



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 April 14, 2013

Issued weekly, April-November

Released April 15, 2013, 4 pm

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

Fair Week for Field Work: Pennsylvania had an average of 4 days suitable for field work. Nice weather, sunshine and warm temperatures started off the week which helped fields start to grow and show some green. Near the end of the week though, storms moved through the state dumping several inches of rain and some areas even received hail, lightning and wind. The rain was much needed and brought much of the topsoil moisture up to normal, adequate levels. The warming temperature should result in an increase in field work throughout the state as farmers get ready to start planting corn and other crops. Fruit trees and other fruit producing plants are starting to bud after the warmer temperatures reached into the 70's and 80's. Field activities for the week included manure hauling, top dressing fields with fertilizer, pruning fruit trees and some plowing is in progress. More plowing, planting and field work is expected in the next couple of weeks as temperatures continue to rise. Spring plowing is getting more underway and is 25% complete.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending April 14, 2013

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
0	4	70	26

Crop Progress: Oats are 29% planted, which is behind last year's at 75% and the 5-year average of 38% planted. Tobacco beds are 70% planted, this is ahead of progress at this time last year of 67%, and the 5-year average of 46%. Peaches are 20% pink or past pink, which is behind last year's at 99% and the 5-year average of 54% planted. Cherries are 20% pink or past pink, which is behind last year's at 99% and the 5-year average of 53% planted.

Crop Condition: Winter wheat conditions are; 0% very poor, 2% poor, 24% fair, 65% good, and 9% excellent. Alfalfa stand conditions are; 1% very poor, 7% poor, 33% fair, 54% good, and 5% excellent. Timothy/Clover stand conditions are; 0% very poor, 3% poor, 46% fair, 40% good, and 11% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 9% very poor, 10% poor, 41% fair, 39% good and 1% excellent.

Nationwide as of April 7, 2013: Warmer-than-normal weather blanketed the West—with portions of the Pacific Northwest more than 9°F above average— while cool conditions dominated the eastern half of the nation. The cool weather delayed the start of row crop planting in many areas. Beneficial precipitation fell along the Pacific Coast and from the southern Great Plains to the Atlantic Coast. Most notably, portions of Louisiana's Delta region received more than 4.5 inches of rainfall during the week. Winter Wheat: Nationally, 36 percent of the winter wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, 2 percentage points better than last week but 25 points below the same time last year. In northern Texas, cold weather led to freeze damage in a portion of the crop. Adverse weather conditions during the winter months in Kansas negatively impacted crop development. By week's end, 22 percent of the Kansas winter wheat was jointed, 54 percentage points behind last year and 11 points behind normal. Other Small Grains: By April 7, thirty-five percent of the oat crop had been seeded, 23 percentage points behind last year and 6 points behind the 5-year average. In Wisconsin, seeding was well behind both last year and normal due to below-average March temperatures and frozen ground in most areas. Nationally, emergence was 31 percent complete by week's end, 5 percentage points behind last year and slightly behind the 5- year average.

Weather Data For Week Ending April 14, 2013

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - April 14, 2013					
	Temperature			Precipitation			Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	71	34	46	2	1.18	6	1.26	-0.24	7	14	12	67
Franklin_AG	76	29	52	9	3.18	4	3.36	1.75	5	31	29	93
Meadville-Port	73	30	52	10	1.40	6	1.51	-0.03	9	32	32	105
Clarion	76	27	52	7	2.01	4	2.15	0.47	5	27	22	87
Springboro	73	28	48	4	1.96	5	2.06	0.64	6	8	4	61
Warren	74	29	50	7	1.76	5	2.05	0.44	8	18	18	72
North Central												
Bradford Region	74	30	51	10	1.61	6	1.86	0.32	9	26	26	87
Oswayo	74	26	47	5	1.27	4	1.55	0.15	7	12	12	52
Kane	74	26	49	9	2.13	5	2.31	0.63	6	19	19	70
Laporte	74	32	48	4	1.38	3	1.83	0.36	6	23	17	63
Lock Haven	83	33	55	9	1.57	3	1.95	0.55	4	50	44	109
Coudersport_1SW	75	28	48	6	1.62	6	2.06	0.66	7	15	15	60
Renovo	81	32	53	8	2.13	4	2.37	0.97	5	41	35	97
Ridgway	75	27	50	9	2.63	4	3.00	1.46	6	24	24	77
Stevenson Dam	78	29	52	11	1.70	4	1.95	0.41	5	32	32	85
Towanda	73	34	49	5	1.68	4	1.91	0.63	5	18	12	66
Wellsboro	76	31	47	7	1.81	4	2.15	1.13	5	15	15	55
Williamsport	82	37	55	9	1.69	3	2.10	0.63	5	52	37	125
Northeast												
Hawley	74	32	48	6	1.29	5	1.43	-0.08	6	21	21	64
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	77	39	55	9	0.73	3	0.82	-0.49	4	49	43	119
Susquehanna	71	35	48	8	1.15	4	1.67	0.02	6	16	16	62
West Central												
Butler	78	29	56	10	2.72	6	2.85	1.40	8	54	47	115
New Castle	77	30	54	10	2.12	3	2.24	0.84	5	45	45	108
Slippery Rock	80	28	54	11	2.05	3	2.12	0.66	4	47	47	109
Central												
Altoona/Blair	82	35	60	14	1.05	4	1.45	-0.01	6	78	64	156
DuBois	76	29	55	11	1.17	4	1.37	-0.17	5	49	49	118
Lewistown	86	41	58	11	1.15	3	1.48	0.19	4	60	41	138
Middletown	85	40	59	10	0.62	3	0.72	-0.69	4	72	47	164
Prince Gallitzi	77	30	57	14	1.14	2	1.34	-0.62	3	60	59	123
Selinsgrove	86	39	55	9	1.32	3	1.63	0.21	4	47	35	115
State College	81	36	56	11	1.47	4	1.66	0.33	5	52	46	119
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	86	38	57	10	1.43	3	1.59	0.04	4	59	44	146
Lehighton	84	38	54	7	1.64	3	1.87	0.46	4	42	32	115
Matamoras	77	36	52	6	0.89	2	1.07	-0.70	3	31	24	95
Mt_Pocono	75	35	52	11	0.59	2	0.80	-1.01	3	37	37	90
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	81	35	62	15	0.87	3	0.99	-0.41	5	97	83	183
Indiana_PA	77	34	59	13	1.41	3	1.56	-0.12	4	73	60	152
Myersdale	80	32	56	11	0.91	4	1.21	-0.61	5	52	47	116
Chalk_Hill	82	33	58	10	0.74	4	0.98	-0.75	6	59	41	126
Pittsburgh Intl	81	32	60	13	1.24	3	1.34	-0.15	5	86	69	167
Connellsville	82	33	59	11	0.88	4	1.04	-0.69	6	67	49	136
Waynesburg	83	30	58	12	0.57	3	0.65	-0.93	4	66	55	135
South Central												
Biglerville	87	38	61	12	0.57	2	0.75	-0.79	3	82	57	172
Everett	84	33	60	14	1.20	4	1.47	-0.04	5	73	64	143
Hanover	88	34	61	12	1.09	3	1.17	-0.37	4	80	55	166
Harrisburg_AP	87	37	60	11	0.71	3	0.85	-0.56	4	75	50	169
South Mountain	84	34	58	12	0.69	2	0.94	-0.52	3	62	51	135
York	88	34	60	11	0.10	1	0.15	-1.52	2	81	56	159
Southeast												
Green Lane	85	39	57	10	1.58	3	1.74	0.10	4	58	46	141
Hamburg	86	38	57	11	1.22	3	1.43	-0.24	4	57	52	136
West_Chester	89	34	58	9	1.15	3	1.20	-0.52	4	66	43	146
Lancaster	86	36	58	10	0.77	3	0.81	-0.73	4	65	48	147
Neshaminy Falls	89	37	57	10	1.82	4	1.86	0.04	6	59	43	155
New Holland	87	39	60	12	0.62	2	0.67	-0.87	3	76	59	170
Philadelphia	89	42	61	11	1.37	3	1.64	-0.04	5	87	58	194
Philadelphia NE	88	38	60	10	1.59	3	1.79	0.11	5	77	48	177
Reading	88	39	60	13	1.15	3	1.22	-0.48	4	75	65	173
Sellersville	85	35	56	9	1.67	3	1.95	0.31	4	53	41	125
Doylestown_AG	87	38	58	10	1.62	3	1.81	-0.01	5	64	48	154

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 2013: 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 on Wednesday - 64 morning temperature, sun and clouds and into the 80's daytime, with a brief nighttime thunderstorm around 9:30 with enough rain to settle dust. Wheat, barley, rye and new seedings of hay from last fall are looking better with warmer temperatures this week and are greening. Still some areas where the yields will be affected due to the stand from wet conditions last fall. Hay is starting grow and producers are busy hauling manure on hay and corn/soybean ground. Some oats has been seeded this past week as soil conditions have improved.

Cherries, apricots, plums, pears and peaches are starting to bloom in the county and apple blossoms will follow in a few weeks. Producers are pruning trees and mowing brush from pruning trees as ground conditions have improved this week. Overall, the producers are raring to get planting corn and soybeans when a ground temperature is acquired in the county. They are making sure their equipment is ready to go when that time comes.

CAMBRIA County, Dolly Little

By mid week the temperatures were in the high 70's to low 80's with lots of sunshine; but by the end of the week, cold wet conditions returned. Activities this week included some oats planting and spreading of manure.

CENTRE County, Dick Decker

Some fieldwork completed. Rainfall at the end of the week added 1.75 inches and improved topsoil moisture to near normal.

CLARION County, Tom Tanner

3.5 inches of rain in two days. The storms damaged trees, fences, and some buildings; lots of lighting and some hail.

CRAWFORD County, Ron McCorkle (NRCS)

Off and on heavy rains this week left fields in poor condition for field work. The beginning of the week had the most activity with plowing, spreading fertilizer, and mending fences. Pastures and hay land are starting to green up quickly with the rains and warmer weather.

INDIANA County, David B. Overdorff

Have almost all of the oats ground plowed up, still have some more to do yet. Had a total of about .75" of rain last Wednesday and Thursday. Looks like this week is going to be decent for plowing, spreading lime and fertilizer, and drilling some more oats.

LEBANON County, Charlene Zeigler

Some farmers have started planting corn but most are waiting for this coming week. Manure pits were emptied this past week. Pen pack manure was also spread. Alfalfa fields are

looking good since warmer weather has arrived and some rain fell. Pastures are greening up nicely.

MERCER County, James P. Rust

We received over 2 inches of rainfall this past week. This was the week for hay fields, wheat fields and pasture to really turn green. Fertilizing hay fields and crop fields came to a stop with the rain.

PERRY County, David L. Swartz

The combination of several days of high temperatures followed by abundant rain at the end of the week has kick-started cool season grasses in hay fields and pastures.

SNYDER County, William C. Sheaffer

Rainfall in the range of .75 to 1.25 inches fell on Friday. The main activities for the week were plowing, seeding alfalfa and oats, and spreading manure.

UNION County, Glenn Spangler

Changing weather conditions affected field work during the past week. Primary field work included hauling livestock manure and starting to work some fields for and/or sow new alfalfa seeds. Rain should help with germination, since it was very dry early in the week. Forage crops and winter small grains started to green with the warmer temperatures.

WESTMORELAND County, John Lohr

Just starting to get pasture grass growth. Some no-till oats was planted. Good week for tillage, manure hauling, and fertilizer and lime spreading. Conditions are almost suitable for planting sweet corn under plastic.

YORK County, John Rowehl

Conditions remained warm and relatively dry until late in the week.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending April 14, 2013

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Spring plowing	25	58	33
Oats, planted	29	75	38
Tobacco beds, planted	70	67	46
Peaches, in pink	20	99	54
Cherries, in pink	20	99	53

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending April 14, 2013

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Wheat	0	2	24	65	9
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand	1	7	33	54	5
Timothy clover stand	0	3	46	40	11
Pasture	9	10	41	39	1

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
