



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203 · Harrisburg, PA 17112
(717) 787-3904 · (717) 782-4011 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov

Week Ending October 24, 2010

Issued weekly, April-November

Released October 25, 2010, 4 pm

This report can be found on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/pa and click on "Pennsylvania Publications."

Good Week for Field Work: Pennsylvania had an average of 5 days suitable for field work. There were a few scattered showers throughout the state this week, but farmers managed to get a few more days in the fields, than in the past couple of weeks. These few extra days in the fields allowed farmers to move forward with the corn and soybean harvest. Many producers were harvesting their corn at lower moisture levels to cut down on the cost of drying. Primary field activities included planting of fall cover crops, harvesting of corn, and soybeans. Fall plowing continued, and is 57% complete, a little behind last year's 60%, and behind the five year average of 67%.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending October 24, 2010

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
7	9	76	8

Crop Progress: Corn is 63% harvested, ahead of 31% from a year ago and the 51% average. Barley is 98% planted ahead of last year's 88%, and the average of 91%. Barley is 79% emerged, ahead of last year's 56% and the average of 70%. Winter wheat is 82% planted, ahead of last year's 62%, and the average of 76%. Winter wheat has begun to emerge, and is 59% emerged. This is ahead of last year's 38%, and the average of 50%. Soybeans are 64% harvested ahead of the previous year's 32% and the average of 45%. Potatoes are at 99% harvested, ahead of last year's 97%, and a little ahead of the 98% average. The alfalfa fourth cutting is at 94% completed, ahead of 88% a year ago, and the 91% average. Apples are 96% harvested, above last year's 93%, and the average of 89%. The grape harvest continued strongly, and is 89% completed, ahead of last year's 76%, and the average of 76%.

Crop Condition: State-wide winter wheat conditions are; 5% very poor, 1% poor, 13% fair, 74% good, and 7% excellent. The quality of hay made is 3% very poor, 5% poor, 21% fair, 52% good, and 19% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 8% very poor, 20% poor, 43% fair, 27% good and 2% excellent.

Nationwide as of October 17, 2010: Much of the country experienced warm, dry weather during the week, allowing summer crop harvesting and small grain seeding to continue at a rapid pace. Most notably, temperatures in southern California and throughout portions of the Corn Belt reached as many as 8 degrees above normal. Elsewhere, continued dry conditions from the lower Mississippi Valley into the much of the Southeast worsened already low soil moisture levels, hampering some cotton, peanut, and soybean harvest.

Corn: With warm, dry weather continuing to dominate much of the major corn-producing areas, harvest progress remained rapid during the week, advancing at the quickest pace since 2000. By October 17, producers had harvested 68 percent of the Nation's crop, 52 percentage points, or 36 days, ahead of last year and 29 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Ten of the 18 major estimating States were 20 points or more ahead of both last year and the 5-year average.

Soybeans: Nationally, soybean producers continued to harvest this year's crop at a record pace. With harvest advancing 16 percentage points during the week, progress reached 83 percent complete by week's end, 54 percentage points, or 26 days, ahead of last year and 21 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Dry weather and excellent harvest conditions had pushed progress in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, and Nebraska, the five largest soybean-producing States, to 35 points or more ahead of last year and 20 points or more ahead of normal.

Winter Wheat: While warm, sunny weather provided nearly ideal conditions for winter wheat seeding, unfavorably dry conditions left portions of the central and southern Plains in need of rain for adequate crop establishment. By October 17, eighty percent of the 2011 winter wheat crop was seeded, 9 percentage points ahead of last year and 3 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Seeding was most ahead of last year and normal in the Middle Mississippi and Ohio Valleys. Emergence advanced to 51 percent complete by week's end, 2 percentage points ahead of last year but slightly behind the 5-year average.

Weather Data For Week Ending October 24, 2010

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - October 24, 2010					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	66	42	52	1	0.83	5	26.32	0.74	83	3,193	580	5,147
Franklin_AG	68	32	46	-4	0.27	3	26.44	-0.77	87	2,915	525	4,835
Meadville-Port	66	35	49	1	0.34	3	26.47	-1.02	93	2,852	664	4,774
Mercer	67	34	48	-2	0.31	3	25.70	-0.16	97	2,952	585	4,899
Springboro	69	33	48	-4	0.40	4	30.75	6.09	93	2,627	68	4,504
Warren	66	32	46	-3	0.60	4	21.89	-5.68	82	2,732	425	4,626
North Central												
Bradford Region	61	25	42	-3	0.34	3	24.69	-2.66	85	2,104	453	3,884
Oswayo	64	23	43	-4	0.46	5	27.96	1.90	91	2,119	291	3,898
Kane	64	27	42	-3	0.39	3	24.59	-3.41	79	2,097	486	3,873
Laporte	61	33	45	-4	0.04	2	28.59	3.25	93	2,482	123	4,335
Lock Haven	73	31	48	-2	0.11	2	25.26	0.44	72	3,164	653	5,146
Port Allegany	64	27	44	-2	0.44	3	24.33	-1.73	86	2,355	527	4,188
Renovo	69	31	47	-3	0.16	3	24.16	-0.66	82	3,036	525	5,008
Ridgway	65	27	43	-4	0.38	5	23.34	-3.63	91	2,352	472	4,200
Stevenson Dam	70	30	46	0	0.30	3	23.82	-3.15	73	2,870	990	4,813
Towanda	67	30	46	-3	0.12	3	22.40	1.35	74	2,732	353	4,647
Wellsboro	65	29	44	-3	0.11	2	25.40	4.19	77	2,254	483	4,098
Williamsport	70	29	49	-1	0.04	2	25.55	0.87	72	3,492	723	5,513
Northeast												
Hawley	64	27	44	-4	0.00	0	29.78	5.93	72	2,466	438	4,333
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	67	35	49	-1	0.01	1	19.51	-3.67	66	3,269	644	5,240
Susquehanna	63	32	45	-2	0.17	2	27.14	1.46	85	2,651	736	4,554
West Central												
Butler	67	31	47	-2	0.07	2	28.09	2.52	84	2,911	430	4,857
New Castle	72	33	50	2	0.03	2	25.88	2.38	75	3,310	824	5,287
Slippery Rock	72	32	50	2	0.16	3	24.09	-0.99	86	3,089	863	5,061
Central												
Altoona/Blair	73	34	50	1	0.38	1	25.06	2.51	79	3,189	548	5,170
DuBois	67	30	47	-2	0.28	3	21.40	-4.32	87	2,806	539	4,732
Lewistown	75	33	50	-2	0.18	2	24.75	0.63	68	3,408	506	5,426
Middletown	72	35	53	1	0.49	1	26.04	2.05	61	4,002	712	6,046
Prince Gallitzi	69	29	46	-2	0.32	4	26.73	-2.07	73	2,533	414	4,461
Selinsgrove	70	30	47	-3	0.07	2	20.41	-4.74	63	3,244	546	5,233
State College	71	37	50	1	0.01	1	21.69	-1.07	67	3,204	613	5,193
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	69	31	50	-2	0.16	2	32.16	6.11	63	3,531	532	5,539
Lehighton	65	31	47	-4	0.06	2	27.59	1.48	69	3,077	188	5,066
Matamoras	68	27	45	-5	0.00	0	25.96	-0.32	68	2,784	191	4,717
Mt_Pocono	62	30	46	1	0.01	1	28.24	-0.02	82	2,694	953	4,595
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	72	37	52	3	0.26	1	21.64	-2.15	79	3,636	971	5,636
Indiana_PA	66	34	49	-2	0.28	2	26.19	-1.58	91	2,934	354	4,893
Myersdale	69	27	44	-5	0.45	2	21.09	-5.95	78	2,289	-188	4,149
Mount Pleasant	71	30	48	0	0.30	1	23.20	-5.01	66	3,076	835	5,031
Pittsburgh Intl	71	34	51	1	0.31	1	21.16	-1.02	74	3,538	748	5,529
Connellsville	71	35	50	-2	0.65	2	25.63	-0.52	87	3,427	581	5,421
Waynesburg	75	30	49	0	0.52	1	22.73	-1.40	62	3,183	609	5,144
South Central												
Biglerville	67	28	47	-7	0.31	1	22.24	-0.69	55	3,642	426	5,642
Everett	75	29	48	-3	0.62	1	23.37	1.27	71	2,978	342	4,949
Hanover	74	36	52	-2	0.25	1	23.54	0.61	62	3,613	397	5,633
Harrisburg_AP	72	34	52	-1	0.55	1	29.50	5.51	65	3,865	565	5,901
South Mountain	69	35	48	-2	0.32	1	22.52	-0.03	63	2,925	294	4,879
York	73	31	51	-2	0.30	1	25.63	1.35	65	3,570	357	5,581
Southeast												
Green Lane	70	35	51	0	0.44	1	27.30	2.07	66	3,659	796	5,693
Hamburg	69	32	49	0	0.29	2	29.30	-0.02	70	3,557	966	5,575
West_Chester	72	31	50	-3	0.41	3	31.36	3.81	60	3,566	365	5,587
Lancaster	71	33	52	0	0.35	1	25.38	-0.16	63	3,756	722	5,779
Neshaminy Falls	73	33	51	-1	0.59	1	20.52	-8.57	60	3,774	782	5,814
New Holland	71	41	53	2	0.36	3	27.49	1.95	68	3,749	715	5,775
Philadelphia	74	41	56	2	0.28	2	23.88	-0.73	62	4,566	1,045	6,632
Philadelphia NE	71	39	53	-2	0.44	2	20.70	-3.91	71	4,218	697	6,273
Reading	71	35	53	2	0.45	1	24.37	-2.73	65	3,994	1,023	6,038
Sellersville	69	33	49	-3	0.43	2	27.82	2.59	64	3,371	508	5,361
Willow Grove	72	37	55	4	0.49	1	25.43	-3.66	59	4,011	1,019	6,056

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.

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

Adams County had a pretty nice week of weather. Corn and soybeans continue to be harvested as field conditions permit. Wheat and barley planted earlier are now emerged and looking pretty good. More wheat to be seeded once corn and soybeans are harvested. Some haylage is being made on regrowth. Apple harvest is about complete. Producers should be finishing up harvesting within the week. Overall, all the producers in the county are busy harvesting their crops when the weather conditions permit and planting small grains for next year.

BUCKS COUNTY, Michael Fournier

Showers every few days are slowing harvest. There is still a good deal of wheat to be planted. Corn is being harvested at very low moisture levels this year in an attempt to save on drying costs.

CENTRE COUNTY, Tim Craul

Winter wheat planting is progressing. Soybean and corn harvest has slowed due to rain and grain moisture conditions. Farmers do not want to spend for drying.

CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker

It was a good week for fall field work; soybean harvest moving along well with good yields. We received a 1/2 inch of rainfall for the week.

CLARION COUNTY, Tom Tanner

Producers harvesting shelled corn around 20% moisture from the field. Many acres of soybeans harvested.

CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS)

The wet weather this week slowed harvest but there were a few days that combines were in the fields. Pastures are quickly declining and stored feed is starting to be used for supplement on some farms.

INDIANA COUNTY, DAVID B. OVERDORFF

Well, it was pretty nice this past week and we got a lot of soybeans cut. Have about 20 more acres to do and we'll be done. Then we can pick and shell the rest of the corn. Hope everyone has a safe farming week.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr

Good week to finish up planting of small grains and cover crop. Most of the soybeans are either harvested or nearly harvested. Corn harvest for grain is finally getting a good start and will finish about on normal. Apple harvest is over except for a few large orchards.

SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer

Heavy frost on Saturday ended the growing season. The fall planted crops are looking good, except some of the barley has too much growth. The main activities for the week were soybean and corn harvesting.

UNION COUNTY, James Brubaker

We finished Oct 21-unusually early. Both corn and soybeans were a very good crop. We had a very dry season but the rain we did have came at the right time, and I believe the new genetics also help in dry weather. We have so much to be thankful for.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending October 24, 2010

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fall plowing	57	60	67
Corn, harvested	63	31	51
Barley, planted	98	88	91
Barley, emerged	79	56	70
Wheat, planted	82	62	76
Wheat, emerged	59	38	50
Soybeans, harvested	64	32	45
Potatoes, harvested	99	97	98
Alfalfa, 4th cutting	94	88	91
Apples, harvested	96	93	89
Grapes, harvested	89	76	76

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending October 24, 2010

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Wheat	5	1	13	74	7
Quality of hay made	3	5	21	52	19
Pasture	8	20	43	27	2

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

United States
Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Pennsylvania Field Office
4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203
Harrisburg PA 17112

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