



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Northeastern Regional Field Office

4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203 · Harrisburg, PA 17112-2875

(717) 787-3904 · (717) 782-4011 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov

Week Ending September 8, 2013

Issued weekly, April-November

Released September 9, 2013, 4 pm

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

Excellent Week for Field Work: Pennsylvania had an average of 6 days suitable for field work. This was one of the most beautiful weeks all year with temperatures usually in the 70s, few showers, windy and low humidity. There were some nights where low temperatures were felt and some areas farther north did report some light frost. Farmers are in the fields harvest corn silage all across the state at this moment. Corn and soybeans continue to mature nicely and crops should be nice from all the rain we received over the summer. With the nice week and no rain farmers were able to harvest hay with some reporters saying this was the best hay making weeks of the year. Peach harvest is pretty much complete and apple harvest is about half way done with many producers reporting good harvests. Farmers are also starting to plant barley and winter wheat for cover crops over the winter and to continue on growing next year. The soil is starting to dry out which can be seen in many fields as you drive throughout Pennsylvania, so a little rain is much needed to help the crops finish up strong before harvest is complete. The week ahead should see temperature climb back up into the 80s and rain is predicted mid-week. With fall fast approaching county fairs are starting to take place, so get out, support agriculture and see what your entire county has to offer in the agriculture industry. Field activities for the week included cutting alfalfa, timothy and other forage; harvesting tobacco, potatoes, peaches and apples, planting barley and winter wheat, applying fertilizer, mowing pastures, spraying herbicides and pesticides.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending September 8, 2013

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
3	34	61	2

Crop Progress: Fall plowing is 26% plowed, which is ahead of progress at this time last year of 20% and the 5-year average of 20% plowed. Corn is 93% doughed, which is behind progress at this time last year of 94% but ahead of the 5-year average of 87% doughed. Corn is 59% dent, which is behind progress at this time last year of 71% and the 5-year average of 61% dent. Corn is 13% mature, which is behind progress at this time last year of 20% and the 5-year average of 17% dent. Corn silage is 23% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 47% and the 5-year average of 38% harvested. Barley is 12% planted, which is ahead of progress at this time last year of 0% and the 5-year average of 5% planted. Tobacco is 80% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 81% but ahead of the 5-year average of 71% harvested. Potatoes are 44% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 49% but ahead of the 5-year average of 37% harvested. Alfalfa third cutting is 93% cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 98% and the 5-year average of 96% cut. Alfalfa fourth cutting is 45%

cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 66% and the 5-year average of 51% cut. Peaches are 95% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 98% but ahead of the 5-years average of 94% harvested. Apples are 48% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 51% but ahead of the 5-year average of 44% harvested.

Crop Condition: Corn conditions are; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 11% fair, 40% good, and 46% excellent. Soybean conditions are; 0% very poor, 1% poor, 20% fair, 56% good, and 23% excellent. Quality of Hay made conditions are; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 14% fair, 51% good and 31% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 6% very poor, 10% poor, 24% fair, 52% good and 8% excellent. Apples conditions are; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 12% fair, 44% good and 44% excellent.

Nationwide as of September 1, 2013: Another week of hot, mostly dry weather covered much of the Upper Mississippi Valley and Northern Great Plains, with daytime highs above 100°F in several locations. Temperatures in parts of Iowa and Minnesota averaged more than 15°F above normal during the week. Much of the Southwest welcomed above average-rainfall during the week, which helped boost soil moisture levels. Similarly, portions of the Ohio Valley accumulated more than 2 inches of rain during the week. Corn: Eighty-four percent of this year's corn crop was at or beyond the dough stage by week's end, 13 percentage points behind last year and 5 points behind the 5-year average. Nationwide, 42 percent of the corn crop was at or beyond the dent stage by September 1, forty-two percentage points behind last year and 19 points behind the 5-year average. By week's end, 4 percent of the corn crop was mature, 34 percentage points behind last year and 13 points behind the 5-year average. A small portion of the earliest planted corn was mature in Iowa. Overall, 56 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 3 percentage points from last week but 34 points better than the same time last year. Soybeans: Ninety-two percent of the crop was setting pods by September 1, six percentage points behind last year and 4 points behind the 5-year average. In Illinois, some soybean fields have started turning yellow. Overall, 54 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 4 percentage points from last week but 24 points better than the same time last year. Other Small Grains: Producers had harvested 90 percent of this year's oat crop by September 1, ten percentage points behind last year and 4 points behind the 5-year average. By week's end, 76 percent of the barley crop was harvested, 14 percentage points behind last year but 5 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average.

Weather Data For Week Ending September 8, 2013

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - September 8, 2013					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	81	48	67	-1	0.99	3	25.79	6.33	69	2,505	321	3,964
Franklin_AG	85	44	65	0	0.28	2	23.60	1.63	78	2,365	315	3,815
Meadville-Port	81	46	65	2	0.55	3	20.61	-1.24	77	2,404	525	3,873
Clarion	83	42	62	-3	0.06	2	22.53	-0.29	74	2,074	11	3,500
Springboro	81	42	63	-4	0.67	3	28.00	8.80	71	2,118	-45	3,542
Warren	85	41	64	-1	0.69	4	19.98	-1.96	72	2,220	229	3,658
North Central												
Bradford Region	81	34	62	3	0.87	5	18.29	-3.68	80	1,960	500	3,394
Oswayo	82	31	58	-3	0.60	4	17.71	-2.99	64	1,720	113	3,111
Kane	82	40	62	3	0.35	3	22.26	-0.06	68	1,726	293	3,119
Laporte	79	39	61	-4	0.08	3	27.18	6.96	69	1,883	-159	3,297
Lock Haven	88	42	66	1	0.09	1	18.59	-1.38	61	2,478	318	3,955
Coudersport_1SW	81	37	61	0	0.23	5	19.52	-1.18	77	1,800	193	3,201
Renovo	87	42	66	0	0.36	2	15.62	-4.35	61	2,477	317	3,945
Ridgway	83	39	62	1	0.32	2	21.18	-0.78	71	2,041	401	3,460
Stevenson Dam	84	42	65	3	0.41	3	18.44	-3.52	61	2,279	639	3,723
Towanda	85	42	65	0	0.02	2	20.56	3.77	57	2,218	160	3,669
Wellsboro	82	36	61	0	0.15	4	20.32	3.47	70	1,839	288	3,256
Williamsport	89	43	69	3	0.50	1	16.23	-3.43	55	2,732	351	4,244
Northeast												
Hawley	82	39	64	2	0.80	2	26.13	6.98	64	2,032	265	3,452
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	87	42	68	3	0.10	3	13.68	-4.92	58	2,629	368	4,128
Susquehanna	82	40	63	2	0.67	4	23.95	3.48	61	2,126	443	3,567
West Central												
Butler	84	43	63	-3	0.01	1	22.77	1.88	73	2,320	197	3,774
New Castle	82	44	65	-2	0.18	1	20.94	2.03	65	2,414	291	3,878
Slippery Rock	87	41	64	2	0.23	1	19.96	-0.34	63	2,458	544	3,914
Central												
Altoona/Blair	87	43	66	0	0.46	1	15.52	-2.53	71	2,569	306	4,068
DuBois	80	41	64	0	0.24	2	17.25	-3.71	62	2,386	419	3,850
Lewistown	90	46	69	2	0.03	1	15.05	-4.44	63	2,778	298	4,299
Middletown	88	50	71	2	0.01	1	17.08	-2.13	69	3,001	207	4,546
Prince Gallitzi	85	40	62	-2	1.87	1	19.66	-3.61	65	2,253	431	3,716
Selinsgrove	88	44	66	-2	0.40	2	20.74	0.69	59	2,532	208	4,030
State College	85	46	66	0	0.64	1	20.76	2.51	63	2,526	287	4,018
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	87	46	68	1	0.79	2	27.44	6.43	62	2,802	243	4,331
Lehighton	82	44	65	-3	0.60	2	25.45	4.60	65	2,351	-123	3,854
Matamoras	82	45	66	1	0.59	2	26.62	5.51	65	2,450	210	3,940
Mt_Pocono	77	39	64	4	0.49	3	28.19	5.81	63	2,074	525	3,506
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	84	47	67	1	0.17	1	22.16	2.83	68	2,810	538	4,326
Indiana_PA	82	43	65	-2	0.50	3	23.59	1.07	80	2,499	303	3,989
Myersdale	81	41	61	-6	0.17	2	25.45	3.54	79	1,982	-129	3,417
Chalk_Hill	81	46	63	-5	0.19	3	29.23	7.69	79	2,029	-390	3,465
Pittsburgh Intl	85	46	67	0	0.01	1	19.11	0.87	60	2,779	403	4,282
Connellsville	84	46	65	-3	0.06	2	29.38	7.84	86	2,563	144	4,049
Waynesburg	83	45	65	-2	0.11	2	22.20	2.18	75	2,416	211	3,894
South Central												
Biglerville	88	47	69	0	0.29	1	18.42	0.45	60	2,800	71	4,329
Everett	85	38	64	-4	0.39	3	17.00	-0.60	69	2,315	65	3,796
Hanover	88	45	68	-2	0.15	1	17.61	-0.36	71	2,739	10	4,265
Harrisburg_AP	89	47	71	2	0.01	1	16.12	-3.09	69	2,984	183	4,534
South Mountain	84	45	65	-2	0.14	2	21.98	3.93	70	2,247	-9	3,729
York	88	44	69	0	0.02	1	19.93	0.42	66	2,811	96	4,325
Southeast												
Green Lane	86	47	69	2	0.79	2	26.49	6.10	66	2,774	329	4,303
Hamburg	86	46	69	4	0.13	2	21.84	-1.68	71	2,740	497	4,265
West_Chester	89	43	68	-2	0.07	1	31.26	9.21	65	2,757	50	4,279
Lancaster	87	47	69	1	0.42	2	18.63	-1.96	61	2,792	208	4,312
Neshaminy Falls	82	47	68	0	0.81	1	26.37	2.66	60	2,917	363	4,459
New Holland	89	48	70	2	0.62	2	21.93	1.34	59	2,961	377	4,507
Philadelphia	89	55	73	2	1.90	2	33.34	13.19	57	3,360	407	4,928
Philadelphia NE	90	51	73	2	0.92	1	23.72	3.57	64	3,135	182	4,684
Reading	88	48	71	3	0.04	2	22.22	0.27	61	3,037	496	4,588
Sellersville	87	44	67	-1	0.81	2	29.29	8.90	59	2,623	178	4,131
Doylestown_AG	88	48	69	1	0.43	1	30.61	6.90	61	2,892	338	4,430

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 2012: 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 Count, Judy A Behney

Adams County started the week off with high humidity Monday and Tuesday and into the 80's but Wednesday morning temperatures was 60 degrees with no humidity and blue skies. Daytime temperatures got into the 80's. Thursday morning was again in the 60's and into the 80's however clouds and sun all day long. This morning we had 48 degrees at York Springs and nice blue sunny skies. Starting to feel like Fall the past few days and gets cool when sun goes down.

Corn silage is being chopped. Corn and Soybean crops continue to mature. Predicting good yields on both crops this year with the rainfalls we have had all summer was a big part in this year's crop. Producers are concerned for lack of storage once they get the grain harvested and where they will go with it? Hay continues to be made and is more interesting this time of year with the heavy dews in the morning till it dries off and the hay can get dry. Fields are being prepared for fall seedings of wheat, barley, rye, etc. Some hay forage seedings have been planted last few weeks.

Peaches continue to be harvested with producers reporting decent crop. The price however has been drastically affected due to all the peaches becoming ready to harvest at same time in PA, NJ, MD, NY so are markets aren't there for the other states who we normally sell to. Apples continue to be picked in the county. Other vegetables are doing well this year also due to the rains throughout the summer. Now is the time to enjoy the fresh fruits and vegetables grown in the county available at roadside markets, farmers markets so you can meet who is responsible for growing what we all love to eat. Overall the producers are staying busy readying equipment for harvest this fall, preparing fields for planting and all other jobs that are necessary around the farm.

BUTLER County, L Fritz

The final dry hay harvest is occurring, along with corn silage harvest. Lime spreading and herbicide application are being completed.

CENTRE County, Dick Decker

Good week for field work. Conditions are dry, we need a shower.

CLARION County, Tom Tanner

Soon to harvest corn for silage.

FRANKLIN County, Thomas Kerr

Dry week allowed for silage harvest to continue. Corn is rapidly drying down and some high moisture corn is now being harvested. Yields are excellent for silage. Beans are still green. Pasture is now suffering due to dry weather. Peaches mostly done and yields were generally better than average. Apple harvest is now underway and looks good at this time.

LEBANON County, Charlene

A great week of weather. Sunny and cooler most days. Hay was mowed and baled. Corn silage harvest began.

MERCER County, James P. Rust

Area corn growers are gearing up for silage harvest with many cutting corn silage this week and next. This was an excellent week for hay baling due to dry ground conditions, lots of sunshine and very low humidity every day. Some growers have been planting cover crops like radishes for their many conservation benefits. The area is in need of some rainfall.

SUSQUEHANNA County, Jim Garner

Light scattered frost this AM

WESTMORELAND County, John Lohr

One of the best hay-making weeks of the season. Corn and soybeans continue to look excellent. Some fall-like morning temperatures with lows down in the 40's.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending September 8, 2013

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fall plowing	26	20	20
Corn, dough	93	94	87
Corn, dent	59	71	61
Corn, mature	13	20	17
Corn silage, harvested	23	47	38
Barley, planted	12	0	5
Tobacco, harvested	80	81	71
Potatoes, harvested	44	49	37
Alfalfa, 3rd cutting	93	98	96
Alfalfa, 4th cutting	45	66	51
Peaches, harvested	95	98	94
Apples, harvested	48	51	44

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending September 8, 2013

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	1	2	11	40	46
Soybeans	0	1	20	56	23
Quality of hay made	1	3	14	51	31
Pasture	6	10	24	52	8
Apples	0	0	12	44	44

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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