



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
2301 N Cameron St, Rm G-19 · Harrisburg, PA 17110
(717) 787-3904 · (717) 782-4011 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov

Week Ending November 16, 2008

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SEASON FINALE

This is the final series of the 2008 Pennsylvania Crop & Weather Roundup. We would like to thank all of the individuals who supplied information to make this release possible. The Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup will resume the first week of April 2009. If you have any suggestions for information to add or delete from this report, please let us know. You can mail, fax or email suggestions using the information at the top of this release.

Fair week for Field Work: The week started off with nice conditions, but rain, snow or wind towards the last part of the week made field work difficult. A total of 4 days were suitable for field work last week. Principal farm activities included spreading manure and lime, pruning fruit trees, and harvesting soybeans and corn. Farmers also conducted post harvest activities such as equipment maintenance, building repairs, and preparing for winter. Fall plowing also continued and is 86 percent complete.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending November 16, 2008

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
4	21	65	10

Crops: The week's late rain and strong winds throughout the state knocked down corn and slowed down the soybean and corn harvests. The state's corn harvest continued at 81% harvested, compared with the five year average of 84%. The soybean harvest is also 81% complete, compared to the 77% average. Winter wheat condition declined, as 87% was rated good or excellent, compared to the previous week's 97%. Winter wheat is 92% emerged, compared with an 86% average.

Livestock: Supplemental feed use was reported again because of the continuing poor pasture conditions. Pastures are muddy, with producers moving cattle closer to the barns. Forty percent of the state's pastures were estimated as poor or very poor. This is compared to the previous report of 38%. Overall, the state's pasture condition was estimated as follows: 32% very poor, 8% poor, 38% fair, 20% good, and 2% excellent.

U.S. as of November 9, 2008: An early-season winter storm brought blizzard conditions to parts of the Dakotas, boosting soil moisture but curtailing harvest activities and increasing stress on livestock. Locally severe thunderstorms developed along the storm's trailing cold front. Reports of damaging winds, including isolated tornadoes, were most numerous across the southeastern

Plains and the Ozark Plateau on November 5. Meanwhile, most areas from the Mississippi Valley eastward experienced several days of warm, dry weather, allowing corn harvesting to rapidly advance. In addition, the Midwestern soybean harvest neared completion. However, a slow-moving storm near the East Coast produced cloudy, showery, breezy conditions in the Atlantic coastal plain from eastern North Carolina to Maine. Farther west, a series of Pacific storms maintained showery, unsettled conditions in the Northwest, boosting soil moisture for winter grain establishment. During the first half of the week and again at week's end, light rain as far south as southern California briefly slowed autumn fieldwork. Significant precipitation, including high-elevation snow, fell in parts of the Intermountain West. Near-to below-normal temperatures covered California and the Southwest. Chilly conditions also lingered for much of the week in the lower Southeast. In contrast, very warm weather prevailed in advance of the winter storm that drifted from the Northwest to the north-central U.S., resulting in weekly readings as much as 15 degrees F above normal in the upper Midwest.

Corn: The Corn Belt experienced average temperatures of up to 16 degrees warmer than normal during the week. Average temperatures around the region ranged from 45 degrees F in the west to 55 in the east. Seventy-one percent of the corn acreage was harvested by week's end, 21 points behind last year's pace and 17 points behind the 5-year average. In eastern crusts of the region, harvest advanced slightly ahead of the average pace.

Soybeans: The soybean region saw temperatures dip into the twenties in the Dakotas, while average temperatures ranged from 40 to 60 degrees Fahrenheit throughout the region. Precipitation dotted the growing region. Harvest, at 93 percent complete, was within 11 points of normal in all States and was occurring at the same pace as the 5-year average. Harvest was nearing completion in many States.

Winter Wheat: Temperatures across the winter wheat growing area ranged between 3 and 9 degrees above normal. Ninety four percent of the acreage had been seeded, the same as last year and the 5-year average. Eighty-three percent of the acreage had emerged, 3 points ahead of last year, but 1 point behind the 5-year average. Condition of the crop was rated 68 percent good to excellent, a point better than the previous week.

Weather Data For Week Ending November 16, 2008

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - November 16, 2008						
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F	
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total	
Northwest													
Erie	65	33	45	2	2.39	6	26.71	-1.85	98	3,122	475	5,214	
Franklin	63	31	41	0	1.10	5	26.28	-3.64	106	2,570	161	4,573	
Meadville	64	30	42	2	1.11	5	26.17	-4.33	101	2,580	376	4,607	
Mercer	63	30	42	1	1.03	4	27.02	-1.47	108	2,561	177	4,594	
Springboro	62	29	41	-3	1.93	6	33.37	5.87	108	2,344	-243	4,317	
Warren	63	30	41	2	0.95	6	27.46	-2.95	102	2,435	112	4,400	
North Central													
Bradford Region	59	25	38	2	0.91	6	25.29	-4.78	120	1,810	155	3,652	
Emporium	60	29	41	2	1.07	6	23.77	-5.66	113	2,422	537	4,388	
Kane	61	28	39	2	0.89	6	26.44	-4.38	107	1,766	152	3,589	
Laporte	61	29	39	-2	1.54	5	33.09	5.23	112	2,118	-259	4,015	
Lock Haven	56	33	44	3	0.65	4	21.26	-6.03	92	2,825	294	4,897	
Port Allegany	60	28	40	3	0.95	5	21.38	-7.38	107	2,002	166	3,885	
Renovo	58	34	43	2	0.78	5	21.76	-5.53	94	2,736	205	4,789	
Ridgway	64	29	41	2	0.90	5	24.74	-4.82	105	2,012	127	3,913	
Stevenson Dam	64	32	43	4	1.21	4	21.21	-8.35	94	2,559	674	4,567	
Towanda	63	28	43	3	0.92	4	27.10	3.81	94	2,496	98	4,483	
Wellsboro	56	27	38	0	1.19	5	24.02	0.72	105	1,969	189	3,828	
Williamsport	60	34	46	4	1.22	4	27.77	0.27	95	3,090	298	5,216	
Northeast													
Hawley	66	26	42	3	0.84	4	28.21	1.80	87	2,297	256	4,223	
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	68	31	46	5	0.60	4	23.83	-1.64	90	2,889	242	4,949	
Susquehanna	62	29	43	6	0.95	4	29.03	0.49	103	2,381	458	4,350	
West Central													
Butler	66	32	43	2	0.85	5	21.78	-6.09	116	2,505	2	4,545	
New Castle	69	32	44	3	0.87	5	23.39	-2.32	104	2,978	472	5,080	
Slippery Rock	66	31	43	3	0.78	5	27.02	-0.51	95	2,585	343	4,675	
Central													
Altoona/Blair	57	32	42	0	0.44	3	21.25	-3.59	98	2,760	95	4,820	
DuBois	63	28	41	2	0.91	4	24.88	-3.18	111	2,438	161	4,419	
Lewistown	59	34	44	1	0.86	4	27.09	0.47	90	2,964	35	5,047	
Middletown	70	34	47	3	1.31	3	26.59	0.04	74	3,592	264	5,767	
Prince Gallitzi	58	23	40	0	0.92	4	25.64	-5.97	93	2,219	90	4,166	
Selinsgrove	62	30	44	2	1.31	5	26.32	-1.40	87	2,855	135	4,922	
State College	56	32	42	2	0.80	4	24.34	-0.80	84	2,905	294	4,979	
East Central													
Allentown-Bethel	70	26	47	4	1.22	4	29.99	1.21	78	3,141	102	5,244	
Lehighton	68	29	45	2	1.03	4	28.29	-0.51	89	2,777	-150	4,818	
Matamoras	67	27	43	3	1.44	4	29.51	0.40	98	2,583	-30	4,561	
Mt_Pocono	62	32	45	9	1.04	4	29.94	-1.59	98	2,198	453	4,153	
Southwest													
Pittsburgh/Alle	66	31	45	4	0.91	4	22.09	-4.00	95	3,201	510	5,331	
Derry	61	26	42	0	0.95	4	29.03	2.02	108	2,664	130	4,726	
Myersdale	63	19	39	-3	0.90	5	28.66	-0.85	98	1,993	-505	3,942	
Mount Pleasant	67	25	43	3	0.98	4	26.81	-4.02	94	2,628	370	4,709	
Pittsburgh Intl	66	31	45	3	0.72	4	23.43	-0.75	92	3,115	296	5,241	
Connellsville	68	24	45	2	1.01	5	30.23	1.69	105	3,070	189	5,197	
Waynesburg	67	19	41	-2	0.93	3	27.25	0.88	86	2,725	128	4,803	
South Central													
Biglerville	66	33	45	-2	1.62	4	31.87	6.57	78	3,237	-18	5,363	
Everett	61	32	44	2	0.55	4	26.41	1.96	84	2,541	-117	4,581	
Hanover	70	28	46	2	1.55	4	31.48	6.18	86	3,195	-60	5,309	
Harrisburg_AP	72	34	48	3	0.99	3	23.65	-2.90	63	3,502	164	5,677	
South Mountain	65	28	43	0	1.18	4	35.62	10.78	93	2,524	-129	4,548	
York	71	30	47	2	1.12	4	33.24	6.46	84	3,226	-27	5,369	
Southeast													
Green Lane	70	31	47	4	1.63	4	31.88	3.95	88	3,279	387	5,416	
Hamburg	70	30	47	6	0.90	4	24.86	-7.58	86	3,290	683	5,411	
West_Chester	70	25	46	-1	2.06	3	28.58	-1.74	73	3,184	-59	5,292	
Lancaster	70	28	47	3	0.76	2	26.55	-1.49	72	3,216	151	5,352	
Neshaminy Falls	71	26	48	5	2.91	4	29.88	-1.96	73	3,275	252	5,409	
New Holland	69	30	47	3	1.37	3	28.17	0.13	74	3,400	335	5,548	
Philadelphia	72	36	51	4	2.14	3	23.68	-3.22	70	4,042	467	6,272	
Philadelphia NE	74	34	52	6	1.80	3	24.49	-2.41	73	4,166	591	6,399	
Reading	72	31	48	5	0.80	4	23.12	-6.71	82	3,466	466	5,622	
Valley Forge Na	70	32	48	2	1.74	4	31.96	2.83	80	3,203	-243	5,356	
Willow Grove	71	32	49	6	1.62	4	27.75	-4.09	80	3,554	531	5,728	

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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2008 Pennsylvania Crop Weather Reporters

Below is the list of crop weather reporters who volunteered their time to submit valuable input for our 2008 Crop Weather Report. We want to express our appreciation to all of the reporters who reported their local crop conditions and progress. We also want to give special recognition to our more consistent reporters. We apologize for any names that might be omitted.

Star Reporters

William Sheaffer
Russ McLucas
Judy Behney
Thomas Kerr
Dolly Little
Charles Glasses
Dick Decker
John Lohr
Charlene Ziegler
Ron McCorkle
Mike Kerr
David Stetler

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Darrel Tribue
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Honorable Mention

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Mark Goodhart
Hollis Baker
Michael Sherman
Pamela Barnes
Rick Kepner
Kyle Henniger
Albert Allison
Jeff Graybill
Jonathan Rotz
David Reedy
Charles Kessler
Clair Zerby
Nancy Lewis
James Swanson
Robert Kessler
Glenn Spangler
Andy Muza
Earl Smith
Karl Kroeck
Greg Hostetter
Susan Funka-Petery
Brian Fulmer
Luke Vogel

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending November 16, 2008

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fall plowing	86	84	83
Corn, harvested	81	84	84
Wheat, emerged	92	91	86
Soybeans, harvested	81	87	77

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending November 16, 2008

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Wheat	1	1	11	70	17
Pasture	32	8	38	20	2

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United States
 Department of Agriculture
 National Agricultural Statistics Service
 Pennsylvania Field Office
 2301 N Cameron St Room G-19
 Harrisburg PA 17110-9405

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