



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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Week Ending September 12, 2010

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Excellent Week for Field Work: The weather conditions for many counties across the state this week are in drought like conditions, there have been a few scattered showers, but they were only enough to settle the dust in most places. Crop conditions are varied throughout the state depending on current soil moisture content and time of planting. Pennsylvania had a total of 6 days suitable for field work. Primary field activities were harvesting vegetables, apples, corn silage, preparing for fall seedings, and trying to find solutions to deal with the problematic stink bug. Fall plowing continued, and is now 22% complete, slightly ahead of 21% last year, and behind the five year average of 25%

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending September 12, 2010

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
32	33	35	0

Crop Progress: Corn is estimated to be 88% at the dough stage, ahead of last year's 85%, yet behind the five year average of 92%. Corn is 73% at the dent stage, ahead of 54% from last year and the 71% average. Corn is 31% mature, ahead of 10% from a year ago, and even with the 31% average. Corn silage is 63% harvested, ahead of 29% last year and the 47% average. Barley is 17% planted, ahead of last year's 7%, and the average of 14%. The tobacco harvest is 88% completed, ahead of 74% from a year ago and the 78% average. Potatoes are at 26% harvested, behind last year's 55% and the 42% average. The alfalfa fourth cutting is at 79% completed, ahead of 34% a year ago, and the 42% average. The apples are 59% harvested, above last year's 37%, and the average of 39%. The grape harvest has begun, and is 45% completed.

Crop Condition: State-wide corn conditions are; 7% very poor, 21% poor, 24% fair, 36% good, and 12% excellent. Soybean conditions are; 7% very poor, 16% poor, 23% fair, 42% good, and 12% excellent. The quality of hay made is 4% very poor, 3% poor, 14% fair, 44% good, and 35% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 26% very poor, 22% poor, 38% fair, 10% good and 4% excellent.

Nationwide as of September 05, 2010: While temperatures in areas of the northern Rocky Mountains and Pacific Northwest fell to as many as 9 degrees below normal, much of New England recorded average temperatures as many as 15 degrees above normal. Elsewhere, much of the country experienced near-normal

temperatures during the week. Unusually dry conditions dominated much of the Atlantic Coast States, Delta, Southwest, and Great Basin. Rain was prevalent across the Northern Tier, as well as in the Great Lakes region, Corn Belt, New England, and much of Texas. Most notably, rainfall in excess of 5 inches fell in southwestern Missouri, helping to replenish soil moisture levels.

Corn: By September 5, corn at or beyond the dough stage had advanced to 98 percent, 13 percentage points ahead of last year and 5 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average, with progress complete or nearly complete in all estimating States except Pennsylvania. Near-normal temperatures throughout much of the major corn-producing areas provided excellent conditions for continued rapid phenological development of this year's crop. By week's end, 86 percent of the corn crop was at or beyond the dented stage, 38 percentage points ahead of last year and 15 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average, while 33 percent of the crop was reported as mature, 25 percentage points ahead of last year and 14 percentage points ahead of the average. The most rapid progress was evident in Illinois, Indiana, and Iowa, where 23 percent or more of the crop matured during the week. Corn producers harvested 6 percent of the Nation's crop by September 5, four percentage points ahead of last year and 2 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Harvest was most advanced in Tennessee, where progress was 50 percentage points ahead of last year and 32 percentage points ahead of normal. Overall, 69 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down slightly from ratings last week but unchanged from the same time last year. **Soybeans:** Nationwide, leaves were dropping on 19 percent of the soybean acreage by September 5, twelve percentage points ahead of last year and 4 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. In Indiana, leaf drop was 34 percentage points, or over two weeks, ahead of last year's pace, with 2 percent of the crop harvested. Overall, 64 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, unchanged from ratings last week but 4 percentage points below the same time last year. **Small Grains:** By September 5, barley producers had harvested 78 percent of this year's crop, 12 percentage points ahead of last year but 8 percentage points behind the 5-year average. Double-digit delays remained evident in Idaho and Montana, two of the three largest barley-producing States. Seventy-six percent of the spring wheat crop was harvested by week's end, 20 percentage points ahead of last year but 9 percentage points behind the 5-year average. In Montana, producers harvested just 7 percent of their crop during the week, as increased rainfall limited fieldwork throughout much of the State.

Weather Data For Week Ending September 12, 2010

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - September 12, 2010					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	90	51	65	-1	0.99	2	18.70	-1.36	63	2,862	616	4,410
Franklin	87	46	60	-4	0.33	4	21.25	-1.27	68	2,659	556	4,208
Meadville	88	45	61	-3	0.41	2	21.32	-1.09	76	2,564	636	4,107
Mercer	88	45	61	-3	0.36	2	21.28	-0.10	78	2,677	595	4,237
Springboro	87	42	60	-6	0.61	3	25.75	6.03	72	2,398	176	3,898
Warren	88	46	60	-4	0.35	4	17.73	-4.77	64	2,489	448	4,019
North Central												
Bradford Region	81	36	56	-3	0.71	4	20.78	-1.75	69	1,955	462	3,430
Oswayo	84	36	56	-4	0.72	4	21.42	0.16	73	1,984	340	3,446
Kane	84	35	56	-3	0.49	3	20.11	-2.79	65	1,954	489	3,419
Laporte	81	44	59	-5	0.24	2	18.92	-1.82	73	2,302	210	3,813
Lock Haven	90	45	63	-2	0.32	2	17.02	-3.44	54	2,848	633	4,436
Port Allegany	85	40	58	-2	0.70	4	19.02	-2.24	71	2,176	532	3,667
Renovo	91	46	62	-3	0.15	2	17.24	-3.22	63	2,740	525	4,326
Ridgway	86	37	57	-5	0.34	4	18.30	-4.18	68	2,177	497	3,679
Stevenson Dam	88	45	61	1	0.18	1	16.78	-5.70	59	2,593	913	4,160
Towanda	86	43	61	-4	0.13	2	14.05	-3.18	56	2,494	386	4,045
Wellsboro	83	39	57	-3	0.10	2	17.96	0.67	61	2,085	498	3,593
Williamsport	90	44	65	-1	0.21	1	16.57	-3.57	56	3,123	681	4,741
Northeast												
Hawley	87	40	60	-2	0.05	1	19.65	0.02	56	2,269	459	3,783
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	89	45	66	1	0.07	2	11.19	-7.89	50	2,933	615	4,503
Susquehanna	86	44	61	1	0.21	4	18.75	-2.20	67	2,435	713	3,975
West Central												
Butler	89	44	61	-5	0.17	2	24.62	3.25	68	2,628	450	4,187
New Castle	92	45	63	-2	0.23	2	22.34	2.95	61	2,936	757	4,510
Slippery Rock	91	44	63	1	0.19	2	20.34	-0.44	69	2,753	790	4,324
Central												
Altoona/Blair	91	42	65	-1	0.17	1	18.86	0.37	61	2,818	498	4,398
DuBois	87	44	62	-2	0.11	2	17.47	-4.00	70	2,526	511	4,087
Lewistown	94	45	66	-1	0.16	1	16.15	-3.78	53	3,021	477	4,632
Middletown	91	52	70	2	0.69	1	19.17	-0.52	46	3,496	629	5,127
Prince Gallitzi	89	38	61	-2	0.26	2	19.60	-4.23	59	2,325	456	3,873
Selinsgrove	91	44	63	-3	0.43	1	13.24	-7.33	47	2,918	535	4,517
State College	89	46	63	-2	0.12	1	15.32	-3.37	53	2,873	579	4,461
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	90	44	67	0	0.22	1	20.30	-1.27	46	3,123	499	4,723
Lehighton	85	44	64	-3	0.50	1	18.37	-3.04	51	2,777	241	4,370
Matamoras	87	44	62	-3	0.02	1	16.88	-4.78	52	2,541	246	4,098
Mt_Pocono	83	41	62	4	0.19	1	15.61	-7.37	63	2,449	866	3,981
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	91	48	66	1	0.21	2	17.32	-2.45	63	3,204	873	4,797
Indiana_PA	88	45	63	-3	0.26	2	20.80	-2.28	74	2,612	358	4,181
Myersdale	87	34	57	-9	0.13	1	15.42	-7.01	63	2,079	-89	3,594
Mount Pleasant	90	38	61	-3	0.11	1	18.78	-4.70	54	2,748	779	4,314
Pittsburgh Intl	90	47	65	-2	0.71	2	17.53	-1.11	59	3,122	684	4,711
Connellsville	92	36	63	-4	0.11	2	20.49	-1.53	67	3,036	554	4,625
Waynesburg	92	42	62	-4	0.11	1	17.22	-3.24	49	2,842	580	4,412
South Central												
Biglerville	91	48	68	-1	0.00	0	13.01	-5.44	40	3,246	446	4,857
Everett	93	40	62	-5	0.19	1	16.49	-1.51	56	2,660	351	4,235
Hanover	89	44	65	-4	0.61	1	14.74	-3.71	47	3,201	401	4,809
Harrisburg_AP	90	48	69	0	0.81	1	21.75	2.06	49	3,383	509	5,007
South Mountain	86	43	62	-4	0.34	1	13.85	-4.64	48	2,615	302	4,181
York	90	45	67	-2	0.65	1	17.11	-2.86	50	3,134	348	4,737
Southeast												
Green Lane	89	48	67	1	0.17	1	14.80	-6.11	49	3,235	727	4,855
Hamburg	90	48	67	3	0.47	1	19.09	-4.99	54	3,168	869	4,782
West_Chester	89	46	66	-3	0.35	1	20.13	-2.50	41	3,157	377	4,767
Lancaster	90	48	69	2	0.39	1	15.08	-6.02	49	3,285	634	4,896
Neshaminy Falls	90	48	67	0	0.20	1	12.04	-12.27	46	3,323	703	4,950
New Holland	90	47	68	0	0.21	1	16.79	-4.31	51	3,285	634	4,895
Philadelphia	91	58	72	3	0.09	1	15.79	-4.84	45	3,937	904	5,584
Philadelphia NE	91	52	71	2	0.02	1	13.14	-7.49	55	3,673	640	5,311
Reading	92	49	70	3	0.45	1	14.86	-7.65	49	3,493	886	5,122
Sellersville	88	45	65	-2	0.01	1	15.21	-5.70	47	3,007	499	4,601
Willow Grove	89	50	69	2	0.09	1	15.70	-8.61	43	3,437	817	5,066

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 had another week of dry weather. Early Sunday morning we got about 3/4 of an inch of rainfall throughout the county. Started out nice and steady around 3 am and then tapered off to drizzle till afternoon. It wasn't a lot but much needed. The winds have caused corn to dry down quicker and stalks are mostly brown now. Some late corn may still be green but maturing. Corn silage is about done being harvested since stalks are brown. Producers are monitoring the moisture level in the corn and stage that it is in with anticipation of shelling soon. Soybeans seem to be doing ok. This week the stink bug has been apparent now in soybeans and eating the leaves and will soon move to the pods. Producers are trying to evaluate what can be done about these stinkbugs. Soil is being prepared for small grain seedings and forage seedings. Some producers are concerned with drought conditions continuing and where the seeds will get the moisture to get started. Peach harvest is about complete. Stink bugs are affecting peaches and apples throughout the county. Most sweet corn is done being harvested and dried up quick these last few weeks. More variety of apples are now being picked and seem to be two weeks earlier than normal harvest. Other vegetables where irrigated are still producing. Pumpkins have been affected due to poor pollination from the drought this year. Overall the producers are busy harvesting what they can of their crops and hoping for the best.

BUCKS COUNTY, Michael Fournier

Corn harvest has started and yields are highly variable within fields. The low spots are producing some average to above average yields while over the knobs are very poor, in some cases below 50 bushels per acre. We had 1/4 to 1/2 inch of rain on Sunday, but it did little more than settle the dust. Soybeans are turning yellow and dropping their leaves rapidly.

CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker

Fall field work continues; top soil moisture is low, only .25 inches of rainfall for the week.

CLARION COUNTY, Tom Tanner

Corn for silage is ready to be harvested in many areas throughout the county. Yields of 15 to 30 tons per acre are expected. Many farmers are finishing third and fourth cuttings of hay.

COLUMBIA COUNTY, John O Yocum

Need more rain. We received only about 0.5" of precipitation Sunday, but need much more.

CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS)

Good week for harvesting corn silage. Corn was just at the right stage and moisture content to make excellent silage. Last fields of haylage were also being made to add to the cattle feed reserves. Pastures are still in decent shape for this time of year with a few producers supplementing hay to extend the grazing season.

DAUPHIN COUNTY, Eugene Swigard

We received some much needed rain on Sunday.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr

Cooler weather this week. Showers on the weekend did little to help the drought. Corn is still being harvested and beans are now starting to be harvested as well. This may be the worst year for many locations south of Chambersburg to the Maryland line. Apple harvest is well underway and the dry weather is helping the harvest. Yields are off in many of the orchards as much as 50% in some varieties. No significant problems with stink bugs in Franklin County at this time that I have noted.

INDIANA COUNTY, David B. Overdorff

We had another week without any rain. Everything is drying up and some corn has leaves that are curling up on due to the lack of rain. The soybeans are starting to have leaves turn yellow and fall off. Just need a good shower. Have a great week of farming everyone and be safe!

LANCASTER COUNTY, Jeffrey Graybill

Widespread showers over the weekend have brought some relief. Late soybeans, alfalfa, fall seedings and pasture will all benefit.

MERCER COUNTY, James P. Rust

We are in need of rain again for the pastures and the hay fields regrowth. Corn and soybeans are drying down and yields are expected to be good and maturing ahead of schedule. Vegetable growers in the area are reporting record yields.

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Viola Pfleegor

We received about .2 in. rain on Sunday.

YORK COUNTY, John Rowehl

Continued hot and dry conditions are drying down crops in the field rapidly.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending September 12, 2010

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fall plowing	22	21	25
Corn, dough	88	85	92
Corn, dent	73	54	71
Corn, mature	31	10	31
Corn silage, harvested	63	29	47
Barley, planted	17	7	14
Tobacco, harvested	88	74	78
Potatoes, harvested	26	55	42
Alfalfa, 4th cutting	79	34	42
Apples, harvested	59	37	39
Grapes, harvested	45	0	4

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending September 12, 2010

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	7	21	24	36	12
Soybeans	7	16	23	42	12
Quality of hay made	4	3	14	44	35
Pasture	26	22	38	10	4

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