Rain returned to the Midwest, although crops were again very rainy. The humid weather and sporadic showers continued to make field work difficult. Overall, 4 days were suitable for fieldwork. Principal farm activities included picking fruit, cutting and baling hay, spraying corn and potatoes, as well as harvesting barley and wheat.

**Crops:** The corn condition last week remained about the same as the week before. Sixty-five percent of the crop is in good or excellent condition, which is up from the previous week’s 64%. A higher percent of corn last week was rated poor, as 7 percent of the crop is in poor or very poor condition. The corn continued to have good growth last week, as the average height grew from 25 to 38 inches. Soybean condition continued to drop last week from 70 percent good and excellent to 63. Five percent of the soybeans were rated as poor or very poor. The state’s soybean planting is nearing completion at 96 percent planted, which is 4 percentage points behind last year and 1 point behind the five year average. Eighty-five percent of the soybeans have now emerged, which is 9 points behind last year and 7 points behind the average. Wheat condition continued to improve, as 89 percent of the state’s wheat is in good or excellent condition. Only 1 percent of the wheat was estimated as poor or very poor. Ninety-nine percent of the wheat is yellowing, which is the same as last year, and 4 points above the average. A big jump in wheat ripening was made this week, as 70 percent of the wheat is estimated as ripe, which is less than last year’s 80 percent, but 8 points above average. The wheat harvest is now in full swing, with 22% of the state’s wheat estimated as harvested, compared to last year’s 33% and the average of 24%. Ninety-seven percent of the barley crop is ripe, which is 1 point above both last year and the average. Eighty-four percent of the barley is harvested, compared to the previous year’s 86 percent and the average of 82 percent. Oat condition improved, with 86 percent of the oats in good or excellent condition. Eighty-seven percent of the oat crop has begun the heading stage, which is 6 points less than last year, and 1 point behind the average. Thirteen percent of the oats are turning yellow, which is down 15 points compared to last year, and 7 points below average. Alfalfa stand condition is at 86 percent good or excellent. The first cutting of alfalfa progressed 3 points and is at 95 percent complete. This is 5 points behind last year, and the same as the average. The weather still appears to delay hay making, as the second cutting of alfalfa is only 40 percent complete. The timothy/clover stand condition improved and is at 78 percent good or excellent. The first cutting of timothy/clover is still behind last year’s pace and is reported to be 83 percent complete. This is 12 points behind last year and the same as the average. The quality of hay improved last week and is at 63 percent good or excellent, with 9 percent rated as poor. Peaches are in good condition, as 95 percent are rated as good or excellent, while apple condition remained at 80 percent good or excellent.

**Livestock:** The pasture condition continued to decline last week. Sixty percent of the state’s pastures were estimated to be in good or excellent condition, which is 5 points lower than last week. Seven percent of the pastures were rated as poor or very poor. Overall, the state’s pasture condition was estimated as follows: 2% very poor, 5% poor, 33% fair, 47% good, and 13% excellent.

**U.S. as of June 29, 2008:** Rain returned to the Midwest, although excessive rainfall totals were confined to scattered locations in the Ohio and mid-Mississippi Valleys. In Midwestern areas that have escaped flooding, however, warm weather promoted rapid corn and soybean growth. Meanwhile, scattered showers and thunderstorms provided local relief to drought-stressed pastures and rain-fed summer crops in the Southeast. Farther west, drought continued to adversely affect rain-fed summer crops across the southern half of the High Plains, despite occasional showers. In contrast, heavy showers continued to disrupt winter wheat harvesting and other fieldwork on the east-central and southeastern Plains. Elsewhere, hot, mostly dry weather prevailed from the Rockies westward, promoting fieldwork and crop development.

Meanwhile in the Southwest, the arrival of higher humidity and isolated showers signaled the approach of seasonal (monsoon) showers. Following a brief break from the heat, the West saw a return to above-normal temperatures at week’s end. Late-week heat was especially impressive in the Northwest.

**Corn:** Three percent of the corn acreage was at or beyond the silking stage, gaining only 1 percentage point during the week. This is 8 points behind last year and 6 points behind the 5-year average. Major developmental delays continued in Missouri, where already saturated fields received additional rainfall during the week. Condition of the Nation’s corn crop was rated 61 percent good to excellent, an improvement of 2 percentage points from the previous week. Condition ratings improved across much of the Corn Belt as fields continued to dry out.

**Soybeans:** Ninety-five percent of the crop had been planted, 4 points behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average. Planting progress was within 11 points of normal in all States except Missouri. Soybean emergence, at 90 percent, was 7 and 6 points behind last year and the 5-year average, respectively. Emergence delays followed planting delays, which resulted from excessive moisture throughout the Nation’s mid-section. Eight percent of the soybean crop emerged during the week. Overall, 58 percent of the crop was rated good to excellent, a 1 point increase from last week.

**Winter Wheat:** Producers had harvested 36 percent of the crop, the same as last year but 12 points behind the 5-year average. Due to excessively wet fields, harvest progress trailed the 5-year average in Illinois, Kansas, and Missouri by 36, 33, and 37 points, respectively.
### Last Week Weather Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Precipitation</th>
<th>Precipitation</th>
<th>GDD Base 50F</th>
<th>Base 40F</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Average</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Days</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>DFN</td>
<td>Days</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>DFN</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>DFN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Temperature**

- Northwest
  - Erie: 84°F - 54°F - 68°F - 3°F
  - Franklin: 82°F - 51°F - 67°F - 3°F
  - Meadville: 79°F - 54°F - 66°F - 3°F
  - Mercers: 85°F - 53°F - 66°F - 3°F
  - Springboro: 80°F - 51°F - 63°F - 3°F
  - Warren: 81°F - 51°F - 65°F - 4°F

- North Central
  - Bradford Region: 76°F - 42°F - 62°F - 3°F
  - Emporium: 82°F - 51°F - 67°F - 2°F
  - Kane: 79°F - 44°F - 63°F - 2°F
  - Laporte: 79°F - 54°F - 65°F - 5°F
  - Lock Haven: 84°F - 53°F - 69°F - 1°F
  - Port Allegany: 80°F - 47°F - 63°F - 3°F
  - Reno: 83°F - 54°F - 69°F - 1°F
  - Ridgway: 80°F - 45°F - 64°F - 3°F
  - Stevenson Dam: 84°F - 51°F - 68°F - 3°F
  - Towanda: 84°F - 52°F - 68°F - 2°F
  - Wellsboro: 76°F - 46°F - 63°F - 3°F
  - Williamsport: 83°F - 55°F - 70°F - 2°F

- Northeast
  - Hawley: 82°F - 54°F - 68°F - 1°F
  - Wilkes-Barre/Scranton: 80°F - 55°F - 69°F - 3°F
  - Susquehanna: 81°F - 54°F - 68°F - 2°F

- West Central
  - Butler: 82°F - 49°F - 67°F - 4°F
  - New Castle: 85°F - 52°F - 68°F - 1°F
  - Slippery Rock: 84°F - 50°F - 65°F - 3°F

- Central
  - Altoona/Blair: 82°F - 53°F - 69°F - 2°F
  - DuBois: 79°F - 48°F - 66°F - 3°F
  - Lewistown: 85°F - 55°F - 70°F - 2°F
  - Middletown: 89°F - 63°F - 74°F - 2°F
  - Prince Gallitzin: 79°F - 47°F - 66°F - 2°F
  - Selinsgrove: 86°F - 56°F - 70°F - 2°F
  - State College: 81°F - 56°F - 69°F - 2°F

- East Central
  - Allentown-Bethlehem: 91°F - 57°F - 72°F - 3°F
  - Lehighton: 87°F - 57°F - 71°F - 2°F
  - Matamoras: 86°F - 54°F - 69°F - 2°F
  - Mt. Pocono: 90°F - 53°F - 66°F - 2°F

- Southwest
  - Pittsburgh/Allegheny: 81°F - 55°F - 69°F - 3°F
  - Derry: 82°F - 54°F - 68°F - 3°F
  - Myersdale: 79°F - 46°F - 66°F - 4°F
  - Mount Pleasant: 79°F - 52°F - 68°F - 1°F
  - Pittsburgh Int: 81°F - 55°F - 69°F - 3°F
  - Connellsville: 83°F - 53°F - 69°F - 2°F
  - Waynesburg: 81°F - 52°F - 68°F - 3°F

- South Central
  - Biglerville: 89°F - 57°F - 72°F - 3°F
  - Everett: 83°F - 49°F - 67°F - 5°F
  - Hanover: 88°F - 55°F - 72°F - 3°F
  - Harrisburg_AP: 89°F - 61°F - 73°F - 2°F
  - South Mountain: 82°F - 52°F - 68°F - 4°F
  - York: 89°F - 54°F - 72°F - 3°F

- Southeast
  - Green Lane: 90°F - 62°F - 74°F - 2°F
  - Hamburg: 91°F - 58°F - 73°F - 3°F
  - West_Chester: 91°F - 59°F - 74°F - 0°F
  - Lancaster: 89°F - 59°F - 72°F - 2°F
  - New Harmony Falls: 90°F - 62°F - 75°F - 2°F
  - New Holland: 89°F - 60°F - 73°F - 1°F
  - Philadelphia: 92°F - 67°F - 78°F - 3°F
  - Philadelphia NE: 94°F - 67°F - 79°F - 4°F
  - Reading: 93°F - 60°F - 74°F - 2°F
  - Valley Forge Na: 90°F - 58°F - 74°F - 3°F
  - Willow Grove: 90°F - 65°F - 76°F - 3°F

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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ADAMS COUNTY, Judy A Behney (FSA) - Adams County had another week of hot, humid and sunny days. It was another pretty dry week. There were morning temperatures around the 60's. Daytime temperatures were in 80-90's. There were some spotty showers in part of the county, but no accumulation Wednesday. Thursday evening, York Springs received 0.5" and Friday evening received 0.2". Other areas of the county received only 0.2" to 0.4" from Thursday into Friday. On Sunday, there were really spotty thunderstorms with showers. South of York Springs received no rainfall. York Springs and Heidlersburg areas received some showers. Hunterstown received 0.6", and Gettysburg area received some rainfall. Corn is pretty much done being planted. Some corn showed signs of stress last week due to the humidity and hot temperatures. Soybeans are still being planted. More soybeans will be planted after wheat is harvested. The barley harvest is completed with nice yields reported. Wheat harvest is slow due to weather conditions. Some sunny days in the future should help. Hay continues to be baled with good yields reported. Most of the first cutting of good mixed hay has been baled. The alfalfa third cutting will soon be harvested. Fruit crops are doing well. Apricots and black raspberries are being picked. The black raspberries are a nice crop. Some early sweet corn will soon be in tassel, with some already being picked in certain areas. Other vegetables are progressing but need some moisture to continue. Overall our crops do not look too bad; however we are still dry in most parts of the county. We could use more rainfall to keep the crops going this early in the season.

ADAMS COUNTY, Lee Showalter - Apples and peaches continue to show normal growth. There has been 0.5 to 0.7 inches of rain reported in northern Adams County over the last week. There were some scattered reports of hail with no serious damage.

ADAMS COUNTY, Thomas Kerr - There were several showers last week. We are still very short of moisture. Humidity and showers late in the week slowed wheat harvest and hay making. Corn is growing well, and some corn is near the tassel stage. The June drop in apples and peaches have not let up and it seems that the crop is getting shorter. Cool and damp weather created problems with chemical thinning. Some growers are reporting the smallest crop in years. Cherry crop is coming up light as well.

Bucks County, Michael Fournier (EXT) - Showers over the weekend provided some relief but it was spotty. Some areas of the county received a good rain. As soon as we get a string of dry days, the wheat harvest will start. Hay making slowed down with the threat of rain every day.

Cambria County, Dolly Little (FSA) - Spraying of corn and potatoes were some of the activities this week, along with trying to make hay between the rain showers.

Centre County, Dick Decker - The days last week were overcast and damp, but there was only 1/8 inch rainfall for the week. Last week was not good for hay drying.

Chester County, Hollis Baker (FSA) - Most crops are in need of rain. The showers received rarely lasted long and at times had little effect. Slight loss of corn yield has occurred because of the lack of moisture. Wheat harvest is going well, making a lot of straw.

Crawford County, Ron McCorkle (NRCS) - A lot of patriot hay was made this weekend. We finally had a dry enough period to get the first cutting started for dry hay. Corn and beans are starting to take off. Pastures are still doing well due to all the rains throughout the area.

Forest County, Thomas Tanner (FSA) - The hay is overly ripe and many acres of the first crop are yet to be harvested.

Lancaster County, Burell Whitworth, Jr. (NRCS) - There were spotty showers last week. We could use more rain for corn, soybeans, potatoes and truck crops. Wheat and straw harvest progressed last week. We are expecting double cropped soybeans to be planted this week. More no-till tobacco has been planted in the county this year. The fields are looking good.

Northumberland County, Viola Pfleegor - There was rain or drizzle every day this past week.

Snyder County, William C. Sheaffer - Rain finally arrived and made a favorable improvement on the corn and soybeans; however, some corn fields are showing signs of soil compaction. Wheat harvest has begun with favorable yields being reported. The barley harvest has concluded and many farmers have finished double cropping soybeans and corn in the stubble. Making of second cutting hay is being done with the yields being very close to those of the first cutting. The main activities for the week were spraying, harvesting and planting.

Westmoreland County, John Lohr (FSA) - Last week was another wet week. Generally the forage quality has been poor because of wet conditions and late harvest. Barley and wheat are ripening and there is concern with sprouting because of the delayed harvest.

York County, John Rowehl (EXT) - The scattered thunderstorms gave some relief to dry soil conditions. Wheat harvest is beginning to move into full swing even though it was slowed by weather over the holiday weekend.
### PA Crop Progress for Week Ending July 6, 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Current Week</th>
<th>Last Year</th>
<th>5-Year Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>Percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn average height, inches</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barley, ripe</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barley, harvested</td>
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<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat, turning yellow</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wheat, ripe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wheat, harvested</td>
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<td>Oats, heading or headed</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>88</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oats, turning yellow</td>
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<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soybeans, planted</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soybeans, emerged</td>
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<td>92</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Alfalfa, 2nd cutting</td>
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<td>71</td>
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<tr>
<td>Timothy clover, 1st cutting</td>
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<td>95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Timothy clover, 2nd cutting</td>
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### PA Crop Condition for Week Ending July 6, 2008

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<th>Poor</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>Percent</td>
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