



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Northeastern Regional Field Office

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Week Ending September 29, 2013

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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. The weather in Pennsylvania was mostly sunny with temperatures anywhere from the high 30's through the 70's. Rain is much needed throughout Pennsylvania as soil moisture and crops are being affected. Storage is quickly filling and costs may be at a premium for the rest of harvest. Corn silage is nearing its end and should be completed in two weeks. Corn is drying down and harvesting is underway. Soybeans are dropping leaves quickly due to the dry weather and are being harvested. Barley and winter wheat planting for cover crops should be completed in the next couple of weeks while potato harvesting should be completed next week. The apple harvest is well underway while grape harvesting is off to a slow start this year. Looking ahead this week, temperatures will be in the high 50's through the high 70's with a chance of showers beginning on Sunday. Field activities for the week included cutting alfalfa and other forage; harvesting corn and corn silage, harvesting potatoes, apples and grapes, planting barley and winter wheat, applying fertilizer, mowing pastures, spraying herbicides and pesticides and applying lime to fields and preparing fields for next crop.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending September 29, 2013

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
14	24	55	7

Crop Progress: Fall plowing is 63% plowed, which is ahead of progress at this time last year of 51% and the 5-year average of 40% plowed. Corn is 97% dent, which is ahead of progress at this time last year of 95% and the 5-year average of 91% dent. Corn is 72% mature, which is behind progress at this time last year of 77% but ahead of the 5-year average of 60% dent. Corn harvested is 21% harvested, which is ahead of progress at this time last year of 17% and the 5-year average of 19% harvested. Corn silage is 80% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 86% but ahead of the 5-year average of 75% harvested. Barley is 79% planted, which is ahead of progress at this time last year of 46% and the 5-year average of 43% planted. Barley is 20% emerged, which is behind progress at this time last year of 23% and the 5-year average of 23% emerged. Winter wheat is 47% planted, which is ahead of progress at this time last year of 35% and the 5-year average of 22% planted. Soybeans are 13% harvested, which is ahead of progress at this time last year of 6% and the 5-year average of 6% harvested. Potatoes are 90% harvested, which is ahead of progress at this time last year of 87% and the 5-year average of 69% harvested. Alfalfa fourth cutting is 81% cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 88% but ahead of the 5-year average of 76% cut. Apples are 79% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 84%

but ahead of the 5-year average of 67% harvested. Grapes are 25% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 80% and the 5-year average of 43% harvested.

Crop Condition: Corn conditions are; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 7% fair, 43% good, and 47% excellent. Soybean conditions are; 0% very poor, 1% poor, 11% fair, 55% good, and 33% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 4% very poor, 16% poor, 37% fair, 33% good and 10% excellent.

Nationwide as of September 22, 2013: Near to above-normal temperatures prevailed across much of the nation during the week, with readings averaging at least 3°F above normal in portions of the Delta, Northern Rocky Mountains and Southwest. Conversely, temperatures in the mid-Atlantic and Northeast were below normal, with readings averaging more than 9°F below normal in a few locations. Precipitation in much of the United States was near normal for the week. However, portions of the Delta and southern Plains received more than 3 inches of precipitation during the week. Corn: Ninety-one percent of the corn crop was at or beyond the dent stage by September 22, eight percentage points behind last year and 2 points behind the 5-year average. By week's end, 40 percent of the corn crop was mature. This was 46 percentage points behind last year and 15 points behind the 5-year average. Thirty-five percent of Iowa's corn crop was considered mature by week's end, 60 percentage points behind last year and 26 points behind the 5-year average. Nationally, 7 percent of the corn was harvested by week's end, 30 percentage points behind last year and 9 points behind the 5-year average. Overall, 55 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up 2 percentage points from last week and 31 percentage points better than the same time last year. Soybeans: Forty-seven percent of the crop was at or beyond the leaf-dropping stage by September 22, twenty-four percentage points behind last year and 9 points behind the 5-year average. Near-average temperatures and precipitation last week allowed some producers in Illinois to begin harvesting their crop. Nationally, 3 percent of the soybean crop was harvested by week's end, 18 percentage points behind last year and 6 points behind the 5-year average. Overall, 50 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, unchanged from last week but 15 percentage points better than the same time last year. Winter Wheat: By week's end, producers had sown 23 percent of the nation's intended 2014 acreage, identical to last year's pace but slightly behind the 5-year average. In Oklahoma, an additional 8 percent of the intended acreage was seeded. Moisture received during the week in that state will allow for more progress in planting over the next several weeks.

Weather Data For Week Ending September 29, 2013

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - September 29, 2013					
	Temperature			Precipitation			Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	75	43	57	-4	0.00	0	28.75	6.23	75	2,768	309	4,437
Franklin_AG	74	38	56	-3	0.05	1	25.46	0.79	84	2,585	308	4,243
Meadville-Port	72	37	56	-2	0.00	0	22.54	-2.06	83	2,642	555	4,318
Clarion	73	36	54	-5	0.02	1	24.40	-1.32	81	2,257	-34	3,891
Springboro	73	37	52	-8	0.10	1	30.01	8.13	77	2,296	-125	3,927
Warren	74	38	55	-3	0.00	0	21.70	-3.09	79	2,422	218	4,070
North Central												
Bradford Region	74	33	53	-1	0.00	0	19.95	-4.81	86	2,139	545	3,777
Oswayo	71	31	51	-4	0.00	0	20.23	-3.22	71	1,822	63	3,411
Kane	72	33	52	-2	0.00	0	23.87	-1.34	74	1,877	317	3,475
Laporte	65	38	52	-7	0.00	0	29.27	6.46	77	2,004	-250	3,614
Lock Haven	74	40	57	-3	0.00	0	19.66	-2.79	66	2,696	300	4,383
Coudersport_1SW	73	33	52	-3	0.00	0	21.90	-1.55	84	1,921	162	3,527
Renovo	76	40	57	-2	0.00	0	18.04	-4.41	66	2,691	295	4,369
Ridgway	74	34	54	-2	0.02	1	23.35	-1.13	78	2,200	390	3,827
Stevenson Dam	75	39	56	2	0.00	0	20.06	-4.42	67	2,482	672	4,136
Towanda	72	38	54	-4	0.00	0	21.97	2.98	62	2,396	126	4,053
Wellsboro	69	33	52	-4	0.00	0	23.44	4.37	77	1,953	253	3,572
Williamsport	77	40	59	-1	0.00	0	17.33	-4.73	61	2,995	354	4,717
Northeast												
Hawley	70	34	52	-4	0.00	0	27.22	5.68	70	2,179	233	3,802
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	73	37	57	-3	0.00	0	15.15	-5.77	63	2,872	367	4,576
Susquehanna	70	37	53	-3	0.00	0	26.69	3.72	66	2,284	441	3,932
West Central												
Butler	75	37	55	-4	0.01	1	24.62	1.34	80	2,546	183	4,207
New Castle	74	38	56	-3	0.00	0	23.14	1.80	71	2,650	283	4,322
Slippery Rock	79	35	58	0	0.10	1	22.40	-0.33	68	2,725	601	4,389
Central												
Altoona/Blair	74	37	56	-4	0.00	0	17.11	-3.17	77	2,805	294	4,513
DuBois	74	37	57	-1	0.00	0	18.75	-4.67	68	2,616	445	4,289
Lewistown	77	40	58	-3	0.00	0	16.99	-4.75	67	3,035	276	4,766
Middletown	75	44	60	-3	0.00	0	18.23	-3.43	73	3,310	195	5,065
Prince Gallitzi	71	31	53	-5	0.00	0	21.93	-4.23	70	2,429	407	4,096
Selinsgrove	74	38	57	-3	0.00	0	22.46	-0.18	65	2,753	176	4,461
State College	71	39	55	-4	0.00	0	22.23	1.74	68	2,730	255	4,432
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	74	38	59	-3	0.00	0	28.73	5.02	66	3,071	226	4,810
Lehighton	69	40	55	-6	0.00	0	26.79	3.23	69	2,523	-218	4,234
Matamoras	72	39	56	-4	0.07	1	28.16	4.33	69	2,660	185	4,360
Mt_Pocono	68	38	53	-1	0.00	0	30.43	5.06	68	2,240	554	3,871
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	74	40	59	-2	0.00	0	23.83	2.25	74	3,098	569	4,824
Indiana_PA	73	36	57	-4	0.00	0	25.62	0.27	88	2,745	297	4,442
Myersdale	74	33	52	-8	0.02	1	26.43	1.87	86	2,137	-220	3,774
Chalk_Hill	73	30	51	-10	0.02	1	31.69	7.80	85	2,157	-540	3,790
Pittsburgh Intl	76	40	59	-2	0.00	0	21.41	1.12	66	3,071	423	4,783
Connellsville	78	40	58	-3	0.04	2	31.60	7.71	97	2,840	143	4,535
Waynesburg	75	39	56	-4	0.00	0	24.24	2.12	82	2,665	211	4,351
South Central												
Biglerville	74	41	59	-4	0.00	0	19.88	-0.58	64	3,083	39	4,822
Everett	75	35	54	-6	0.00	0	17.82	-1.90	74	2,493	-13	4,184
Hanover	74	37	57	-6	0.00	0	17.93	-2.53	75	2,989	-55	4,725
Harrisburg_AP	76	42	60	-3	0.00	0	17.50	-4.16	73	3,292	170	5,052
South Mountain	72	36	55	-6	0.00	0	23.36	3.08	75	2,440	-64	4,130
York	75	39	58	-6	0.00	0	21.70	-0.14	70	3,082	49	4,806
Southeast												
Green Lane	72	41	58	-3	0.00	0	27.40	4.44	70	3,031	309	4,770
Hamburg	73	43	59	0	0.00	0	23.58	-2.84	75	2,989	509	4,724
West_Chester	75	38	57	-7	0.00	0	32.93	7.96	68	2,998	-30	4,730
Lancaster	74	40	59	-3	0.00	0	19.95	-3.15	65	3,073	194	4,803
Neshaminy Falls	74	42	59	-3	0.00	0	28.03	1.46	63	3,189	346	4,941
New Holland	77	41	61	-2	0.00	0	24.26	1.16	62	3,250	371	5,006
Philadelphia	76	47	63	-2	0.00	0	34.70	12.19	60	3,719	408	5,497
Philadelphia NE	76	45	62	-3	0.00	0	25.47	2.96	67	3,483	172	5,242
Reading	75	41	60	-2	0.00	0	23.49	-1.19	65	3,338	512	5,099
Sellersville	74	38	57	-4	0.00	0	30.86	7.90	63	2,855	133	4,573
Doylestown_AG	72	43	58	-4	0.00	0	32.25	5.68	65	3,156	313	4,904

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

Range of temperatures in Adams County were between a low of 38 and high in the 70's. We are extremely dry with field conditions ready for harvesting crops but not good for new seedings. Corn silage continues to be chopped but getting to the end of harvesting for silage. High moisture corn and dry corn being shelled in the county. The corn is drying down pretty quickly. Nice yields are being reported throughout the county. Soybeans are being harvested and more are dropping leaves with this dry weather we've been having. Once the leaves are off you can see the soybean crop a lot better. Double-cropped soybeans are not going to yield very good as this dry weather is affecting them. Producers are concerned about the lack of storage for their corn and soybeans. Barley and wheat are being seeded but producers do not like that there is not much soil moisture to get crop started. Hay growth has slowed and pastures are not regenerating due to lack of rainfall.

Peach harvest is complete and you may find some at local markets to purchase yet. Apple harvest continues with more varieties being picked each week. Most growers have decent crops but the ones that got hit with weather conditions in spring do not have much to harvest. Pickers are not as plentiful as other years as other states crops are coming on the same as ours. Pumpkins are being harvested with a good crop for most producers being reported. Other vegetables are starting to wind down for harvesting. Overall the producers in the county are busy with fieldwork preparing to seed, harvesting and the shorter days of daylight to get their work done.

BUTLER County, L Fritz

Corn and soybean harvest is getting closer but still 10-14 days away. Corn silage and hay making are nearly complete. Pumpkins are being marketed.

CAMBRIA County, Dolly Little

Beautiful week for field work. Chopping silage, harvesting potatoes, very little corn picked for grain, and still trying to get those last hay fields harvested. The corn is drying down and turning brown and the leaves are dropping on the soybeans.

CENTRE County, Dick Decker

Fall field work continued. Top soil very dry, rain needed.

CLARION County, Tom Tanner

Many farmers are finishing up corn silage harvesting. Many acres of fourth cutting hay harvested this past week.

FRANKLIN County, Thomas Kerr

Lack of fall rains has put a stress on the fall seeding of grass and small grains. Corn harvest is underway with most of the area seeing generous yields in silage and high moisture corn. Storage will be at a premium for the rest of the corn harvest. Beans are great as well.

LANCASTER County, Jeffrey Graybill

Soybean yields have been in the mid 70 bu/acre with few in the low 80's. Corn looking pretty good also many fields around 200 bu/acre or higher.

LEBANON County, Charlene Zeigler

Corn was harvested for high moisture. Soybeans were tested for readiness. Cool nights and warm days this week with no precipitation.

SNYDER County, William C. Sheaffer

The dry soil conditions continue to make it difficult for the newly seeded crops of alfalfa, barley, and cover crops to emerge. Silo filling is near complete with the corn and soybean harvest just beginning. Early reports that the corn yields are above normal, and the soybean yields are normal due to the small size of the beans. The activities for the week were silo filling, planting, haymaking and harvesting.

SUSQUEHANNA County, Jim Garner

Extended dry period, allowing for great progress in corn silage harvest; even some late season hay harvest taking place.

WESTMORELAND County, John Lohr

Perfect weather for harvesting continues. Corn silage harvest is in full swing. Some real nice later cutting hat is being baled.

YORK County, John Rowehl

Farmers continue to report record corn yields. Soybean harvest to begin soon.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending September 29, 2013

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fall plowing	63	51	40
Corn, dent	97	95	91
Corn, mature	72	77	60
Corn, harvested	21	17	19
Corn silage, harvested	80	86	75
Barley, planted	79	46	43
Barley, emerged	20	23	23
Wheat, planted	47	35	22
Soybeans, harvested	13	6	6
Potatoes, harvested	90	87	69
Alfalfa, 4th cutting	81	88	76
Apples, harvested	79	84	67
Grapes, harvested	25	80	43

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending September 29, 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	7	43	47
Soybeans	0	1	11	55	33
Pasture	4	16	37	33	10

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