



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Pennsylvania

Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending March 31, 2019

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by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS*

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Pennsylvania Weekly Crop Weather April 1st, 2019: Pennsylvania had a fair week for field activities with an average of 3.0 days suitable for field work. Hints of warm weather, particularly over the weekend gave life to some fields with cover crops beginning to turn green. Pastures remain wet but have started showing signs of growth. Initial assessment of fruit trees shows little to no damage from winter conditions. Field activities included manure spreading, applying fertilizer, bailing corn fodder, alfalfa seeding, planting spring grains and equipment maintenance.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending March 31, 2019 (in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	0	76	24
SUBSOIL	0	0	85	15

Crop Conditions as of March 31, 2019 (in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
PASTURE AND RANGE	9	22	60	8	1
WINTER WHEAT	0	12	57	27	4

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit www.usda.gov/oce/weather and click on ["Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin."](#)

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 is still drying out this week. Got some showers throughout the week. Temperatures are warmer today but earlier this week they were still on cooler side and some mornings still had pretty heavy frost. Most days were breezy which kept temperatures down and sun has been sporadic all week. Producers are getting anxious to get into the fields and some were able to get some manure hauled however soils are still pretty saturated all through the county. Depending on soil type depends if you can get into the fields. Some oats was seeded last week however probably washed out due to a lot of rain last Thursday but time will tell. Wheat doesn't look very good at this point with most fields have low drowned out spots. Producers are concerned about how it's going to fair and what they will be dealing with as far as tests on wheat. Producers would like to sow some oats as straw is needed since not a lot of wheat was seeded last fall due to wet conditions. Hay is starting to get green as well as some pastures but they are all still plenty wet. Producers are hoping to get some warmer and dryer weather to get the spring started. They are readying their equipment so when the time comes they are ready to go to the fields.

ADAMS/FRANKLIN Counties, Thomas Kerr

Several warm days allowed for spreading manure, applying fertilizer, baling corn fodder and some seeding of alfalfa. No apparent winter injury to fruit trees seen at this time. Pastures just beginning to show growth.

BEDFORD County, Robin J. Foor

Producers are starting to work the ground and spread some fertilizers. A few may have planted some spring grains. Pasture are still trying to dry out. There may be some pastures needing

some seeding due to the animals tramping down the ground when it was extremely wet.

BRADFORD County, Casey Guindon

Warm temperatures over the weekend have resulted in pastures, hayfields, and cover crops beginning to green up. Manure spreading is taking place in earnest to reduce the stores that built up through an exceptionally wet 2018.

CENTRE County, Dick A. Decker

Few days of spring weather has farmers preparing equipment, hauling manure and seeding some oats. Most soils in the area remain too wet to do much field work.

COLUMBIA County, John O'Yocum

Wheat just greening this past week. Many lawns still brown.

DAUPHIN/PERRY Counties, Liz Bozak

Field activities were limited to manure application last week. Some winter annual weeds are flowering but growth remains slow. Winter wheat and overwintered cover crops are starting to grow again. Along the Appalachian Trail, plant species typically in bloom by now are still waiting to flower.

JUNIATA/SNYDER Counties, William C. Sheaffer

The soil is beginning to dry off to the extent that some field work can be performed. The winter grains are showing signs of moderate winter kill. Activities for the week were spreading manure and preparing for spring planting.

LANCASTER County, Jeff Graybill

Expect to see a lot of manure hauling and some spring tillage this week. Wheat topdressing and spraying is in full swing.