



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203, Harrisburg, PA 17112
(717) 787-3904 · (717) 782-4011 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov

Week Ending August 22, 2010

Issued weekly, April-November

Released August 23, 2010, 4 pm

This report can be found on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/pa and click on "Pennsylvania Publications."

Excellent Week for Field Work: The sporadic showers and thunderstorms experienced throughout the state this week were much needed to ease the dry conditions many crops have been facing this season. Conditions have been mixed at best for corn around the state due to spot showers and the continued dry conditions in certain areas. Pennsylvania had a total of 6 days suitable for field work. Primary field activities were harvesting vegetables and apples, seeding and spraying fields, and making preparations for silo filling.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending August 22, 2010

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
6	23	71	0

Crop Progress: Corn dough averages out at 59% compared to last year's 45% and the average of 64%. Corn dent is 31% ahead of the 12% from last year and the 30% 5 Yr. Avg. Corn silage is at 18% compared to the 5% last year and 12% 5 Yr. Avg. The average corn height is 87 inches tall, compared to last year's 84 inches, and the 5 year average of 80 inches. Tobacco is at 40% well ahead of the 27% from a year ago and the 26% Avg. Potatoes are at 17% behind the 25% from a year ago and the 19% 5 Yr Avg. Alfalfa third cutting is at 94%, well ahead of last year's 68% and the 79% average. Alfalfa fourth cutting is at 23% ahead of the 10% a year ago and the 12% 5 year average. Timothy/Clover second cutting is at 93% ahead of the 82% last year and 79% average. Peach harvest is 88%, ahead of last year's 77% and the average of 69%. Apples harvested are at 35%, above last year's 31%, and the 5 year average of 28%.

Crop Condition: State-wide corn condition is 4% very poor, 11% poor, 44% fair, 35% good, and 6% excellent. Alfalfa stand conditions are 0% very poor, 3% poor, 25% fair, 58% good, and 14% excellent. Timothy/Clover stand conditions are 0% very poor, 9% poor, 37% fair, 51% good, and 3% excellent. The quality of hay made is 0% very poor, 5% poor, 15% fair, 56% good, and 24% excellent. Pasture conditions are at 13% very poor, 25% poor, 33% fair, 24% good and 5% excellent. Apple conditions are 0% very poor, 6% poor, 22% fair, 42% good, and 30% excellent.

Nationwide as of August 15, 2010: Hot temperatures dominated the eastern half of the country during the week, promoting rapid phenological development of many row crops and helping to dry down small grains as harvest approached. Most notably, temperatures reaching as many as 8 degrees above normal prevailed in an area centered over the Corn Belt and extending throughout much of the Great Lakes region, Ohio and Tennessee Valleys, and central Great Plains. In contrast, abnormally cool temperatures returned to many areas west of the Rocky Mountains. While much of the United States

was relatively dry during the week, precipitation totaling 200 percent or more above normal was received across much of the northern tier of the country, as well as in scattered locations east of the Mississippi River. Portions of central Iowa received rainfall in excess of 7 inches, causing localized flooding and damaging some corn and soybean fields. **Corn:** A week of temperatures well above normal promoted rapid phenological development of this year's corn crop across much of the major producing areas during the week. Corn at or beyond the dough stage advanced 22 percentage points during the week, leaving progress, at 74 percent complete, 36 percentage points ahead of last year and 16 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. As the week ended, doughing in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, and Minnesota, four of the five largest corn-producing States, was 41 percentage points or more ahead of last year and 16 percentage points or more ahead of the 5-year average. Nationally, 32 percent of the crop was at or beyond the dented stage by week's end, 23 percentage points ahead of last year and 10 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. While 20 percent or more of the corn crop in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, and Nebraska reached the dented stage during the week, progress in Minnesota slowly gained momentum but remained slightly behind normal. Overall, 69 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down slightly from ratings last week but slightly better than the same time last year. **Winter Wheat:** While harvest was complete or nearly complete throughout much of the major winter wheat-producing areas, harvest remained well behind both last year and normal in the Pacific Northwest and Montana despite double-digit progress during the week. By August 15, ninety-one percent of the Nation's crop had been harvested, 2 percentage points behind last year and 5 percentage points behind the 5-year average. **Small Grains:** Nationwide, 79 percent of the oat crop was harvested by August 15, twenty-two percentage points ahead of last year and slightly ahead of the 5-year average. Despite producers using 4 days to harvest 22 percent of their crop during the week, progress in North Dakota remained 11 percentage points behind the 5-year average. **Barley** producers harvested 13 percent of the Nation's crop during the week, leaving progress, at 29 percent complete, 19 percentage points ahead of last year but 16 percentage points behind the 5-year average. Harvest remained behind the average pace in all estimating States except Minnesota, where progress was 56 percentage points ahead of last year and 10 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Overall, 85 percent of the barley crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up slightly from ratings last week and 7 percentage points better than the same time last year. Despite the overall improvement in condition ratings, a significant decline was reported in Washington where damage caused by stripe rust that was prevalent in fields earlier in the spring became evident as producers began harvesting their crop.

Weather Data For Week Ending August 22, 2010

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - August 22, 2010					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	85	61	74	5	0.90	1	17.03	0.05	56	2,440	558	3,778
Franklin	86	58	73	6	1.29	2	20.04	0.31	60	2,322	541	3,661
Meadville	85	57	72	6	1.16	2	20.23	0.84	70	2,228	596	3,561
Mercer	86	57	73	5	0.94	2	20.33	1.75	71	2,326	564	3,676
Springboro	85	54	70	2	1.99	3	23.72	6.73	63	2,081	208	3,371
Warren	86	56	72	5	1.29	2	16.86	-2.67	56	2,155	422	3,475
North Central												
Bradford Region	78	49	67	4	2.03	2	19.50	-0.14	59	1,730	454	2,995
Oswayo	81	44	66	2	1.87	3	20.29	1.74	66	1,740	334	2,992
Kane	81	50	67	5	2.32	3	19.18	-0.67	58	1,716	460	2,971
Laporte	82	56	68	0	1.53	2	17.12	-1.03	67	2,014	232	3,315
Lock Haven	87	58	72	4	1.69	2	16.63	-1.27	50	2,477	595	3,855
Port Allegany	81	51	67	4	2.34	2	18.14	-0.41	62	1,885	479	3,166
Renovo	87	57	71	3	0.88	2	16.89	-1.01	57	2,371	489	3,747
Ridgway	83	52	69	5	1.15	2	16.93	-2.95	59	1,900	474	3,192
Stevenson Dam	87	57	71	7	1.23	2	16.44	-3.44	55	2,245	819	3,602
Towanda	88	53	70	2	1.36	3	13.37	-1.67	49	2,164	368	3,505
Wellsboro	82	51	66	3	2.29	3	17.50	2.35	56	1,824	471	3,122
Williamsport	89	57	73	3	1.76	2	16.13	-1.66	53	2,721	646	4,129
Northeast												
Hawley	84	49	68	2	1.47	2	16.92	-0.19	50	1,977	441	3,281
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	86	58	72	4	0.97	2	10.33	-6.39	45	2,542	568	3,902
Susquehanna	84	52	69	4	1.46	3	17.08	-1.22	59	2,111	640	3,441
West Central												
Butler	88	58	73	6	0.70	2	23.88	5.20	62	2,286	443	3,635
New Castle	93	58	76	8	0.85	1	21.85	4.89	57	2,538	692	3,902
Slippery Rock	92	57	74	8	0.85	2	19.56	1.42	63	2,381	714	3,742
Central												
Altoona/Blair	88	55	73	4	0.89	3	18.45	2.09	57	2,446	472	3,816
DuBois	83	54	71	5	1.28	2	16.95	-1.76	63	2,205	487	3,556
Lewistown	90	62	74	3	1.07	2	15.88	-1.86	49	2,603	442	4,004
Middletown	89	65	77	4	0.34	3	18.36	1.10	43	3,001	566	4,422
Prince Gallitzi	86	53	69	4	0.99	3	19.04	-1.99	54	2,026	443	3,364
Selinsgrove	90	58	72	3	0.81	2	11.93	-6.00	44	2,537	511	3,926
State College	86	58	72	4	1.49	1	14.98	-1.45	49	2,500	545	3,878
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	87	57	74	3	0.47	2	19.12	0.49	43	2,698	464	4,088
Lehighton	83	59	70	-2	1.08	3	17.41	-1.12	48	2,413	253	3,796
Matamoras	87	55	71	3	0.47	2	14.29	-4.69	48	2,209	252	3,556
MT_Pocono	83	54	69	5	1.49	4	13.56	-6.40	56	2,122	769	3,444
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	90	63	76	8	0.78	1	16.82	-0.69	57	2,780	800	4,163
Indiana_PA	86	57	72	4	0.86	2	20.06	-0.26	69	2,261	350	3,620
Myersdale	88	53	69	-1	0.40	1	14.85	-5.05	58	1,815	-11	3,121
Mount Pleasant	89	55	73	6	0.60	1	18.07	-2.48	51	2,405	743	3,761
Pittsburgh Intl	89	59	76	6	0.33	2	16.51	0.00	54	2,721	650	4,100
Connellsville	94	58	75	6	1.00	1	19.35	-0.18	60	2,644	538	4,023
Waynesburg	92	57	73	5	1.08	1	16.83	-1.32	46	2,473	554	3,833
South Central												
Biglerville	91	61	76	4	0.50	3	12.77	-3.22	37	2,805	425	4,206
Everett	89	57	72	3	0.28	1	15.88	-0.08	52	2,306	352	3,671
Hanover	89	61	75	3	0.32	3	14.12	-1.87	45	2,784	404	4,182
Harrisburg_AP	89	64	76	3	0.33	3	20.92	3.66	47	2,921	479	4,335
South Mountain	85	55	71	2	0.82	3	13.29	-3.07	45	2,265	298	3,621
York	91	60	75	3	0.56	3	16.44	-1.17	47	2,710	342	4,103
Southeast												
Green Lane	89	61	75	4	0.87	3	14.13	-4.05	45	2,793	663	4,203
Hamburg	87	60	73	4	0.45	3	18.21	-2.96	51	2,737	784	4,141
West_Chester	90	57	74	2	0.65	3	19.37	-0.43	37	2,737	380	4,137
Lancaster	87	63	75	3	0.58	4	14.61	-3.94	46	2,822	576	4,223
Neshaminy Falls	92	58	77	6	0.16	2	11.26	-9.95	43	2,879	654	4,296
New Holland	89	63	75	3	0.69	4	16.31	-2.24	48	2,827	581	4,227
Philadelphia	93	69	80	5	0.16	3	13.82	-4.29	42	3,392	827	4,829
Philadelphia NE	93	63	79	4	0.01	1	11.88	-6.23	51	3,163	598	4,591
Reading	91	62	76	5	0.46	3	14.20	-5.46	46	3,010	801	4,429
Sellersville	89	57	74	4	0.34	4	14.25	-3.93	44	2,604	474	3,988
Willow Grove	90	61	76	5	0.26	3	13.46	-7.75	39	2,970	745	4,389

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

Adams County started the week out hot and humid with thunderstorms dropping about 3/4 inch of rainfall on Monday; then Wednesday was cloudy with some sporadic showers but no accumulation and temperatures in the 70's. Some showers were received early Sunday morning about 1/4 inch and then cloudy till lunchtime; then cleared and into the 80's and more humid. Corn silage continues to be chopped in the county that has been affected from the drought this summer. Crop insurance appraisers are busy adjusting claims in the county. Some parts of county are worse than others due to sporadic rainfall lately and depending when corn was planted. Some of the early planted looks the worse throughout the county. Soybeans seem to be still doing ok. Pollination has been a problem in the county this year for anything that gets a bloom due to drought. Corn is so many different stages throughout the same fields. Hay is starting to regrow now, and will maybe get some additional hay but will be light yield. Alfalfa cuttings have been lower yields since drought affected the regrowth. Some soil has been tilled for preparation of small grain seeding and new seeding of hay. Apples and peaches continue to be harvested in the county. Some yields have been affected this year due to hail storms throughout the growing season, some from drought. Vegetable crops continue to be harvested also in the county. Overall, the producers are busy working in the fields harvesting what they can and hoping that some of their soybeans and corn will be harvested for grain.

CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker

Green is coming back nicely. We received another 1.25 inches of rainfall. Some hay making occurring and alfalfa seeding being established.

COLUMBIA COUNTY, John o Yocum

Conditions were getting dry again, but received 1.75" of rain today.

CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS)

This was a good week for making hay and finishing up projects before the Crawford County Fair started. Rain came in on the weekend to put a halt to field work so looks like it's time to head out to the Fair and not worry about hay for a little while.

INDIANA COUNTY, DAVID B. OVERDORFF

It has been 2 weeks since we had any rain. We did receive about .50" of rain today (Sunday). Need more rain for the soybeans and corn. Still - -the soybeans and corn are surviving. We had some good second cutting of alfalfa this past Thursday. Have a couple more fields (about 5-7 acres) to make and we will be done with hay. Hope everyone has a safe farming week this week!

FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr

Normal weather this week allowed some of the grasses to recover from the hot dry weather. Rainfall throughout the region is still spotty and some crops in southwest Franklin County still showing stress. Harvesting of silage has begun with grain ratio very low. Soybeans are looking like a normal yield in full season beans.

SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer

The heavy rainfall that we had near the end of last week slowed the amount of field activities during the beginning of this week. The corn is developing nicely, in spite of the stress conditions earlier. The fourth cutting of alfalfa is looking good. The pastures have shown significant improvement. The main activities for the week were seeding, spraying, and making preparations for silo filling.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr

Finally some much-needed rain Saturday evening after many parts of the county went almost two weeks without moisture. The dry conditions along with hot temperatures are accelerating corn and soybean maturities.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending August 22, 2010

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fall plowing	12	4	12
Corn, dough	59	45	64
Corn, dent	31	12	30
Corn average height, inches	87	84	80
Corn silage, harvested	18	5	12
Barley, planted	6	1	4
Tobacco, harvested	40	27	26
Potatoes, harvested	17	25	19
Alfalfa, 3rd cutting	94	68	79
Alfalfa, 4th cutting	23	10	12
Timothy clover, 2nd cutting	93	82	79
Peaches, harvested	88	77	69
Apples, harvested	35	31	28

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending August 22, 2010

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	4	11	38	41	6
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand	0	3	25	58	14
Timothy clover stand	0	9	37	51	3
Quality of hay made	0	5	15	56	24
Pasture	13	25	33	24	5
Apples	0	6	22	42	30

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

United States
 Department of Agriculture
 National Agricultural Statistics Service
 Pennsylvania Field Office
 4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203
 Harrisburg PA 17112

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