



# Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending October 14, 2012

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*This report can be found on the Internet at [www.nass.usda.gov/pa](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa) and click on "Pennsylvania Publications."*

**Good Week for Field Work:** Pennsylvania had an average of 5 days suitable for field work. Field activities for the week included fall plowing, filling silos, seeding for fall crops, and spreading lime. Fall plowing continues and is 61% complete, ahead of 41% at this time last year and the average of 56%.

### PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending Oct 14, 2012

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
0	3	87	10

**Crop Progress:** Corn is 93% at the mature stage; ahead of 81% at this time last year and the average of 86%. The corn for grain harvest continues and is 41% complete, ahead for last year's 21% and also ahead of the average of 34%. The corn silage harvest is nearing completion at 95% complete, ahead of 84% at this time last year and the average of 91%. Eighty-four percent of the barley crop has been planted, ahead of last year's 52% and the average of 74%. The barley crop is 49% emerged ahead of last year's 29% and the average of 47%. Winter wheat is now 59% planted, ahead of the last year's 30% and the average 56%. Winter wheat is 33% emerged ahead of last year's 11% and the average of 29%. The soybean harvest continues and is 33% complete, compared to 10% last year and the average of 27%. The potato harvest is also nearing completion at 99% complete, ahead of last year's 79% and the average of 89%. Fourth cutting of alfalfa is 97% complete compared with 80% at this time last year and the average of 86%. The apple harvest is 90% complete, ahead of 87% at this time last year and the average of 84%.

**Crop Condition:** State-wide corn conditions are; 1% very poor, 9% poor, 23% fair, 52% good, and 15% excellent. Soybean conditions are; 0% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 48% good, and 25% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 5% very poor, 26% poor, 26% fair, 35% good and 8% excellent.

**Nationwide as of October 07, 2012:** Cool conditions blanketed the Nation's heartland during the week, while unseasonably warm weather dominated the Southwest and Atlantic Coast States. Most notably, average temperatures

dipped to more than 10 degrees below normal in portions of the central and southern Great Plains, hindering emergence in recently sown winter wheat fields. Precipitation was scarce across much of the West during the week, maintaining drought concerns for dry land winter grains. Elsewhere, showers associated with a late week cold front delivered much needed moisture to small grain fields in portions of the Corn Belt.

**Corn:** By week's end, 97 percent of the corn crop was at or beyond the mature stage, 11 percentage points ahead of last year and 13 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Rainfall slowed fieldwork in the southern and eastern Corn Belt toward week's end; however, overall progress remained steady. In Iowa, precipitation was limited, allowing for double-digit harvest progress during the week. Nationwide, producers had harvested 69 percent of the corn crop by October 7, forty percentage points ahead of last year and 41 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average.

**Soybeans:** Ninety-three percent of this year's soybean crop was at or beyond the leaf dropping stage by October 7, seven percentage points ahead of last year and 5 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. With above-normal temperatures and mostly sunny conditions promoting rapid crop maturity throughout the growing season, both leaf drop and harvest were well ahead of normal in Iowa. Nationally, 58 percent of the soybean crop was harvested by week's end, 16 percentage points ahead of last year and 18 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Overall, 37 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up 2 percentage points from ratings last week but 19 percentage points below the same time last year.

**Winter Wheat:** Winter wheat seeding in some locations gained speed following increased moisture in recent weeks. By week's end, producers had sown 57 percent of the Nation's 2013 winter wheat crop, 4 percentage points ahead of last year but 2 percentage points behind the 5-year average. Emergence was slow in portions of the Midwest and northern Great Plains as temperatures cooled and rainfall remained scarce. Nationwide, 23 percent of the winter wheat crop was emerged by October 7, slightly behind last year and 7 percentage points behind the 5-year average.

## Weather Data For Week Ending October 14, 2012

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - October 14, 2012					
	Temperature			Precipitation			Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
<b>Northwest</b>												
Erie	75	48	62	-1	1.68	4	16.16	-5.57	55	2,982	576	4,574
Franklin_AG	75	40	58	-3	1.21	5	17.93	-6.03	73	2,734	499	4,323
Meadville-Port	71	44	59	0	1.90	4	20.18	-3.70	64	2,818	769	4,422
Clarion	72	38	56	-5	1.73	6	21.40	-3.56	68	2,396	148	3,967
Springboro	72	38	56	-7	2.00	4	20.46	-0.73	66	2,430	59	3,984
Warren	74	41	58	-2	0.93	4	19.53	-4.51	69	2,562	397	4,135
<b>North Central</b>												
Bradford Region	71	34	57	3	1.82	4	21.21	-2.83	68	2,258	687	3,810
Oswayo	70	30	52	-5	1.51	5	19.59	-3.15	64	1,951	219	3,476
Kane	73	35	56	2	1.59	4	23.13	-1.31	70	2,045	507	3,577
Laporte	71	42	56	-5	2.52	4	30.80	8.67	74	2,216	1	3,779
Lock Haven	78	43	60	-2	1.42	4	21.03	-0.77	74	2,927	575	4,585
Coudersport_1SW	73	34	54	-3	1.70	5	24.51	1.77	79	2,083	351	3,609
Renovo	76	43	60	-1	2.22	4	26.19	4.39	70	2,854	502	4,503
Ridgway	75	34	57	-1	2.42	4	19.55	-4.26	71	2,395	616	3,969
Stevenson Dam	75	40	59	2	1.96	4	23.75	-0.06	64	2,727	948	4,358
Towanda	75	41	58	-2	1.31	4	22.62	4.21	70	2,629	398	4,220
Wellsboro	70	34	54	-3	3.33	4	20.45	1.95	66	2,132	459	3,688
Williamsport	78	43	63	2	2.15	3	19.60	-1.81	71	3,164	571	4,835
<b>Northeast</b>												
Hawley	74	39	56	-2	3.97	3	21.86	0.95	66	2,338	424	3,906
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	77	44	61	1	2.16	3	21.46	1.15	72	2,995	536	4,624
Susquehanna	74	40	58	1	1.71	3	26.03	3.75	67	2,507	692	4,085
<b>West Central</b>												
Butler	75	38	57	-4	1.39	4	19.12	-3.53	64	2,757	439	4,384
New Castle	78	40	59	-3	1.12	4	22.64	1.94	62	2,998	678	4,636
Slippery Rock	80	39	59	-1	1.24	4	21.80	-0.27	62	2,875	790	4,505
<b>Central</b>												
Altoona/Blair	75	40	61	-1	1.25	3	20.01	0.34	64	2,985	521	4,653
DuBois	73	40	58	-2	1.88	4	18.02	-4.75	61	2,564	431	4,168
Lewistown	80	43	62	-2	1.79	3	21.86	0.71	78	3,134	429	4,826
Middletown	81	47	64	0	2.72	2	25.89	4.88	66	3,498	446	5,211
Prince Gallitzi	75	34	56	-4	1.21	5	21.10	-4.27	64	2,494	509	4,104
Selinsgrove	81	44	60	-2	2.65	2	22.99	1.03	72	2,983	453	4,636
State College	74	42	59	-3	1.45	4	22.45	2.56	77	2,901	470	4,559
<b>East Central</b>												
Allentown-Bethel	80	45	64	2	2.08	3	24.69	1.67	67	3,252	462	4,938
Lehighton	74	45	59	-3	6.20	2	30.99	8.13	72	2,738	48	4,391
Matamoras	75	43	60	-2	2.74	3	26.56	3.45	85	2,816	384	4,472
Mt_Pocono	75	41	59	4	5.17	3	27.12	2.53	77	2,407	745	4,007
<b>Southwest</b>												
Pittsburgh/Alle	77	44	62	1	1.64	4	17.81	-3.17	65	3,344	865	5,023
Indiana_PA	75	43	60	-2	1.61	5	21.74	-2.87	90	2,863	463	4,496
Myersdale	76	35	56	-6	1.29	3	20.47	-3.36	72	2,202	-108	3,790
Chalk_Hill	75	34	54	-10	1.66	3	22.97	-0.28	72	2,257	-386	3,852
Pittsburgh Intl	76	40	61	-3	1.25	4	19.82	0.09	63	3,218	623	4,888
Connellsville	76	40	58	-5	1.38	3	23.33	0.08	74	2,932	289	4,612
Waynesburg	76	38	58	-4	1.23	3	17.79	-3.76	59	2,873	466	4,529
<b>South Central</b>												
Biglerville	81	44	62	-3	2.88	2	24.30	4.52	63	3,250	268	4,950
Everett	78	35	57	-5	1.65	2	21.07	1.95	69	2,666	208	4,312
Hanover	80	42	61	-5	3.65	2	24.93	5.15	67	3,185	203	4,874
Harrisburg_AP	81	45	64	-1	1.72	2	25.32	4.31	66	3,535	476	5,250
South Mountain	74	40	57	-5	2.49	2	28.24	8.57	71	2,617	160	4,254
York	80	41	63	-3	3.61	2	23.06	1.88	69	3,191	221	4,865
<b>Southeast</b>												
Green Lane	80	46	62	0	2.92	2	27.92	5.62	66	3,220	550	4,920
Hamburg	79	45	61	1	4.92	3	27.59	1.94	72	3,148	711	4,835
West_Chester	82	42	61	-4	1.77	3	24.41	0.20	50	3,186	221	4,864
Lancaster	81	44	63	-1	1.79	3	21.13	-1.30	56	3,333	512	5,022
Neshaminy Falls	84	46	64	1	1.07	2	23.83	-1.99	69	3,339	552	5,057
New Holland	81	47	64	2	1.43	2	24.28	1.85	54	3,414	593	5,136
Philadelphia	85	55	68	3	1.25	3	20.95	-0.93	49	3,909	669	5,648
Philadelphia NE	82	50	66	-1	1.25	3	25.34	3.46	58	3,573	333	5,293
Reading	83	46	65	3	2.34	3	21.53	-2.44	68	3,531	758	5,239
Sellersville	80	44	61	-3	2.58	2	26.73	4.43	55	2,979	309	4,638
Doylestown_AG	80	46	63	0	1.48	3	24.56	-1.26	59	3,348	561	5,051

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 started the week with temperatures in the 50's and cloudy then rain mid afternoon. Tuesday was cloudy and cooler some sun later in the afternoon. Wednesday low 40's, foggy then mid morning sun burned through and got into the 50's. Thursday started out at 42 degrees and sunny.

Corn continues to be harvested when field conditions permit. Some of it is being harvested as silage, high moisture and dry grain. If we get the weather conditions they are forecasting, then the frost will happen Friday/Saturday this week which will get some corn and soybeans that are still green. Soybeans are being harvested also as field conditions permit. Not much small grain has been planted as the producers are trying to get crops harvested.

Apple harvest is still happening but will be finishing within the next two weeks. Still see pumpkins in fields so not sure if they are marketable or damaged pumpkins. Upper Adams area expecting visitors to the National Apple Harvest Festival this Saturday/Sunday 13-14. Overall, the producers are busy when field conditions permit them to be harvesting their crops and planting 2013 small grains.

### **ADAMS COUNTY, Lee Showalter**

Apple harvest will finish early this year. Romes, Yorks, and Fujis are being harvested now; quality is good.

### **CAMBRIA COUNTY, Dolly Little**

A lot of corn was harvested this week and along with some soybeans. Weather all week was cool. Freeze on Thursday and Friday nights. Saturday was warm while Sunday was sunny and temperatures were in the 70's.

### **CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker**

It was a good week for field work.

### **CLARION COUNTY, Tom Tanner**

Farmers were busy liming fields and spreading manure this week. There was some spraying for field preparing

for spring planting. Also some farmers are harvesting shelled corn and some soybean. Moisture levels are in the range of 20 to 40 percent.

### **CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS)**

Weather was cool and wet this week only leaving about 3-4 days to work in the fields. Producers are alternating harvesting corn and soybeans depending upon which field is the driest. Soil health has been a topic of interest for quite a few years in the promotion of no-till by Penn State Extension, Conservation districts, the No Till Alliance, and NRCS. The persistent work from all the different agencies and seed companies is paying off in the amount of acres that have been cover cropped this year. Good work.

### **LEBANON COUNTY, Charlene Zeigler**

A nice week for field work. Corn and soybean harvest continues. Alfalfa and hay fields were also harvested for the last time. There were a couple mornings with heavy frost.

### **MERCER COUNTY, James P. Rust**

Corn shelling has been in full speed this past week. There was two days when the combines were harvesting soybeans at full speed. Grape picking is complete and many growers have reported losses for another year. A number of area farmers baled 4th and 5th cuttings of hay on Friday and Saturday which is very unusual for October.

### **SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer**

The frost/freeze on Saturday morning put an end to the growing season for 2012. However, the week was a good one for harvesting corn and soybeans, planting and the making of hay and haylage. The winter grain has emerged and is looking good.

### **WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr**

Heavy frost Saturday morning ended the growing season and should help more quickly reduce corn and soybean moisture levels.

**PA Crop Progress for Week Ending October 14, 2012**

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fall plowing	61	41	56
Corn, mature	93	81	86
Corn, harvested	41	21	34
Corn silage, harvested	95	84	91
Barley, planted	84	52	74
Barley, emerged	49	29	47
Winter wheat, planted	59	30	56
Winter wheat, emerged	33	11	29
Soybeans, harvested	33	10	27
Potatoes, harvested	99	79	89
Alfalfa, 4th cutting	97	80	86
Apples, harvested	90	87	84

**PA Crop Condition for Week Ending October 14, 2012**

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	1	9	23	52	15
Soybeans	0	5	22	48	25
Pasture	5	26	26	35	8

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