



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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Week Ending July 7, 2013

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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 3 days suitable for field work. Hot and humid weather persisted throughout the entire week with some thunderstorms scattered throughout the week. The soil has plenty of moisture and the warm weather has corn and soybean crops looking great. Crops in areas with surplus moisture are showing some signs of stress but overall the crops look fine. It has been very difficult the past couple of weeks for farms to make dry hay from all the wet weather we have had throughout the state. Wheat harvest has just begun and farmers are hoping that the dramatic differences in weather have not harmed the wheat crop. Fruit trees are looking good throughout the state but there are some reports of cherries seeing damages from all the excess rain in the northwestern part of Pennsylvania. Overall the warm weather has crops growing nicely but Pennsylvania has received several inches of rain the past several weeks which is making it hard for farmers to get into the fields. Field activities for the week included planting remaining crops, cutting alfalfa, hay and other forage; harvesting barley, side dressing fields with nitrogen and applying other fertilizer, mowing pastures, spraying herbicides and pesticides.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending July 7, 2013

| Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|------------|---------|----------|---------|
| Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| 0 | 0 | 57 | 43 |

Crop Progress: Corn is at 51 inches in height, which is behind progress at this time last year of 56 inches but ahead of the 5-year average of 47 inches in height. Barley is 56% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 98% and the 5-year average of 92% harvested. Winter wheat is 76% ripe, which is behind progress at this time last year of 94% and the 5-year average of 81% ripe. Winter wheat is 20% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 78% and the 5-year average of 49% harvested. Oats are 98% headed, which is ahead of progress at this time last year of 94% and the 5-year average of 91% headed. Oats are 19% yellow, which is behind progress at this time last year of 66% and the 5-year average of 28% yellow. Alfalfa second cutting is 42% cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 87% and the 5-year average of 66% cut. Timothy/Clover first cutting is 90% cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 98% and the 5-year average of 92% cut. Peaches are 5% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 22% harvested.

Crop Condition: Corn conditions are; 0% very poor, 2% poor, 16% fair, 58% good, and 24% excellent. Winter wheat conditions are; 1% very poor, 6% poor, 23% fair, 55% good, and 15% excellent. Oats conditions are; 4% very poor, 1% poor, 16% fair, 69% good, and 10% excellent. Soybean conditions are; 0% very poor, 1% poor, 18% fair, 67% good, and 14% excellent. Alfalfa stand conditions are; 0% very poor, 4% poor, 21% fair, 55% good, and 20% excellent. Timothy/Clover stand conditions are; 0% very poor, 2% poor, 21% fair, 64% good, and 13% excellent. Quality of Hay made conditions are; 3% very poor, 16% poor, 26% fair, 49% good and 6% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 4% very poor, 4% poor, 29% fair, 43% good and 20% excellent. Peaches conditions are; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 12% fair, 78% good and 10% excellent. Apples conditions are; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 8% fair, 72% good and 20% excellent.

Nationwide as of June 30, 2013: Near normal temperatures were recorded in the Corn Belt and Southeast, while much of the remainder of the nation was dominated by unseasonably warm weather during the week. Most notably, daytime highs stretching from the Southwest into the central and southern Great Plains climbed to well over 100°F. Above-average rainfall fell in the Pacific Northwest, as well as in most areas east of the Mississippi River during the week. Conversely, drought conditions intensified in the Southwest and Four Corners regions, where weekly rainfall accumulations totaled less than one-tenth of an inch. Corn: By June 30, three percent of this year's corn crop was silking, 19 percentage points behind last year and 6 points behind the 5-year average. In Iowa, warmer, drier weather boosted crop conditions during the week; however, phenological development continued to lag the normal pace due to delayed planting earlier this year. Overall, 67 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up 2 percentage points from last week and 19 points above the same time last year. Soybeans: Producers had planted 96 percent of the soybean crop by week's end, 4 percentage points behind last year and 2 points behind the 5-year average. Planting in Indiana neared completion during the week; however, most double-cropped acreage and some fields in southern counties remained unplanted. Nationally, 91 percent of the soybean crop had emerged by June 30, eight percentage points behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average. Overall, 67 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up 2 percentage points from last week and 22 points better than the same time last year. Winter Wheat: By week's end, winter wheat producers had harvested 43 percent of the nation's crop, 30 percentage points behind last year and 9 points behind the 5-year average. In Kansas, storms delivered much-needed moisture but slowed an otherwise rapid harvest pace toward week's end. With nearly three-quarters of Texas' winter wheat crop harvested, many producers were busy preparing their fields for fall-sown crops. Overall, 34 percent of the winter wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up 2 percentage points from last week. Comparison data for the previous year was unavailable due to the earliness of last year's harvest. Other Small Grains: Sixty-six percent of the oat crop was at or beyond the heading stage by June 30, thirty percentage points behind last year and 10 points behind the 5-year average. Overall, 59 percent of the oat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up 2 percentage points from last week but 6 points below the same time last year. By June 30, barley producers had sown 97 percent of this year's crop, 3 percentage points behind last year and 2 points behind the 5-year average. In North Dakota, producers utilized 6 days suitable for fieldwork—the most all year—to plant 9 percent of their crop during the week. Nationally, 94 percent of the barley crop had emerged by week's end, 6 percentage points behind last year and 4 points behind the 5-year average. Twenty-seven percent of the barley crop was at or beyond the heading stage by June 30, thirty-five percentage points behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average. In the Pacific Northwest, crop development was advancing ahead of the average pace, as warm, mostly dry weather quickly matured the crop. Overall, 68 percent of the barley crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down slightly from last week but 7 percentage points above the same time last year.

Weather Data For Week Ending July 7, 2013

| Station | Last Week Weather Summary | | | | | | April 1 - July 7, 2013 | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-----|---------|-----|---------------|------|------------------------|-------|------|--------------|-----|----------|
| | Temperature | | | | Precipitation | | Precipitation | | | GDD Base 50F | | Base 40F |
| | High | Low | Average | DFN | Total | Days | Total | DFN | Days | Total | DFN | Total |
| Northwest | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Erie | 87 | 61 | 73 | 3 | 1.64 | 5 | 17.08 | 5.49 | 46 | 1,171 | 265 | 2,000 |
| Franklin_AG | 88 | 61 | 74 | 5 | 1.12 | 5 | 14.98 | 1.85 | 48 | 1,153 | 282 | 1,973 |
| Meadville-Port | 85 | 63 | 73 | 6 | 1.01 | 5 | 13.19 | 0.53 | 50 | 1,188 | 403 | 2,027 |
| Clarion | 85 | 57 | 72 | 3 | 1.85 | 5 | 14.27 | 0.36 | 45 | 979 | 72 | 1,775 |
| Springboro | 85 | 60 | 71 | 2 | 1.97 | 5 | 17.59 | 6.31 | 45 | 1,023 | 102 | 1,817 |
| Warren | 87 | 61 | 73 | 5 | 0.95 | 6 | 12.35 | -1.06 | 50 | 1,051 | 210 | 1,859 |
| North Central | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bradford Region | 83 | 61 | 72 | 9 | 1.17 | 5 | 12.58 | -1.00 | 51 | 970 | 381 | 1,774 |
| Oswayo | 85 | 60 | 73 | 8 | 1.47 | 6 | 10.82 | -2.36 | 42 | 832 | 153 | 1,593 |
| Kane | 85 | 60 | 71 | 8 | 1.35 | 6 | 16.95 | 3.30 | 48 | 804 | 223 | 1,567 |
| Laporte | 83 | 62 | 73 | 4 | 2.72 | 4 | 17.80 | 4.98 | 42 | 855 | -13 | 1,639 |
| Lock Haven | 90 | 62 | 76 | 7 | 1.24 | 4 | 11.97 | -0.42 | 33 | 1,181 | 243 | 2,028 |
| Coudersport_1SW | 85 | 58 | 72 | 7 | 1.53 | 6 | 11.89 | -1.29 | 49 | 824 | 145 | 1,595 |
| Renovo | 89 | 62 | 76 | 6 | 2.98 | 4 | 13.57 | 1.18 | 38 | 1,179 | 241 | 2,017 |
| Ridgway | 86 | 58 | 72 | 8 | 1.36 | 7 | 14.24 | 0.62 | 49 | 974 | 306 | 1,763 |
| Stevenson Dam | 88 | 61 | 74 | 9 | 3.22 | 4 | 12.09 | -1.53 | 37 | 1,059 | 391 | 1,873 |
| Towanda | 88 | 61 | 76 | 8 | 2.07 | 3 | 13.32 | 2.68 | 33 | 1,009 | 128 | 1,830 |
| Wellsboro | 83 | 55 | 72 | 7 | -2.70 | 4 | 13.35 | 2.71 | 44 | 836 | 218 | 1,623 |
| Williamsport | 90 | 67 | 79 | 8 | 0.85 | 5 | 11.69 | -0.70 | 34 | 1,293 | 235 | 2,175 |
| Northeast | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hawley | 88 | 60 | 73 | 7 | 5.27 | 3 | 20.58 | 8.60 | 40 | 900 | 181 | 1,690 |
| Wilkes-Barre/Sc | 90 | 69 | 77 | 7 | 0.66 | 3 | 10.79 | -0.72 | 34 | 1,226 | 233 | 2,095 |
| Susquehanna | 88 | 63 | 75 | 10 | 0.84 | 4 | 14.09 | 1.40 | 39 | 955 | 269 | 1,766 |
| West Central | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Butler | 86 | 62 | 74 | 5 | 0.74 | 3 | 13.57 | 0.95 | 44 | 1,149 | 234 | 1,973 |
| New Castle | 86 | 63 | 74 | 5 | 0.65 | 6 | 11.85 | 0.28 | 40 | 1,186 | 268 | 2,020 |
| Slippery Rock | 88 | 60 | 74 | 7 | 1.27 | 5 | 11.70 | -0.64 | 39 | 1,200 | 376 | 2,026 |
| Central | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Altoona/Blair | 87 | 66 | 76 | 6 | 0.14 | 4 | 10.31 | -1.34 | 42 | 1,274 | 267 | 2,143 |
| DuBois | 85 | 64 | 74 | 7 | 1.60 | 2 | 10.67 | -2.33 | 39 | 1,167 | 317 | 2,001 |
| Lewistown | 93 | 64 | 78 | 7 | 1.09 | 2 | 10.27 | -2.08 | 39 | 1,327 | 217 | 2,218 |
| Middletown | 93 | 71 | 80 | 6 | 0.24 | 4 | 9.00 | -3.19 | 44 | 1,443 | 178 | 2,358 |
| Prince Gallitzi | 87 | 63 | 74 | 8 | 3.10 | 6 | 13.69 | -0.80 | 43 | 1,093 | 321 | 1,926 |
| Selinsgrove | 90 | 65 | 77 | 6 | 0.77 | 3 | 14.57 | 2.06 | 34 | 1,204 | 181 | 2,072 |
| State College | 87 | 63 | 76 | 7 | 1.18 | 5 | 15.24 | 3.78 | 40 | 1,226 | 237 | 2,088 |
| East Central | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Allentown-Bethel | 91 | 69 | 79 | 6 | 1.26 | 3 | 13.43 | 1.05 | 35 | 1,341 | 197 | 2,240 |
| Lehighton | 87 | 69 | 76 | 4 | 2.25 | 4 | 16.54 | 4.14 | 38 | 1,107 | 15 | 1,980 |
| Matamoras | 89 | 68 | 77 | 7 | 2.44 | 4 | 17.98 | 4.87 | 39 | 1,112 | 135 | 1,972 |
| Mt_Pocono | 85 | 67 | 74 | 10 | 3.73 | 3 | 19.37 | 5.61 | 39 | 933 | 319 | 1,735 |
| Southwest | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pittsburgh/Alle | 89 | 66 | 77 | 7 | 0.97 | 5 | 11.92 | -0.17 | 40 | 1,467 | 457 | 2,353 |
| Indiana_PA | 88 | 64 | 75 | 6 | 1.66 | 6 | 13.63 | -0.21 | 46 | 1,256 | 280 | 2,116 |
| Myersdale | 84 | 55 | 72 | 4 | 1.29 | 6 | 11.57 | -1.79 | 50 | 959 | 52 | 1,764 |
| Chalk_Hill | 89 | 55 | 72 | 2 | 1.11 | 4 | 14.13 | 0.87 | 48 | 1,014 | -85 | 1,820 |
| Pittsburgh Intl | 88 | 66 | 76 | 5 | 0.50 | 4 | 11.46 | 0.10 | 40 | 1,407 | 339 | 2,280 |
| Connellsville | 91 | 60 | 77 | 6 | 3.99 | 6 | 16.06 | 2.80 | 54 | 1,254 | 155 | 2,110 |
| Waynesburg | 89 | 62 | 75 | 6 | 1.92 | 3 | 12.85 | 0.66 | 43 | 1,204 | 230 | 2,052 |
| South Central | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Biglerville | 93 | 66 | 78 | 5 | 0.17 | 2 | 10.80 | -0.53 | 37 | 1,352 | 101 | 2,251 |
| Everett | 89 | 60 | 75 | 5 | 1.35 | 6 | 11.19 | 0.12 | 44 | 1,126 | 149 | 1,977 |
| Hanover | 91 | 69 | 79 | 5 | 0.09 | 2 | 10.72 | -0.61 | 42 | 1,338 | 87 | 2,234 |
| Harrisburg_AP | 92 | 71 | 80 | 6 | 0.18 | 4 | 9.91 | -2.28 | 45 | 1,444 | 172 | 2,364 |
| South Mountain | 86 | 66 | 75 | 6 | 1.38 | 2 | 13.73 | 2.08 | 41 | 1,073 | 73 | 1,925 |
| York | 91 | 71 | 79 | 6 | 0.09 | 2 | 9.14 | -3.34 | 39 | 1,370 | 118 | 2,254 |
| Southeast | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Green Lane | 92 | 70 | 79 | 7 | 1.81 | 4 | 16.14 | 4.19 | 38 | 1,317 | 237 | 2,216 |
| Hamburg | 91 | 69 | 78 | 7 | 1.21 | 4 | 13.72 | -0.83 | 43 | 1,301 | 334 | 2,196 |
| West_Chester | 94 | 69 | 78 | 5 | 0.94 | 4 | 18.00 | 4.55 | 41 | 1,305 | 71 | 2,197 |
| Lancaster | 90 | 69 | 78 | 6 | 1.78 | 4 | 13.10 | 0.69 | 40 | 1,334 | 187 | 2,224 |
| Neshaminy Falls | 94 | 71 | 81 | 8 | 0.77 | 3 | 15.66 | 2.01 | 39 | 1,397 | 253 | 2,309 |
| New Holland | 94 | 68 | 79 | 7 | 0.65 | 3 | 14.14 | 1.73 | 38 | 1,443 | 296 | 2,359 |
| Philadelphia | 94 | 73 | 81 | 6 | 0.77 | 3 | 16.61 | 4.54 | 38 | 1,648 | 304 | 2,586 |
| Philadelphia NE | 94 | 72 | 80 | 5 | 0.48 | 4 | 14.68 | 2.61 | 41 | 1,468 | 124 | 2,387 |
| Reading | 93 | 70 | 80 | 8 | 1.49 | 4 | 13.46 | -0.01 | 36 | 1,491 | 376 | 2,412 |
| Sellersville | 91 | 68 | 77 | 6 | 2.43 | 2 | 18.35 | 6.40 | 33 | 1,244 | 164 | 2,122 |
| Doylestown_AG | 92 | 73 | 80 | 8 | 3.08 | 3 | 19.18 | 5.53 | 35 | 1,405 | 261 | 2,313 |

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 had another interesting week of weather conditions. Mornings started in low 70's and hot and humid into the high 80's all days. Some days sun would shine and some days dark clouds and hardly any sun. The county has been receiving sporadic showers with some areas getting moisture and others not receiving a drop. Corn and soybeans that have been planted are looking pretty good. Some corn had to be replanted as stands were not too good if early planted. Soybeans are being planted after barley, hay and will be additional acreages after wheat harvest. Barley harvest is complete with lower yields and lower test weights. Wheat harvest is started but not too much yet. Most wheat will be harvested this next week. Oats are looking pretty good. Hay continues to be made but has been very sporadic as weather conditions have not permitted good hay making weather. Some places that have been getting rains also had hay laying so that hay will go for mulch.

Fruit crops are looking pretty good. Some peaches and apples have been affected by cold temperatures mid May. It is now evident as we had some producers bring us some apples so we could see damaged fruit. The fruit is sizing up pretty well. Some early peaches are being harvested in the county along with apricots, plums. Other vegetables and fruits also coming along and being harvested when ready. Blueberries and raspberries are being harvested. Overall the crops are looking pretty decent for the various types of weather we've been having. Producers are busy doing whatever they can in the fields when weather permits.

ADAMS County, Lee Showalter

Although the showers have been somewhat hit or miss all growers have adequate to surplus moisture. The fruit seems to be growing well and there has been no adverse weather that has impacted quality to date.

BUTLER County, L Fritz

Producers are hoping the wet/humid weather does not affect wheat quality. Wheat harvest is about 1 week away. Hay harvest is on hold until weather improves. Corn is looking good.

CENTRE County, Dick Decker

Hot humid weather makes crop harvesting difficult. Conditions have growing crops looking great. 0.75 inches of rainfall.

CLARION County, Tom Tanner

It has been difficult to make dry hay. Some of the row crops are turning yellow from the excess moisture.

LEBANON County, Charlene Ziegler

Barley harvest is almost complete. Straw was baled. Double crop soybeans have been planted. Corn is beginning to tassel.

MERCER County, James P. Rust

We received 1.5 inches of rainfall this past week. No hay was made last week along with limited field work. Sweet corn growers have had a difficult time planting late plantings of sweet corn. Many soybean fields still are needing roundup sprayed. The low poorly drained spots in corn and soybean fields are "yellow" and hurting overall fall yields. Erie County's cherry crop has many orchards reporting to much rain that is splitting the cherries and causing rot to develop in the cracks.

POTTER County, Nicole Santangelo

Wet conditions persist. Some spraying and planting occurred Wednesday.

SNYDER County, William C. Sheaffer

The heavy rainfall has caused some of the crops to deteriorate in quality; especially in the poorly drained areas. The corn in the lighter, shale soil is looking very good. Difficult week to make dry hay. Wheat harvest has begun and the yields are above average with no signs of kernel sprouting. Main activities for the week were side dressing, spraying, planting and harvesting.

WESTMORELAND County, John Lohr

Warm and humid conditions coupled with substantial rainfall made for excellent growing conditions for corn, soybeans and alfalfa. The wet conditions are making harvest difficult for barley, wheat, and forage. Wet field conditions are making it almost impossible to get needed herbicides applied to soybeans.

YORK County, John Rowehl

Corn under much moisture stress on red shale ground. Need some clear weather to get wheat harvest going.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending July 7, 2013

| Crop | Current Week | Last Year | 5-Year Average |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Corn average height, inches | 51 | 56 | 47 |
| Barley, harvested | 56 | 98 | 92 |
| Wheat, ripe | 76 | 94 | 81 |
| Wheat, harvested | 20 | 78 | 49 |
| Oats, heading or headed | 98 | 94 | 91 |
| Oats, turning yellow | 19 | 66 | 28 |
| Alfalfa, 2nd cutting | 42 | 87 | 66 |
| Timothy clover, 1st cutting | 90 | 98 | 92 |
| Peaches, harvested | 5 | 22 | NA |

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending July 7, 2013

| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Corn | 0 | 2 | 16 | 58 | 24 |
| Wheat | 1 | 6 | 23 | 55 | 15 |
| Oats | 4 | 1 | 16 | 69 | 10 |
| Soybeans | 0 | 1 | 18 | 67 | 14 |
| Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand | 0 | 4 | 21 | 55 | 20 |
| Timothy clover stand | 0 | 2 | 21 | 64 | 13 |
| Quality of hay made | 3 | 16 | 26 | 49 | 6 |
| Pasture | 4 | 4 | 29 | 43 | 20 |
| Peaches | 0 | 0 | 12 | 78 | 10 |
| Apples | 0 | 0 | 8 | 72 | 20 |

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