



# 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](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

Week Ending November 1, 2009

Issued weekly, April-November

Released November 2, 2009, 4 pm

*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."*

**Fair Week for Field Work:** The cloudy and wet days are really slowing the soybean and corn harvests. The lack of sunny and dry days is causing messy conditions in the fields. Pennsylvania had a total of 3 days suitable for field work. Primary field activities were: corn silage, corn, soybean, grape and apple harvesting, and planting barley and wheat. Fall plowing continues, and is 66% completed, behind last year's estimate of 81% and the average of 79%.

**PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending November 1, 2009**

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
0	1	62	37

**Crop Progress:** Ninety-Three percent of the corn is mature, which is behind last year's estimate and the average, both of which are 99%. Thirty-nine percent of the corn is harvested, behind both last year's 68% and the average of 67%. Ninety-six percent of the corn silage harvest is completed, which is also behind last year's estimate and the average, both of which are 100%. Barley planting is 94% completed. This is behind last year's 95% and the average of 97%. Barley is 80% emerged, behind last year's estimate of 84% and the average of 89%. Wheat planting is 75% completed. This is behind last year's 91% and the average of 88%. Wheat is 54% emerged, behind last year's 77%, and the average of 68%. Soybeans are 37% harvested, which is behind last year's 64%, and the average of 57%. The fourth cutting of alfalfa is 91% completed. This is behind last year's 100%, and the average of 94%. Ninety-six percent of Pennsylvania's apples are harvested, equal to last year's estimate, and ahead the average of 95%. Grapes are 95% harvested, which is ahead of both last year's 84%, and the average of 90%.

**Crop Condition:** The state's corn condition is 1% very poor, 6% poor, 13% fair, 46% good, and 34% excellent. State-wide wheat condition is 2% poor, 33% fair, 64% good, and 1% excellent. Soybean conditions are 3% poor, 11% fair, 47% good, and 39% excellent. Pasture conditions are at 13% very poor, 7% poor, 24% fair, 46% good and 10% excellent.

**Nationwide as of October 25, 2009:** Temperatures during the week were warmer than normal across much of the country west of the Rocky Mountains and from the eastern Corn Belt toward the Atlantic Coast. Conversely, cool temperatures prevailed throughout the Great Plains, Delta, and Southeast. Storm systems continued to deliver above average rainfall to much of the country, further limiting fieldwork and slowing growth in the 2010 winter wheat crop. Weekly accumulations totaled upward of 400 percent of normal throughout much of the already saturated Great Plains, Corn Belt, and Delta, while several locations in the Rocky Mountains had precipitation totals more than 800 percent of normal. Elsewhere, drier weather returned for much of the Pacific Coast, Southwest, and Southeast, allowing producers to make some progress in harvesting delayed summer crops. **Corn:** Crop maturity advanced 7 points during the week. At 90 percent complete, progress was 6 points behind last year and 9 points behind the 5-year average. Development to maturity was most active in the Great Lakes and Indiana where average temperatures were warmer than normal. Harvest advanced to 20 percent, 17 points behind last year and 38 points, or over 3 weeks, behind the average. With the exceptions of Kentucky and Tennessee, harvest was slow across much of the growing region as soggy fields and continued rainfall limited fieldwork. Overall, 69 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down slightly from ratings last week but 5 points better than last year. **Soybeans:** Harvest advanced to 44 percent complete, 31 points behind last year and 36 points, or over 2 weeks, behind the 5-year average. Harvest was most active in Ohio where producers utilized 5 days suitable for fieldwork to combine 41 percent of their crop during the week. Overall, 65 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, unchanged from ratings last week. **Winter Wheat:** Nationally, producers had seeded 76 percent of the 2010 winter wheat crop, 6 points behind last year and 9 points behind the 5-year average. Seeding was most active in the Corn Belt and Ohio during the week following the rapid harvest of the delayed soybean crop. By October 25, fifty-nine percent of the crop had emerged, 7 points behind both last year and the average. The most significant delays were evident in Illinois and Indiana where crop development was 41 points behind normal. Overall, 62 percent of the winter wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, 3 points below ratings last year.

### Weather Data For Week Ending November 1, 2009

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - November 1, 2009						
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F	
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total	
<b>Northwest</b>													
Erie	69	42	54	6	1.48	4	25.79	-0.75	96	2,609	-23	4,556	
Franklin	66	33	51	6	1.36	5	29.94	1.89	109	2,403	1	4,308	
Meadville	67	35	51	6	1.18	4	26.37	-2.10	101	2,341	143	4,239	
Mercer	69	35	51	6	1.06	4	28.64	1.99	105	2,396	18	4,309	
Springboro	67	35	51	4	1.69	4	27.00	1.43	100	2,122	-454	3,988	
Warren	65	35	52	7	0.93	4	30.04	1.57	97	2,232	-85	4,114	
<b>North Central</b>													
Bradford Region	60	27	48	7	1.22	5	29.97	1.78	111	1,634	-21	3,408	
Oswayo	63	27	48	6	0.64	4	28.93	2.01	108	1,702	-134	3,477	
Kane	61	28	48	7	1.06	4	33.48	4.58	104	1,618	4	3,380	
Laporte	58	35	48	3	1.51	5	36.38	10.23	113	1,882	-488	3,724	
Lock Haven	65	34	52	6	0.94	3	32.10	6.48	92	2,640	117	4,594	
Port Allegany	62	30	49	7	0.73	4	27.26	0.34	101	1,859	23	3,679	
Renovo	64	35	52	6	0.72	3	26.13	0.51	97	2,508	-15	4,458	
Ridgway	63	30	49	5	0.76	4	27.72	-0.07	96	1,904	19	3,705	
Stevenson Dam	64	34	52	9	0.57	3	24.94	-2.85	91	2,385	500	4,308	
Towanda	67	33	52	6	1.19	3	28.35	6.60	94	2,362	-29	4,275	
Wellsboro	59	30	47	5	1.05	3	28.77	6.87	100	1,750	-29	3,549	
Williamsport	68	36	55	8	1.30	3	29.71	4.12	89	3,017	234	5,059	
<b>Northeast</b>													
Hawley	66	30	49	4	1.57	4	33.86	9.20	94	2,102	66	3,962	
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	67	35	52	6	1.50	3	27.70	3.79	92	2,677	39	4,648	
Susquehanna	65	33	50	7	1.44	4	29.16	2.56	102	2,191	268	4,074	
<b>West Central</b>													
Butler	70	32	50	5	0.65	5	26.40	0.10	105	2,358	-135	4,275	
New Castle	73	32	52	7	0.98	4	24.06	-0.15	95	2,743	246	4,691	
Slippery Rock	73	31	53	8	1.03	4	27.68	1.80	102	2,512	276	4,440	
<b>Central</b>													
Altoona/Blair	63	34	52	5	0.61	3	25.37	2.09	100	2,578	-77	4,535	
DuBois	61	31	51	6	0.90	4	30.14	3.67	108	2,276	1	4,160	
Lewistown	67	35	53	5	0.81	3	32.08	7.15	92	2,802	-117	4,791	
Middletown	70	39	55	6	1.48	5	35.01	10.22	97	3,389	78	5,445	
Prince Gallitzi	64	31	50	5	0.62	4	25.47	-4.22	99	2,085	-42	3,931	
Selinsgrove	68	36	52	6	1.14	5	33.11	7.14	84	2,692	-19	4,656	
State College	62	37	52	6	0.65	3	27.00	3.49	97	2,650	47	4,613	
<b>East Central</b>													
Allentown-Bethel	67	35	53	5	2.00	5	32.82	5.95	91	2,944	-75	4,955	
Lehighton	66	36	51	3	2.14	5	40.85	13.91	102	2,498	-410	4,469	
Matamoras	64	33	50	4	1.65	4	29.65	2.51	84	2,348	-258	4,260	
Mt_Pocono	61	34	49	7	1.77	5	35.14	5.86	111	2,162	417	4,038	
<b>Southwest</b>													
Pittsburgh/Alle	72	37	55	8	0.52	4	21.79	-2.73	107	3,025	344	5,037	
Indiana_PA	64	34	51	4	0.87	4	16.84	-11.75	83	2,524	-72	4,450	
Myersdale	67	28	49	3	0.64	4	28.23	0.39	102	1,938	-551	3,752	
Mount Pleasant	73	31	54	9	0.61	3	29.54	0.47	102	2,648	397	4,604	
Pittsburgh Intl	73	33	54	6	0.51	3	21.65	-1.17	93	3,028	221	5,034	
Connellsville	73	36	56	8	1.02	3	31.67	4.77	107	2,968	104	4,975	
Waynesburg	73	32	51	6	0.94	4	25.78	0.96	103	2,601	16	4,567	
<b>South Central</b>													
Biglerville	69	38	54	4	1.51	6	34.43	10.70	97	3,083	-154	5,099	
Everett	67	31	52	5	0.49	1	27.30	4.40	92	2,526	-123	4,411	
Hanover	69	35	54	5	1.80	5	33.12	9.39	94	3,105	-132	5,122	
Harrisburg_AP	71	37	55	6	1.37	5	32.61	7.82	95	3,335	14	5,388	
South Mountain	68	35	51	4	1.40	4	35.10	11.82	100	2,407	-238	4,350	
York	70	34	55	5	1.59	5	30.53	5.44	93	3,117	-119	5,137	
<b>Southeast</b>													
Green Lane	69	38	53	6	2.27	5	38.55	12.51	102	3,042	163	5,060	
Hamburg	66	37	52	7	1.66	5	41.57	11.26	102	2,964	363	4,983	
West_Chester	69	36	54	4	2.08	5	38.79	10.40	93	3,039	-183	5,034	
Lancaster	67	39	55	7	1.08	4	31.44	5.10	95	3,169	116	5,193	
Neshaminy Falls	72	37	53	4	2.37	5	38.77	8.84	92	3,131	121	5,152	
New Holland	65	40	53	5	1.85	5	35.18	8.84	95	3,149	96	5,170	
Philadelphia	72	46	57	5	2.08	5	36.31	10.99	98	3,847	298	5,939	
Philadelphia NE	71	42	55	4	1.98	5	33.33	8.01	97	3,454	-95	5,516	
Reading	69	38	55	7	1.81	5	33.29	5.35	101	3,309	321	5,352	
Sellersville	68	36	52	4	2.17	5	38.67	12.63	97	2,798	-81	4,786	
Willow Grove	69	40	54	6	2.15	5	57.31	27.38	98	3,291	281	5,332	

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 2004: 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 COUNTY, Judy A Behney (FSA)** - Adams County had some more rainfall last week. It is very wet. Producers cannot get any fieldwork completed. We need some warm, sunny, and breezy days to dry things off. There are plenty of corn and soybean fields left to be harvested. The apple harvest is about complete, with a few growers finishing the late varieties. Good sized apples are being reported. The apples have quality issues due to excess moisture throughout the year. Fruit producers applied more chemicals this year because of the season's weather conditions. Until field conditions permit the producers won't be harvesting any crops.

**ADAMS COUNTY, Lee Showalter** - The apple harvest will conclude shortly. We just need a few dry days to finish.

**BUCKS COUNTY, Michael Fournier (EXT)** - Over three inches of rain last week has stopped the corn and bean harvests. Wheat planting is way behind schedule, with very little wheat in the ground. Corn yields have ranged from less than 30 bushels/acre to over 200. These yields are depending on planting date, soil drainage and deer pressure. The Willow Grove weather station reports that our rainfall is over 20 inches above normal for this growing season. This will not be a good year for Bucks County farmers.

**CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker** - Last week was another wet week with over 2 inches in my gauge. We need some dry days to complete the corn and soybean harvest.

**CLARION COUNTY, Tom Tanner (FSA)** - The weather conditions have slowed the harvesting of corn silage, soybeans, and corn for grain.

**COLUMBIA COUNTY, John O Yocum** - The frequent rain is hampering harvesting. Corn moisture is staying high.

**CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS)** - There were some good work days this week, even though the ground conditions were very damp. Combines were harvesting soybeans and high moisture corn. Moisture levels have been running high on all grains.

**DAUPHIN COUNTY, Paul H. Craig (EXT)** - This upcoming week should be very busy for the bean and corn harvests if the weather holds. Fields have been just too wet to get into recently. Crops are still on the wet side. The bean harvest may be a priority. Some varieties of corn are starting to go down as a result of weak stalks. Fall seedings of grasses and alfalfa look good.

**FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr** - The showers and poor drying days limited the field work again. Lots of corn is still standing, as it is waiting on field conditions to improve. Some attempts to harvest soybeans were made, with yields that were better than expected. Fields were messy.

**FULTON COUNTY, Russ McLucas** - This is the worst stalk quality I have seen for years. The grain moisture is not dropping in the fields.

**INDIANA COUNTY, David B. Overdorff** - We have combined about 25 acres of soybeans so far. They are looking really good. It is still a little wet in the fields. We shelled about 25 acres of corn, with moisture from 24%-31%. We need some more nice days for drying.

**LACKAWANNA COUNTY, John Esslinger (EXT)** - The grain harvest continues to be delayed due to the wet weather and high moisture in the grain.

**LANCASTER COUNTY, Burell Whitworth Jr. (NRCS)** - Rainy and cold weather slowed the field work. Corn is not drying down. It has been hard to finish cover crop planting.

**MERCER COUNTY, James P. Rust** - The field corn does not want to dry down. Most corn growers are reporting 26-30% moisture. Lots of money spent is being spent to dry down. Some corn growers are having quality problems with various molds.

**POTTER COUNTY, Bill Waltman (EXT)** - Substantial rains limited harvesting last week.

**SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer** - Only one day was suitable to work in the fields last week, due to the heavy rains and overcast skies. There has been very little corn and soybeans harvested for grain. There are signs of ear mold in the standing corn. Hopefully, the month of November will be better for the drying down and harvesting of the remaining crops.

**SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, Willie Keeney** - The rain on Tuesday night and Wednesday has made for challenging harvesting conditions.

**WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr** - Wet field conditions are slowing the harvests of corn and soybeans.

**YORK COUNTY, John Rowehl (EXT)** - A rainy week with minimal drying conditions kept the progression of harvest slow.

**PA Crop Progress for Week Ending November 1, 2009**

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fall plowing	66	81	79
Corn, mature	93	99	99
Corn, harvested	39	68	67
Corn silage, harvested	96	100	100
Barley, planted	94	95	97
Barley, emerged	80	84	89
Wheat, planted	75	91	88
Wheat, emerged	54	77	68
Soybeans, harvested	37	64	57
Alfalfa, 4th cutting	91	100	94
Apples, harvested	96	96	95
Grapes, harvested	95	84	90

**PA Crop Condition for Week Ending November 1, 2009**

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	1	6	13	46	34
Wheat	0	2	33	64	1
Soybeans	0	3	11	47	39
Pasture	13	7	24	46	10

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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

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