge 28 points last week, as 42 percent of the soybeans have now emerged. This is 14 points behind last year and 7 points behind the average. Wheat conditions have improved as 82 percent of the state's wheat is in good or excellent condition. Only 4 percent of the wheat was estimated as poor or very poor. The winter wheat color change had begun. Thirty-four percent of the wheat is yellowing, which is up 21 and 22 points above last year and the average, respectively. Seventy-five percent of the barley has now turned yellow, which is 7 points above last year and 15 points above the average. Oat conditions improved last week, with 80 percent of the oats in good or excellent condition. Oats have started to develop heads, as 23 percent of the oats are now headed. Potato planting continued to move along, with 99 percent of the planting completed. This is 1 point above last year, and 3 points above average. The state's tobacco crop is now 67 percent transplanted, which is 2 points behind last year, and 6 points above the average. Alfalfa stand condition is at 85 percent good or excellent. The first cutting of alfalfa is 71 percent complete, which is 5 points behind last year, and 16 points above the average. The timothy/clover stand condition is at 78 percent good or excellent. The first cutting is now 35 percent complete, which is 3 points behind last year and 7 points above the average. The quality of hay is at 72 percent good or excellent, with 5 percent rated as poor. Fruit crop conditions appear to still be in good condition. Peaches are at 91 percent good or excellent, while apples are at 84 percent good or excellent.

**Livestock:** The pasture conditions continued to show good qualities. Sixty-eight percent of the state's pastures were estimated as good or excellent condition, which is down three points from last week. With that in mind, only 6 percent of the pastures were rated as poor or very poor. The overall state's pasture conditions were estimated as follows: 3% very poor, 3% poor, 26% fair, 52% good, and 16% excellent.

**U.S. as of June 1, 2008:** Heavy showers and thunderstorms pounded the nation's mid-section. Late in the week, a developing ridge of high pressure over the south-central U.S. brought building heat and a cessation of shower activity. Although the southern High Plains' winter wheat harvest accelerated toward week's end, hot, dry weather boosted irrigation demands and increased stress on rain-fed summer crops. Farther east, hit-or-miss showers affected the Southeast, resulting in variable conditions. However, most of Florida and the remainder of the lower Southeast remained unfavorably dry. Elsewhere, most areas west of the Rockies experienced below-normal temperatures, while precipitation was generally confined to the interior Northwest. In the southern Rockies, however, heat intensified late in the week.

**Corn:** Producers had planted 95 percent of the intended corn acreage by the end of the week, 4 points behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average. When compared with the previous year, producers in Indiana, Missouri, and Pennsylvania were lagging by about 12 points. When compared with the usual pace, producers in all States were within 7 points of normal, except in Missouri. Corn emergence was delayed because of planting delays and is at 74 percent emerged, which is 18 and 15 points behind last year and normal, respectively.

**Soybeans:** Producers planted 17 percent of the Nation's soybean acreage during the week. With 69 percent planted, progress lagged 17 and 12 points behind last year and the 5-year average pace, respectively. Planting was at or behind normal in all States with the exception of Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, and North Dakota. The planting delays caused emergence delays. Emergence is at 32 percent complete, which is 32 points behind last year and 23 points behind normal.

**Winter Wheat:** Seventy-five percent of the crop was at or beyond the heading stage. With 11 percent of the crop reaching or exceeding the heading stage during the week, the crop remained 11 and 9 points behind last year and the 5-year average, respectively. The condition of the crop remained 47 percent good and excellent.

**Oats:** Oat emergence, at 94 percent, was 3 and 2 points behind last year and usual, respectively. Developmental delays remained in many States. However, the lag was no more than 10 points behind normal. Thirty percent of the oat acreage was at or beyond the heading stage, 2 and 1 point behind last year and the 5-year average, respectively. Sixty percent of the oat crop was rated in good or excellent condition, down 1 point from last week.

### Weather Data For Week Ending June 8, 2008

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - June 8, 2008					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	92	52	72	9	0.31	3	5.20	-2.59	29	523	127	1,101
Franklin	92	45	69	7	2.70	4	8.79	0.26	33	419	34	996
Meadville	88	48	70	9	1.78	4	7.60	-0.72	29	449	110	1,025
Mercer	90	46	69	7	1.73	5	8.24	-0.12	34	415	21	999
Springboro	90	44	69	5	1.92	3	8.02	0.64	31	382	-29	931
Warren	91	42	68	6	0.93	3	6.94	-1.89	30	375	5	920
North Central												
Bradford Region	86	37	66	8	0.69	3	5.89	-2.90	32	299	56	768
Emporium	92	43	68	9	0.64	3	5.90	-3.16	33	395	115	964
Kane	89	35	66	8	1.13	4	6.68	-2.36	32	241	4	710
Laporte	88	44	66	4	0.56	2	8.09	-0.46	36	358	-32	877
Lock Haven	93	46	71	8	0.72	2	7.85	-0.22	32	495	61	1,100
Port Allegany	90	39	66	7	0.31	3	4.90	-3.43	30	298	3	799
Renovo	93	45	70	7	0.82	2	8.10	0.03	31	484	50	1,080
Ridgway	89	38	66	7	0.79	4	6.58	-2.48	32	298	18	813
Stevenson Dam	92	44	68	9	0.48	2	7.03	-2.03	32	409	129	973
Towanda	93	47	70	7	0.25	1	5.60	-1.76	28	414	13	977
Wellsboro	88	43	66	8	0.24	2	6.15	-0.66	33	315	65	815
Williamsport	96	49	72	7	0.35	2	6.13	-2.12	30	581	68	1,210
Northeast												
Hawley	91	45	66	6	0.46	3	8.08	-0.39	28	345	42	877
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	92	48	70	5	0.46	2	6.67	-1.03	30	532	67	1,114
Susquehanna	91	47	67	7	0.59	4	6.70	-2.07	32	367	87	923
West Central												
Butler	90	45	69	6	1.00	5	7.23	-1.25	41	401	-19	997
New Castle	94	45	71	7	0.97	5	6.20	-1.40	35	490	73	1,106
Slippery Rock	89	36	68	6	1.75	4	7.69	-0.38	29	403	30	1,020
Central												
Altoona/Blair	89	50	72	7	0.50	3	9.44	1.56	34	535	53	1,127
DuBois	86	41	68	6	0.66	3	6.60	-2.09	34	445	60	990
Lewistown	95	49	71	6	0.67	2	11.95	3.71	28	516	-31	1,116
Middletown	93	58	74	6	1.35	2	10.96	2.35	29	658	31	1,302
Prince Gallitzi	91	39	68	7	0.50	2	6.83	-3.29	30	369	26	922
Selinsgrove	96	50	71	7	1.04	2	8.32	0.00	28	494	14	1,093
State College	92	50	72	8	0.72	2	9.52	1.90	29	542	77	1,145
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	93	50	70	4	0.94	2	8.07	-0.71	26	549	-3	1,159
Lehighton	90	51	69	4	1.05	2	8.08	-0.66	35	491	-34	1,086
Matamoras	93	47	66	2	0.64	5	7.68	-1.60	32	376	-75	930
Mt_Pocono	88	47	65	7	0.61	3	7.29	-2.46	31	338	95	853
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	89	50	72	8	0.47	3	8.95	0.45	32	640	155	1,274
Derry	91	46	69	6	1.60	4	13.10	4.78	36	503	70	1,109
Myersdale	86	40	66	3	1.29	3	12.42	3.13	37	309	-111	838
Mount Pleasant	89	43	70	8	1.85	2	10.78	1.23	32	489	128	1,108
Pittsburgh Intl	90	49	72	7	0.93	2	6.74	-0.97	30	619	98	1,251
Connellsville	91	47	71	6	1.29	3	12.13	2.96	37	579	35	1,212
Waynesburg	90	38	68	4	1.56	2	10.79	2.34	31	482	22	1,102
South Central												
Biglerville	94	54	73	5	1.04	2	12.86	4.77	30	598	-27	1,221
Everett	93	45	69	5	0.51	2	13.78	5.94	32	444	-16	1,026
Hanover	94	53	73	5	1.33	4	12.37	4.28	34	590	-35	1,208
Harrisburg_AP	95	56	74	6	0.89	2	7.66	-0.95	23	670	36	1,317
South Mountain	89	47	69	5	1.34	3	14.90	7.02	35	429	-46	999
York	96	50	74	6	0.75	2	11.44	2.98	33	663	28	1,302
Southeast												
Green Lane	94	54	71	6	1.85	2	10.39	1.79	27	576	62	1,206
Hamburg	94	53	72	8	0.86	2	7.51	-2.58	29	595	157	1,225
West_Chester	94	52	71	4	0.80	2	8.55	-0.78	27	547	-65	1,164
Lancaster	93	52	72	5	0.75	3	6.93	-1.43	29	574	20	1,197
Neshaminy Falls	93	52	71	4	2.04	3	11.57	2.05	27	591	44	1,223
New Holland	97	52	72	6	0.91	2	8.74	0.38	27	621	67	1,251
Philadelphia	94	60	73	5	2.02	2	8.79	0.46	27	761	79	1,426
Philadelphia NE	98	59	75	6	1.09	2	8.15	-0.18	29	817	135	1,485
Reading	95	54	73	6	1.14	4	7.50	-1.93	32	634	104	1,266
Valley Forge Na	94	50	71	2	0.69	2	9.95	1.09	29	548	-115	1,186
Willow Grove	95	56	73	6	2.00	2	10.18	0.66	30	649	102	1,293

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.

Copyright 2004: Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc. All rights reserved.

# 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.

**ADAMS COUNTY, Judy A Behney (FSA)** - Adams County started the week off in the 70's during the day, but ended the week in the 90's. Morning temperatures started at 60 degrees during the beginning of the week and by the end of the week, they were in the high 70's. Tuesday evening and on into Wednesday brought rainfall. 0.2 inches of rain fell in south of Gettysburg near the Maryland line; 0.9 inches fell in the Hunterstown area, and 1 ½ inches fell in northern Adams. Friday thru Sunday was hot and humid, with temperatures reaching into the 90's and a heat advisory in effect. Soil moisture varied throughout the county. Most soil moisture in the county is adequate but some areas are plenty wet. Barley is ripening and will soon be harvested. The condition of the barley is looking pretty decent. Wheat is headed and doing pretty decent. The producers aren't sure what quality issues they will have for their small grain crops this year because of all the rainfall we had this Spring. Corn continues to be planted, with some being replanted due to unfavorable weather conditions. Producers are really pushing now to get corn planted by the crop insurance full coverage plant date of June 10th. Soybeans are also being planted. Hay continues to be made when weather permits. Fruit crops look good. Sweet corn continues to be planted. The corn that was planted earlier is finally emerging. Strawberries are being harvested. Other vegetables are also doing ok. Overall the crops are looking pretty good if the producers can get in the fields to get them planted and harvested.

**ADAMS COUNTY, Thomas Kerr** - Hot days and warm nights allowed corn and soybeans to recover and finally begin good growth. Several days were good for hay making. Due to wet ground, the final corn planting was delayed. This was probably the last week of the corn planting. Any fields left will be switched to soybeans. Some early barley will be ready early next week if weather cooperates. Some of the fruit growers are reporting that quality will be an issue this year since some of the scab sprays were either missed or washed off due to the rains. Some farmers are delaying mowing or skipping a mowing due to high fuel cost.

**BUCKS COUNTY, Michael Fournier (EXT)** - Three and a half inches of rain last week caused a myriad of problems. Many corn and bean fields will have to be replanted. Most corn planted in early May has less than ideal populations, which will translate to reduced yields in October. The rain pushed back planting another week, with some fields still having standing water on Sunday. Some hay was cut over the weekend and baled on Sunday. More hay will be cut during the beginning of the week. All field work is well behind schedule this year.

**CAMBRIA COUNTY, Dolly Little (FSA)** - Farmers are finishing up on the plantings of corn, soybeans, and potatoes. Wheat is heading, but is still green. It was a good week for harvesting haylage and hay.

**CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker** - Last week was a good week for field work. Center County finally got some warm weather, so crops are starting to grow.

**CHESTER COUNTY, Hollis Baker (FSA)** - Quality of hay is very good. However, farmers are experiencing delays in baling due to rain showers. Some balers are getting jammed due to the toughness of hay. Soil moisture for corn and soybeans is adequate. The forecasted high temperatures will really help the crops to grow.

**DAUPHIN COUNTY, Paul H. Craig (EXT)** - One and a half inches of rain early last week provided needed moisture, and is helping crops get through the heat. Corn is looking good, and is rapidly approaching mid calf to knee high in the earlier planted fields. Soybean stands are showing some germination and stand population challenges. Barley fields took a beating from rain storms and are lodging. Cereal leaf beetle damage to oats is rapidly increasing in most oat fields. Growers should check out fields to determine if controls are needed. Potato leafhoppers arrived over Memorial Weekend and are starting to increase in numbers. Most of the alfalfa second cutting is developing rapidly. Growers should scout the fields to determine if control for leafhoppers is needed or if stands can be harvested in a timely manner.

**FOREST COUNTY, Thomas Tanner (FSA)** - Last week was an excellent week for planting and harvesting crops. Most farmers have finished planting their spring crops.

**LANCASTER COUNTY, Burell Whitworth, Jr. (NRCS)** - Warm weather is making the crops grow. Hay making was better than previous weeks, even though we did get a shower or two. Spraying corn for weeds and making hay were some activities farmers were doing last week.

**LYCOMING COUNTY, Michael Sherman (FSA)** - The area finally got some much needed precipitation last week. The ground was beginning to get very hard and many producers were concerned about emergence of their crops. Pasture conditions continue to be favorable. Recently, there have been very good hay making conditions. Hay fields harvested early are rebounding nicely at this point. Wheat and oats are still looking good. Early planted corn has begun to take off and grow again.

**SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer** - The week began with rain and ended with unbelievable heat. The corn and soybeans have reacted to the heat and moisture; however, there is some damage caused by the flea beetles. Hay making is in full swing and the second cutting is looking good. The barley is turning yellow and the oats are beginning to head. The main activities for the week were planting corn and soybeans, haymaking, and spraying herbicides.

**TIOGA COUNTY, Pamela Barnes** - There were spotty rain showers in the area. We are still in need of moisture. Corn emergence looks good on both conventional and no-till fields. The first cutting of hay is making progress. It is dry enough to make dry hay already. Many acres of hay were chopped last week. Field work is progressive with this dry weather.

**WESTMORELAND COUNTY, Eric Oesterling (EXT)** - Vegetable planting progress is catching up after weeks of wet weather delays.

**WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr (FSA)** - Another couple of rainy days continued to slow field work. Almost no dry hay has been baled yet this season. Some early-planted corn and soybeans had to be replanted because of May's wet and cold conditions. All growing crops should benefit from this week's warmer temperatures.

**PA Crop Progress for Week Ending June 8, 2008**

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Spring plowing	96	95	96
Corn, planted	91	96	91
Corn, emerged	74	84	77
Corn average height, inches	8	8	9
Barley, turning yellow	75	68	60
Wheat, turning yellow	34	13	12
Oats, heading or headed	23	7	10
Soybeans, planted	71	85	77
Soybeans, emerged	42	56	49
Tobacco, transplanted	67	69	61
Potatoes, planted	99	98	96
Alfalfa, 1st cutting	71	76	60
Timothy clover, 1st cutting	35	38	28

**PA Crop Condition for Week Ending June 8, 2008**

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	0	4	28	50	18
Wheat	3	1	14	58	24
Oats	1	0	19	55	25
Soybeans	1	6	30	49	14
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand	1	3	11	63	22
Timothy clover stand	0	3	19	66	12
Quality of hay made	0	5	23	54	18
Pasture	3	3	26	52	16
Peaches	0	0	9	64	27
Apples	0	0	16	65	19

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**OFFICIAL BUSINESS**

**United States**  
**Department of Agriculture**  
 National Agricultural Statistics Service  
 Pennsylvania Field Office  
 2301 N Cameron St Room G-19  
 Harrisburg PA 17110-9405

<b>FIRST CLASS MAIL</b> POSTAGE & FEES PAID USDA PERMIT NO. G-38
---