



# Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
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Week Ending June 15, 2008

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**Good week for Field Work:** A week of warm weather in Pennsylvania has helped emergence and growth of the spring crops. In some fields farmers have had to replant soybeans and corn. Wheat and barley is maturing on schedule as farmers prepare for harvest. The drier weather has improved the quality of hay harvested from the cooler, damper conditions from a few weeks ago. Light showers in the week did not halt field work very long. Overall, it was a good week for fieldwork as principal farm activities included plowing, spraying, cutting hay, as well as planting corn, potatoes, soybeans and oats.

**PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending June 8, 2008**

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
1	15	74	10

**Crops:** The corn remains in fine condition, as 77 percent of the crop is in good or excellent condition. The state's corn is estimated at 96 percent planted, with 77 percent emerged. The corn appeared to have good growth last week as the average height grew from 8 to 12 inches. Soybean condition seems fine as 81 percent of the crops are estimated as good or excellent with only 3 percent rated as poor or very poor. The state's soybeans are 86 percent planted, which is 6 percentage points lower than last year but 2 points ahead of the average. Sixty-five percent of the soybeans have now emerged. This is 7 points behind last year and right in line with the average. Wheat conditions have improved as 87 percent of the state's wheat is in good or excellent condition. Only 4 percent of the wheat was estimated as poor or very poor. Fifty-one percent of the wheat is yellowing, which is up 14 and 17 points above last year and the average, respectively. Eighty-eight percent of the barley has now turned yellow, which is 2 points above last year and 6 points above the average. Thirty-three percent of the barley crop is ripe after maturing strongly over the previous week. Harvest for barley has begun, as only 6 percent has been harvested. Oat conditions improved last week, with 85 percent of the oats in good or excellent condition. Forty-four percent of the oat crop has entered the heading stage. The state's tobacco crop is now 86 percent transplanted, which is 2 points behind last year, but 11 points above the average. Alfalfa stand condition is at 89 percent good or excellent. The first cutting of alfalfa is 82 percent complete, which is 7 points behind last year, but 8 points above the average. The timothy/clover stand condition is at 84 percent good or excellent. The first cutting is now 58 percent complete, which is 5 points behind last year but 14 points above the average. The quality of hay is at 79 percent good or excellent, with 1 percent rated as poor. Fruit crop conditions appear to still be in good condition. Peaches are at 94 percent good or excellent, while apples are at 80 percent good or excellent.

**Livestock:** The pasture conditions continued to show good qualities. Seventy-five percent of the state's pastures were estimated as good or excellent condition, which is up 7 points from last week. With that in

mind, only 7 percent of the pastures were rated as poor or very poor. The overall state's pasture conditions were estimated as follows: 3 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 12 percent excellent.

**U.S. as of June 8, 2008:** Crops that escaped flooding were aided by the season's first heat wave, which boosted weekly temperatures as much as 5 to 10 degrees F above normal in the eastern Corn Belt. Hot weather developed across half of the nation, while chilly conditions persisted across the northern Plains and much of the West. Heavy showers spread into the Northeast and continued to hammer parts of the Plains and Midwest. Record amounts for June 4 totaled 1.96 inches in Philadelphia, PA.

**Corn:** Eighty-nine percent of the corn crop had emerged by June 8, nine points behind last year, and 6 points behind the 5-year average. Emergence was behind normal in nearly all States. Between 9 and 35 percent of acreage emerged during the week in the Corn Belt. The condition of the crop in good and excellent condition decreased by 3 points when compared with last week.

**Soybeans:** Planted soybean acreage reached 77 percent of the intended total, 15 and 12 points behind last year and the 5-year average, respectively. Planting was behind the 5-year average pace in most soybean-producing States. Fifty-six percent of the planted acreage had emerged, 24 points behind last year and 18 points behind average. Acreage in most States was lagging last year's emergence. Fifty-seven percent of the crop was rated in good or excellent condition.

**Winter Wheat:** Winter wheat had reached the heading stage on 84 percent of the acreage, 9 points behind last year and 6 points behind the 5-year average. Nationwide, only 9 percent of the crop reached the heading stage during the week. All major winter wheat States were at or behind last year and the 5-year average. Nine percent of the winter wheat crop had been harvested, 3 points ahead of last year but 1 point behind the 5-year average.

**Small Grains:** Ninety-eight percent of the barley acreage had emerged, 1 point ahead of last year and 3 points ahead of the 5-year average. In all barley States, emergence was within 5 points of normal, and was within 8 points of completion. Barley rated good or excellent improved 9 points when compared with last week's condition ratings. Oat heading, at 33 percent complete, was 4 and 3 points behind last year and usual, respectively. Rapid heading advancement occurred in Nebraska, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, but development was nearly stagnant elsewhere. In Pennsylvania, heading was 16 points ahead of last year and 13 points ahead of the 5-year average. Developmental delays remained in all other States other than in Texas. All remaining States were behind the pace of last year and normal. Oat condition rating improved one point during the week to 61 percent good and excellent.

### Weather Data For Week Ending June 15, 2008

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - June 15, 2008					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	93	60	75	10	2.15	4	7.35	-1.42	33	699	191	1,347
Franklin	92	56	73	9	0.92	4	9.71	0.07	37	582	89	1,229
Meadville	89	55	73	9	0.97	3	8.57	-0.80	32	610	174	1,256
Mercer	90	50	72	8	1.07	5	9.31	-0.16	39	570	71	1,224
Springboro	91	54	72	7	1.75	5	9.77	1.44	36	540	16	1,159
Warren	92	55	73	9	1.38	4	8.32	-1.70	34	538	65	1,153
North Central												
Bradford Region	86	48	68	8	1.71	4	7.60	-2.41	36	428	112	967
Emporium	94	54	74	13	0.72	4	6.62	-3.54	37	563	200	1,202
Kane	89	48	69	9	1.49	4	8.17	-2.05	36	373	63	912
Laporte	88	56	73	9	0.76	4	8.85	-0.81	40	521	27	1,110
Lock Haven	95	57	76	11	0.44	2	8.29	-0.88	34	676	131	1,351
Port Allegany	90	50	70	9	2.23	4	7.13	-2.46	34	440	61	1,011
Renovo	95	56	75	10	0.12	2	8.22	-0.95	33	660	115	1,326
Ridgway	89	49	70	9	1.20	3	7.78	-2.38	35	441	78	1,026
Stevenson Dam	92	55	73	12	0.44	2	7.47	-2.69	34	579	216	1,213
Towanda	94	53	74	9	2.66	3	8.26	0.06	31	581	74	1,214
Wellsboro	88	53	71	11	0.82	4	6.97	-0.82	37	464	136	1,034
Williamsport	97	57	77	11	0.11	1	6.24	-3.04	31	775	140	1,474
Northeast												
Hawley	91	49	72	10	0.34	3	8.42	-0.96	31	498	106	1,100
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	92	56	75	9	0.85	3	7.52	-1.11	33	711	130	1,363
Susquehanna	93	52	73	12	1.62	3	8.32	-1.43	35	531	164	1,157
West Central												
Butler	90	55	73	8	0.63	4	7.86	-1.67	45	562	33	1,228
New Castle	94	56	75	10	0.51	4	6.71	-1.84	39	670	143	1,356
Slippery Rock	90	52	72	9	1.04	3	8.73	-0.40	32	561	88	1,248
Central												
Altoona/Blair	88	57	74	8	0.23	3	9.67	0.84	37	703	104	1,365
DuBois	88	53	72	8	0.71	4	7.31	-2.50	38	599	112	1,214
Lewistown	95	58	76	9	0.04	2	11.99	2.70	30	702	30	1,372
Middletown	94	66	80	10	0.03	2	10.99	1.47	31	868	98	1,582
Prince Gallitzi	91	51	71	9	0.98	4	7.81	-3.31	34	521	84	1,144
Selinsgrove	97	59	77	10	0.20	1	8.52	-0.86	29	684	83	1,353
State College	93	60	76	10	0.31	3	9.83	1.23	32	726	144	1,399
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	96	60	77	9	1.10	2	9.17	-0.46	28	742	58	1,422
Lehighton	93	57	75	7	0.50	1	8.58	-1.06	36	668	16	1,333
Matamoras	94	51	74	8	0.44	3	8.12	-2.07	35	542	-25	1,166
Mt_Pocono	89	54	72	11	1.75	2	9.04	-1.69	33	492	170	1,077
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	91	60	75	9	0.90	3	9.85	0.50	35	820	219	1,524
Derry	93	59	75	10	0.67	3	13.77	4.54	39	677	134	1,353
Myersdale	86	51	68	4	0.83	2	13.25	3.05	39	434	-95	1,033
Mount Pleasant	89	56	74	10	1.36	3	12.14	1.49	35	655	194	1,344
Pittsburgh Intl	91	57	75	8	1.07	3	7.81	-0.74	33	793	150	1,495
Connellsville	93	58	75	7	1.80	3	13.93	3.81	40	752	83	1,455
Waynesburg	90	54	72	7	0.65	1	11.44	2.13	32	637	62	1,327
South Central												
Biglerville	94	61	78	8	0.12	2	12.98	4.05	32	794	28	1,487
Everett	91	55	73	7	1.36	3	15.14	6.53	35	604	29	1,256
Hanover	94	59	78	8	0.17	1	12.54	3.61	35	784	18	1,472
Harrisburg_AP	96	62	80	10	0.00	0	7.66	-1.86	23	880	103	1,597
South Mountain	89	55	73	7	0.26	3	15.16	6.33	38	593	1	1,233
York	96	58	78	9	0.07	2	11.51	2.02	35	860	85	1,569
Southeast												
Green Lane	96	60	78	11	0.72	2	11.11	1.74	29	775	136	1,475
Hamburg	96	61	79	13	0.02	1	7.53	-3.65	30	796	242	1,496
West_Chester	97	59	78	9	0.52	2	9.07	-1.23	29	744	-9	1,431
Lancaster	93	61	78	10	1.04	2	7.97	-1.32	31	771	84	1,464
Neshaminy Falls	96	58	78	9	0.13	2	11.70	1.27	29	787	106	1,489
New Holland	96	63	80	11	2.18	2	10.92	1.63	29	830	143	1,530
Philadelphia	98	66	82	11	0.45	2	9.24	0.07	29	985	153	1,720
Philadelphia NE	99	64	83	12	0.44	2	8.59	-0.58	31	1,046	214	1,784
Reading	97	62	80	12	0.29	2	7.79	-2.62	34	844	184	1,546
Valley Forge Na	96	58	78	7	0.41	2	10.36	0.66	31	743	-68	1,451
Willow Grove	95	61	79	10	0.45	2	10.63	0.20	32	854	173	1,568

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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# Internet 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 (FSA)** - Adams County started the week out in the 80's for morning temperatures and daytime temps into the 90's. Thunderstorm on Tuesday evening with 1/4-1/2 inch in some areas and others received none. Wednesday/Thursday was in the 70's morning and 80's daytime. Friday is overcast but hot and humid in the 80's-90's. Corn and soybeans continue to be planted. Corn and soybeans that had been planted are now emerging and looking better. There is still some corn to get in for livestock producers. Wheat and barley are ripening. Some barley is being harvested with more next week. Wheat is about 2 weeks away from harvest. Both haylage and dry hay continues to be made. Most fields are recovering nicely after last year's drought. Fruit is looking ok. Tart Cherries are coloring up nicely and will be harvested in about a week. Some apple varieties are dropping during the thinning process due to cloudiness and rainy days. Strawberries are being harvested with some early ones done now. Sweet corn continues to be planted. Overall the crops in Adams County are looking pretty good. Producers are concerned about moisture for the rest of the summer growing season and how spotty some rains have been.

**ADAMS COUNTY, Thomas Kerr** - A few spotty showers this week with some areas receiving nearly an inch of rain, otherwise mostly a good week for field work. Hay making, planting soybeans and even the first fields of early barley were harvested late in the week. Barley harvest, second cutting of alfalfa and double crop planting of corn/soybeans will continue this week with favorable weather. Fruit crop is variable from orchard to orchard. Nothing outstanding, good or bad.

**BUCKS COUNTY, Michael Fournier (EXT)** - Many low population corn stands as a result of the 3 weeks of rain & cold weather last month. Yields will suffer come October. The corn that is up looks good and is growing well not that we've had some sun and hot weather. Finally had some hay making weather last week with 7 days of no rain. Wheat looks good, although some has lodged from heavy downpours. Most of the county picked up a timely shower on Saturday evening. Lots of corn fields and some beans got re-planted last week.

**CAMBRIA COUNTY, Dolly Little (FSA)** - There were a few showers last week with a severe thunderstorm on Friday. Producers were getting the last of the crops planted, making hay, replanting corn, and reporting crops to the FSA office.

**CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker** - Good week for field work. Warm temperatures are helping crops. There was 0.3 inch of rainfall in my gage.

**CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS)** - Nuisance rains have been a problem this season trying to make dry hay. More fields this year have been round baled and wrapped or put up for silage to beat the rain showers. The weather has been ideal for corn and beans with good growth and color that was visible this week. Pastures are also holding up to grazing pressures due to the wet and humid conditions.

**FOREST COUNTY, Thomas Tanner (FSA)** - Hail has damaged some of the strawberry crops. It is estimated about 50% of the crop has been damaged. Many acres of haylage and dry hay made this past week along with replanting of about 25% of corn acres and finishing planting crop corn. Crop wheat is headed and in most fields turning yellow. Other grain crops are planted and about 3 weeks later than usual.

**LANCASTER COUNTY, Burell Whitworth Jr (NRCS)** - Heavy rain, wind and thunderstorms fell in a small portion of Lancaster County while most of the county received very little rain. Hot weather is making all crops grow. Small grain is being harvested.

**LYCOMING COUNTY, Michael Sherman (FSA)** - Producers had their choice of days to work this week with every day being suitable for field work. Much of the area got little or no precipitation from this week's storm. Pasture quality is beginning to decrease due to the lack of rain. Some producers are reporting that some early planted corn needed to be replanted due to the early wet conditions. Late planted corn seems to be catching up given the growing conditions. Oats are beginning to head out while height seems to be lacking. Wheat crop looks good.

**MONTOUR COUNTY, Dave Reedy (FSA)** - Last week's warm dry spell allowed for some catch up field work and was great hay making weather, although some reports of slugs and other wet weather conditions were found while scouting and was addressed with spray or replanting.

**POTTER COUNTY, David Stratton (FSA)** - Good week for finishing haylage harvesting. Some hay is also being harvested. Rain over the weekend provided some much needed moisture.

**SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer** - The crops are beginning to suffer from the intense heat and lack of timely rains. Haymaking continued with the second cutting close to being ready for harvest. Barley harvest will begin next week, if the weather is favorable. The main activities for the week were making hay, planting corn and soybeans, and spraying.

**TIOGA COUNTY, Pamela Barnes** - We finally received some much needed rain. Crop growth is vastly improved. Hay mowing is well underway. Planting is close to complete. We need a few more warm days to get grains dry enough to harvest.

**WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr (FSA)** - A dry start to the week allowed for hay making, corn and soybean planting, and most other field activities. Hot days, warm nights, and a few showers made for excellent growing conditions. Still some corn and soybeans remain to be planted. Hay yields are excellent.

**WESTMORELAND COUNTY, Tom Sierzega (NRCS)** - Very warm temperatures and drier weather has allowed hay making to finally take place. Corn and soybeans have responded to the warmer, drier weather.

**PA Crop Progress for Week Ending June 15, 2008**

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, planted	96	98	95
Corn, emerged	77	91	87
Corn average height, inches	12	17	14
Barley, turning yellow	88	86	82
Barley, ripe	33	27	29
Barley, harvested	6	0	0
Wheat, turning yellow	51	37	34
Oats, heading or headed	44	37	30
Soybeans, planted	86	92	84
Soybeans, emerged	65	72	65
Tobacco, transplanted	86	88	75
Alfalfa, 1st cutting	82	89	74
Timothy clover, 1st cutting	58	63	44

**PA Crop Condition for Week Ending June 15, 2008**

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	0	4	19	56	21
Wheat	4	0	9	66	21
Oats	1	0	14	63	22
Soybeans	0	3	16	68	13
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand	0	2	9	69	20
Timothy clover stand	0	3	13	66	18
Quality of hay made	0	1	20	49	30
Pasture	3	4	18	63	12
Peaches	0	0	6	68	26
Apples	0	0	20	61	19

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