



# Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
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Week Ending July 1, 2012

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**Excellent Week for Field Work:** Pennsylvania had an average of 6 days suitable for field work. Throughout the state, the week continued to stay nice with hot, dry, sunny days. Field activities for the week included topdressing fields, baling hay, chopping and harvesting.

**PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending July 1, 2012**

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
23	31	46	0

**Crop Progress:** Corn silking as begun and is 9% complete, ahead of the 5-year average of 2%. Corn height is 43 inches, ahead of 34 inches last year and the average of 35 inches. Barley harvested is 93% complete, ahead of 85% last year and the 5-year average of 76%. Winter wheat is 95% yellow, which is behind last year's 97% and ahead of the average of 94%. Winter wheat is 75% ripe, ahead of 44% at this time last year and the 5-year average of 48%. Winter wheat harvest continues and is 56% complete, compared with 12% last year and the average of 14%. Oats are 93% headed, compared with 64% last year and the average of 81%. Oats are 47% yellow, ahead of 0% at this time last year and the average of 7%. Oats are 7% ripe. Soybeans are 96% emerged, which is ahead of last year's 90% and the average of 88%. Second cutting alfalfa continues and is 68% complete, ahead of last year's 47% and the average of 43%. Third cutting alfalfa has begun and is 8% complete ahead of the 1% 5-year average. The first cutting of timothy/clover continues, and is 98% complete, compared with last year's 88% and the average of 85%. Second cutting of timothy/clover continues and is 20% complete, ahead of last year's 3% and the 5-year average of 4%. The peach harvest has started and is 5% complete.

**Crop Condition:** State-wide corn conditions are; 0% very poor, 10% poor, 22% fair, 42% good, and 26% excellent. Winter wheat conditions are; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 12% fair, 52% good, and 36% excellent. Oat conditions are; 0% very poor, 1% poor, 23% fair, 54% good, and 22% excellent. Soybean conditions are; 0% very poor, 4% poor, 25% fair, 50% good, and 21% excellent. Alfalfa conditions are; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 31% fair, 48% good, and 17% excellent. Timothy/clover conditions are; 0% very poor, 4% poor, 32% fair, 58% good, and 6% excellent. Quality of hay made is; 0% very poor, 6% poor, 21% fair, 51% good and 22% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 11% very poor, 27% poor, 28% fair, 32% good and 2% excellent. Peach conditions are; 0% very poor, 2% poor, 32% fair, 35% good, and 31% excellent. Apple conditions are; 1% very poor, 0% poor, 17% fair, 45% good, and 37% excellent.

**Nationwide as of June 24, 2012:** Warm weather blanketed much of the United States during the week, with averages reaching more than 10 degrees above normal in portions of Colorado. Elsewhere, high temperatures reached triple digits throughout the Southwest and into the Great Plains. Conversely, temperatures along the Pacific Coast and in areas of the Southeast fell to more than 4 degrees below average following storm systems that delivered beneficial rainfall to growing summer crops. Unfavorably dry weather persisted

throughout the Corn Belt and Mid South, leading to a decline in crop conditions during the week. **Corn:** By week's end, 10 percent of this year's corn crop was at or beyond the silking stage, 8 percentage points ahead of last year and 7 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Silking was most advanced in Tennessee, where despite declining soil moisture levels, above average temperatures pushed overall progress to 41 percentage points ahead of normal. Overall, 56 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 7 percentage points from ratings last week and 12 percentage points below the same time last year. Unfavorably hot, dry weather during the week increased drought stress throughout most of the major corn-producing regions of the country. **Soybeans:** Twelve percent of the Nation's soybean crop was blooming by June 24, ten percentage points ahead of last year and 8 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Overall, 53 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 3 percentage points from ratings last week and 12 percentage points below the same time last year. The most significant decline was evident in Illinois, where topsoil moisture levels were rated 84 percent short to very short. **Winter Wheat:** Heading of this year's winter wheat crop was 98 percent complete by week's end, 6 percentage points ahead of last year and 3 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Under mostly sunny skies, harvest surpassed the halfway mark during the week, with double-digit progress evident in half of the 18 estimating States. By June 24, producers had harvested 59 percent of the Nation's winter wheat crop, 23 percentage points ahead of last year and 32 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average, for the quickest pace on record. Overall, 54 percent of the winter wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, unchanged from last week but 19 percentage points better than the same time last year. **Small Grains:** Warm weather helped to maintain an accelerated crop development pace of this year's oat crop. By June 24, heads were evident in 91 percent of oat fields across the Nation, 36 percentage points ahead of last year and 24 percentage points ahead of the 5-year. With activity limited to Iowa, Nebraska, Ohio, and Texas, producers had harvested 10 percent of this year's oat crop by week's end, slightly ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. Overall, 69 percent of the oat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up 2 percentage points from ratings last week and 12 percentage points better than the same time last year. Nationally, 40 percent of this year's barley crop was headed by week's end, 36 percentage points ahead of last year and 24 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Heading advanced 15 percentage points or more in all estimating States during the week as near to above average temperatures provided favorable growing conditions. Overall, 66 percent of the barley crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down slightly from ratings last week and 9 percentage points below the same time last year. By week's end, 57 percent of the spring wheat crop was at or beyond the heading stage, 52 percentage points, or over 3 weeks, ahead of last year and 39 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. In Minnesota and the Dakotas, head development was 49 percentage points or more ahead of normal. Overall, 77 percent of the spring wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up slightly from ratings last week and 8 percentage points better than the same time last year.

## Weather Data For Week Ending July 1, 2012

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - July 1, 2012					
	Temperature			Precipitation			Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
<b>Northwest</b>												
Erie	87	57	73	4	0.11	1	6.60	-4.31	29	1,128	323	1,880
Franklin_AG	94	45	70	2	0.69	3	7.70	-4.52	38	1,040	265	1,789
Meadville-Port	91	51	71	5	0.45	2	7.88	-3.92	31	1,098	403	1,862
Clarion	91	44	67	-2	0.72	3	9.93	-3.08	35	905	93	1,636
Springboro	93	46	68	-2	0.25	2	8.81	-1.73	31	938	118	1,652
Warren	90	48	68	0	0.76	2	8.74	-3.85	35	964	218	1,697
<b>North Central</b>												
Bradford Region	88	46	66	3	0.76	3	9.42	-3.30	36	858	340	1,574
Oswayo	89	39	64	-1	0.42	2	7.88	-4.47	32	765	163	1,452
Kane	88	45	67	4	0.59	2	11.70	-1.09	36	776	266	1,468
Laporte	89	48	67	-2	0.73	3	14.21	2.17	41	808	36	1,531
Lock Haven	96	47	70	1	0.33	2	10.60	-1.00	42	1,105	267	1,923
Coudersport_1SW	89	41	63	-2	0.80	3	10.46	-1.89	42	758	156	1,447
Renovo	93	48	69	0	0.56	2	12.05	0.45	37	1,081	243	1,890
Ridgway	90	42	66	2	0.48	2	9.43	-3.29	39	887	299	1,621
Stevenson Dam	93	47	68	4	0.02	1	9.76	-2.96	32	1,028	440	1,819
Towanda	94	51	69	1	0.51	2	10.44	0.44	37	970	184	1,721
Wellsboro	89	48	66	2	0.88	2	9.33	-0.63	35	779	236	1,498
Williamsport	95	51	72	2	0.69	3	10.12	-1.47	38	1,218	267	2,049
<b>Northeast</b>												
Hawley	91	48	67	2	0.65	2	9.37	-1.96	35	849	215	1,577
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	93	51	71	2	0.52	3	10.90	0.13	37	1,132	244	1,921
Susquehanna	92	50	68	3	0.34	1	12.03	0.10	33	913	309	1,651
<b>West Central</b>												
Butler	95	48	71	3	0.28	2	7.45	-4.36	32	1,077	260	1,864
New Castle	98	48	72	3	0.02	1	6.88	-3.91	28	1,150	332	1,948
Slippery Rock	98	46	71	4	0.07	2	8.30	-3.23	30	1,095	361	1,885
<b>Central</b>												
Altoona/Blair	95	54	73	4	0.26	3	9.13	-1.79	33	1,195	291	2,023
DuBois	91	45	69	2	0.28	2	9.53	-2.71	36	994	236	1,758
Lewistown	96	52	73	2	0.95	3	12.08	0.52	42	1,173	174	2,025
Middletown	97	58	76	3	0.02	2	11.72	0.23	35	1,356	217	2,229
Prince Gallitzi	91	45	68	2	0.39	3	9.56	-3.99	33	947	261	1,720
Selinsgrove	96	53	72	2	0.65	3	10.59	-1.15	39	1,115	199	1,928
State College	92	54	72	3	0.49	2	11.49	0.76	41	1,119	233	1,937
<b>East Central</b>												
Allentown-Bethel	96	51	73	2	0.21	3	13.00	1.38	34	1,251	223	2,097
Lehighton	91	51	70	-2	0.25	3	13.46	1.81	39	1,027	47	1,840
Matamoras	94	52	71	2	0.59	3	12.57	0.28	44	1,028	156	1,844
Mt_Pocono	90	49	67	4	0.39	2	13.38	0.44	43	877	338	1,637
<b>Southwest</b>												
Pittsburgh/Alle	99	54	76	7	0.36	2	6.03	-5.31	32	1,369	464	2,208
Indiana_PA	93	46	71	3	0.40	3	9.51	-3.38	44	1,129	252	1,922
Myersdale	92	42	65	-4	1.42	3	8.56	-3.87	37	787	-25	1,537
Chalk_Hill	92	41	66	-5	0.90	2	10.55	-1.84	36	874	-116	1,632
Pittsburgh Intl	97	53	75	5	0.11	3	7.22	-3.38	29	1,314	354	2,144
Connellsville	96	48	71	-1	0.34	2	9.41	-2.98	32	1,212	222	2,052
Waynesburg	98	47	70	2	0.65	1	6.40	-4.99	29	1,101	228	1,917
<b>South Central</b>												
Biglerville	97	57	75	2	0.21	2	12.02	1.30	38	1,261	133	2,121
Everett	97	49	70	0	0.23	1	11.23	0.86	39	1,006	130	1,812
Hanover	97	50	74	1	0.26	2	9.94	-0.78	37	1,223	95	2,072
Harrisburg_AP	99	57	77	3	0.02	2	11.94	0.45	35	1,401	255	2,276
South Mountain	93	49	70	-1	0.35	2	12.70	1.78	37	986	89	1,783
York	96	51	74	1	0.22	3	10.84	-0.89	39	1,234	103	2,068
<b>Southeast</b>												
Green Lane	96	54	74	3	0.32	3	11.93	0.74	34	1,215	247	2,075
Hamburg	95	53	73	4	0.46	3	13.06	-0.58	37	1,189	327	2,036
West_Chester	97	50	73	-1	0.29	2	10.20	-2.38	23	1,197	85	2,035
Lancaster	96	53	74	3	0.34	3	9.63	-1.92	31	1,297	266	2,146
Neshaminy Falls	96	52	74	3	0.39	3	11.37	-1.33	38	1,274	247	2,152
New Holland	97	53	75	4	0.32	3	11.57	0.02	31	1,327	296	2,209
Philadelphia	98	59	78	4	0.18	2	8.84	-2.41	24	1,512	299	2,411
Philadelphia NE	98	57	77	4	0.08	3	9.08	-2.17	29	1,370	157	2,250
Reading	97	54	75	4	0.19	3	10.41	-2.24	34	1,378	378	2,246
Sellersville	94	50	72	2	0.07	3	11.37	0.18	30	1,128	160	1,947
Doylestown_AG	95	54	75	3	0.22	3	12.29	-0.41	34	1,271	244	2,134

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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## 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 started the week off with morning temperatures in the 50's and into the 80's daytime. Thursday morning was 62 degrees and into the 90's and today started at 72 this morning and is to get into the higher 90's. Early Friday morning around 3:30 am a thunderstorm rolled through the county and York Springs had 0.1" of rainfall. Radio stations were reporting some hail in the county. Overall, it is really dry and with the temperatures in the 90's in the forecast, it will not help the crops. We need some moisture to keep the crops going. Corn continues to grow. Some places look good and ready to shoot tassel, but other places are not very good stands throughout fields. Some producers even replanted some acreage. Soybeans that are the initial crop are done being planted, but where the wheat and barley has been harvested the producers are double-cropping soybeans. Soybeans planted are now emerging and looking ok, but some areas are not too good of stands. Hay continues to be baled around the county. Wheat is being harvested and straw is being baled also. Barley harvest is complete with low test weights being reported. Fruit crops continue to mature. Early peaches are being harvested as well as apricots, plums, etc. Sweet corn is now shooting tassel in some areas. Other vegetables are looking pretty good. However, they also could use some moisture. Raspberries and blueberries are being harvested also. Overall, the producers are busy in the fields doing assortment of jobs. Some much needed rainfall is necessary to keep the crops going for 2012.

### **ADAMS COUNTY, Lee Showalter**

Apples and peaches seem to be sizing well. The season still appears to be 2 weeks early.

### **BERKS COUNTY, Steve DeBroux**

Soil on shale ground is really dry, while moisture levels remain adequate in other soil types throughout the county.

### **CAMBRIA COUNTY, Dolly Little**

We received very little rain last week - two very small showers that only provided a few tenths of an inch of rain. Conditions are becoming very dry; rain is needed this week.

### **CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker**

It was a good hay making week. We only received 0.5 inches of rainfall.

### **CLARION COUNTY, Tom Tanner**

Very dry and moisture for the month of June estimates to be 3" less than the normal level. Corn is starting to spike.

### **CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS)**

Weather has been excellent for field work. However, some good soaking rain days would be a welcome sight. First cutting hay is just about completed with some of the dairy producers working on chopping second crop. Most of the farming activity lately has been top dressing fields, repairing equipment and taking care of livestock.

### **FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr**

It was very hot this week and dry winds. Some showers with little rain; however wind did flatten some wheat still not yet harvested. It was excellent for hay, corn and soybeans, but some corn and hay on shallow soils are now showing stress. Cherries are mostly done with yields less than normal, but prices still remain high.

### **INDIANA COUNTY, David B. Overdorff**

Well I have not been keeping up with the weekly reporting like I have been in the past years. All of the oats is looking really good this year so far. I may be cutting some in about 3 weeks. It will be fun combining it.

Pray for rain but hope to not have any storms that will knock it down.

The first corn planted will be knee high by the 4th of July and then some, but all of it needs rain. Some of the later planted has been really stressed. The soybeans are coming along too, but they need rain just like everything else. All of the 1st cutting of hay is made. Need some rain for the second cutting. Hope everyone has a safe farming week. Enjoy the 4th of July, and stay cool.

### **LANCASTER COUNTY, Jeffrey Graybill**

Lancaster County received some very timely rain across much of the county early Friday morning. Many corn fields will be pushing tassels and begin pollination next week. Heat may be a negative factor in good pollination, ear size and uniformity.

### **LEBANON COUNTY, Charlene Ziegler**

The lack of rain is causing the corn to show signs of stress during the day. Some parts of Lebanon County received a sprinkle of rain while others had 1/3 of an inch this week. The barley harvest is pretty much complete and double crop soybeans have been planted. Wheat harvest continues and rye combining will be getting started. Straw was baled.

### **MERCER COUNTY, James P. Rust**

All crops are under severe stress due to drought conditions. Our area has only received 1.1 inches of rainfall for June - that total was from the first 10 days of June. Late applied herbicides are not working properly with many herbicides that require at least a 1/2 inch of rain to activate the chemicals properly. Fertilizers that have been applied to hay fields and side dressed corn fields have not received rain to activate the N-P-K.

### **PERRY COUNTY, David L. Swartz**

Dry conditions persisted this week. While some corn was showing moisture stress and pastures are browning due to the lack of moisture and high temperatures, it was an excellent week for hay making and wheat harvest. Combines ran until midnight and started harvest again at 8 AM due to the very low relative humidity during most of the week. Hay crops dried quickly and the quality was excellent. The corn crop in our area has as a wide of maturity as I have ever seen. Corn fields vary from 4-5 feet in height to other fields that are at the 3 leaf stage. It will pose an interesting challenge at harvest, especially if there is an early killing frost.

### **SCHUYLKILL COUNTY, Kelly E. Sundy**

We had an excellent week for farm work. The County has received confirmation of late blight in potatoes. Tomatoes are being checked for late blight as well.

### **SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer**

The strong winds at the beginning of the week and the heat at the end of the week is causing stress to the corn and soybeans. Harvesting of wheat is near completion with the yields being very good. The second cutting of alfalfa that wasn't sprayed is showing effects of severe leafhopper damage. The main activities for the week were haymaking, harvesting wheat and baling straw.

### **WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr**

This week saw only very isolated storms with most areas getting almost no rainfall. The heat is withering crops. Yields will almost certainly be at least somewhat adversely affected. Harvest conditions remain excellent for small grains and hay. Some wheat is already being combined about 2 weeks ahead of normal.

**PA Crop Progress for Week Ending July 1, 2012**

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, silk	9	0	2
Corn average height, inches	43	34	35
Barley, harvested	93	85	76
Wheat, turning yellow	95	97	94
Wheat, ripe	75	44	48
Wheat, harvested	56	12	14
Oats, heading or headed	93	64	81
Oats, turning yellow	47	0	7
Oats, ripe	7	0	0
Soybeans, emerged	96	90	88
Alfalfa, 2nd cutting	68	47	43
Alfalfa, 3rd cutting	8	0	1
Timothy clover, 1st cutting	98	88	85
Timothy clover, 2nd cutting	20	3	4
Peaches, harvested	5	0	0

**PA Crop Condition for Week Ending July 1, 2012**

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	0	10	22	42	26
Wheat	0	0	12	52	36
Oats	0	1	23	54	22
Soybeans	0	4	25	50	21
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand	1	3	31	48	17
Timothy clover stand	0	4	32	58	6
Quality of hay made	0	6	21	51	22
Pasture	11	27	28	32	2
Peaches	0	2	32	35	31
Apples	1	0	17	45	37

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