



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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Week Ending April 3, 2011

Issued weekly, April-November

Released April 4, 2011, 4 pm

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

Poor Week for Field Work: Pennsylvania had an average of 2 days suitable for field work. Primary field activities have been limited to pruning fruit trees, manure hauling, occasional fertilizer application when weather permitted, and some spring seeding of oats and alfalfa.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending April 03, 2011

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

Crop Progress: Farmers are not yet able to get into full swing spring plantings throughout much of the state due to prolonged winter weather conditions and overly saturated fields.

Crop Condition: State-wide winter wheat conditions are; 0% very poor, 3% poor, 19% fair, 64% good, and 14% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 18% very poor, 26% poor, 28% fair, 24% good and 4% excellent.

Nationwide as of March 27, 2011: Unusually warm weather dominated much of the southern United States during the week, with temperatures averaging more than 10°F above normal in portions of Texas. In contrast, temperatures averaged as much as 10°F below normal in the Great Lakes region, the northern Great Plains, and parts of the Great Basin. Showers and thunderstorms affected the Atlantic Coast States, the nation's northern tier, and most areas west of the Rocky Mountains. Most notably, many locations in central and northern California received more than 5 inches of precipitation.

Widespread heavy rain and mountain snow accompanied strong winds and tornados across parts of California during the week. Fieldwork was delayed in many areas. Lodging due to rain and wind was evident in Tulare County wheat fields. Where conditions allowed, small grain producers made herbicide applications to their fields. In Napa County, pre-emergent herbicide applications were made to vineyards, as shoot elongation was evident in most varieties. Blooming continued in stone fruit trees, although producers were concerned about mold and mildew following the recent wet weather. Wind damage was reported in some almond orchards. Pruning continued in olive groves, while blight sprays were made on walnut trees.

Weather Data For Week Ending April 3, 2011

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - April 3, 2011					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	43	19	32	-10	0.27	4	0.04	-0.26	3	0	0	0
Franklin_AG	49	14	32	-10	0.30	2	0.02	-0.31	1	0	0	0
Meadville-Port	47	16	32	-8	0.23	2	0.03	-0.30	1	0	0	0
Mercer	47	16	32	-10	0.39	4	0.17	-0.19	3	0	0	0
Springboro	47	13	30	-12	0.34	3	0.08	-0.20	2	0	0	0
Warren	48	10	30	-10	0.20	2	0.01	-0.32	1	0	0	0
North Central												
Bradford Region	42	8	28	-10	0.30	3	0.05	-0.28	2	0	0	0
Oswayo	48	5	28	-11	0.34	3	0.10	-0.20	2	0	0	0
Kane	45	9	27	-10	0.41	2	0.08	-0.28	1	0	0	0
Laporte	44	12	29	-13	0.44	3	0.28	-0.02	2	0	0	0
Lock Haven	54	18	35	-8	0.37	3	0.21	-0.09	2	0	0	0
Port Allegany	47	12	30	-9	0.32	3	0.12	-0.18	2	0	0	0
Renovo	51	18	35	-9	0.36	3	0.14	-0.16	2	0	0	0
Ridgway	49	11	30	-9	0.37	4	0.12	-0.21	3	0	0	0
Stevenson Dam	50	16	33	-6	0.37	3	0.14	-0.19	2	0	0	0
Towanda	50	17	33	-9	0.21	3	0.16	-0.11	2	0	0	0
Wellsboro	48	11	30	-8	0.36	2	0.12	-0.09	1	0	0	0
Williamsport	54	21	37	-7	0.43	3	0.23	-0.07	2	0	-2	4
Northeast												
Hawley	51	17	33	-8	0.46	3	0.45	0.15	2	0	0	1
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	51	19	36	-8	0.28	3	0.27	0.00	2	0	0	2
Susquehanna	50	16	33	-5	0.29	3	0.23	-0.10	2	0	0	0
West Central												
Butler	49	16	33	-10	0.17	3	0.04	-0.29	2	0	0	0
New Castle	51	16	33	-8	0.18	2	0.01	-0.29	1	0	0	0
Slippery Rock	52	12	34	-8	0.20	1	0.00	-0.33	0	0	0	1
Central												
Altoona/Blair	46	19	35	-9	0.30	3	0.04	-0.29	2	0	-2	1
DuBois	46	13	32	-9	0.25	3	0.07	-0.26	2	0	0	0
Lewistown	54	23	37	-9	0.37	3	0.17	-0.10	2	0	-3	2
Middletown	53	24	39	-9	0.46	3	0.36	0.06	2	0	-3	6
Prince Gallitzi	45	16	31	-11	0.20	1	0.20	-0.22	1	0	0	0
Selingsgrove	51	21	36	-9	0.47	4	0.33	0.03	3	0	-1	0
State College	49	18	34	-8	0.30	2	0.06	-0.24	1	0	0	0
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	54	23	39	-7	0.31	3	0.26	-0.07	2	0	-2	4
Lehighton	51	22	36	-9	0.43	3	0.37	0.07	2	0	0	1
Matamoras	52	20	36	-7	0.33	2	0.33	-0.03	2	0	0	3
Mt_Pocono	45	15	32	-6	0.26	2	0.26	-0.11	2	0	0	0
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	48	18	36	-9	0.52	4	0.33	0.03	3	0	-3	1
Indiana_PA	45	16	33	-11	0.48	4	0.28	-0.08	3	0	-2	0
Myersdale	42	14	30	-13	0.48	4	0.33	-0.06	3	0	0	0
Mount Pleasant	45	18	34	-8	0.57	4	0.38	-0.01	3	0	0	0
Pittsburgh Intl	48	18	35	-11	0.33	3	0.12	-0.21	2	0	-3	0
Connellsville	48	18	36	-11	0.74	4	0.58	0.22	3	0	-3	2
Waynesburg	46	18	35	-10	0.59	4	0.42	0.06	3	0	0	0
South Central												
Biglerville	50	20	37	-10	0.25	1	0.00	-0.33	0	0	-3	2
Everett	48	20	35	-9	0.77	3	0.43	0.13	2	0	0	0
Hanover	51	23	37	-10	0.64	4	0.35	0.02	3	0	-3	2
Harrisburg_AP	53	25	39	-9	0.47	3	0.35	0.05	2	0	-3	6
South Mountain	45	18	34	-10	0.31	3	0.06	-0.27	2	0	0	0
York	55	20	38	-10	0.54	3	0.33	-0.02	2	0	-3	4
Southeast												
Green Lane	53	24	38	-7	0.35	3	0.32	-0.01	2	0	0	4
Hamburg	52	24	38	-6	0.39	3	0.33	-0.02	2	0	0	3
West_Chester	53	22	37	-9	0.36	2	0.30	-0.06	1	0	-3	2
Lancaster	52	23	38	-8	0.16	2	0.06	-0.27	1	0	-3	2
Neshaminy Falls	58	22	39	-7	0.51	3	0.31	-0.08	2	0	-3	10
New Holland	52	22	38	-9	0.56	3	0.42	0.09	2	0	-3	4
Philadelphia	54	28	41	-6	0.25	3	0.22	-0.14	2	0	-3	8
Philadelphia NE	54	26	40	-8	0.34	3	0.28	-0.08	2	0	-3	8
Reading	54	23	39	-6	0.31	3	0.27	-0.09	2	0	0	7
Sellersville	52	23	37	-8	0.30	2	0.22	-0.11	1	0	0	1
Willow Grove	54	28	41	-6	0.41	3	0.35	-0.04	2	0	-3	6

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 - This week was an interesting week of weather. The temperatures were cold majority of the week. Some mornings were in the 20's and didn't warm up higher than 40 degrees. Some rainfall/snowfall was received Wednesday evening through Friday morning. The snow didn't last long as ground temperatures were warmer. Producers were trying to get some topdressing done and some oats seeded before the rain/snows came. Not all ground conditions permitted producers to be on as most are still pretty wet. Wheat and barley are greening up and starting to grow. Hay and pastures are starting to change colors also with new growth. Some oats was seeded end of last week and beginning of this week. Producers would like to get some more seeded since not all wheat got planted last fall and some need forage for livestock. Apple pruning is complete and now peaches etc are being pruned. The producers are hoping the cold temperatures stay away due to the progression of the buds etc. Tart Cherries are in the wet stage and producers are concerned about the cold temperatures affecting them. Time will tell if pistons turn brown. Overall the producers are awaiting warmer temperatures to dry off the fields so they can get started on their Spring crop plantings.

ADAMS COUNTY, Lee Showalter - Fruit crop development is definitely behind last year.

CAMBRIA COUNTY, Dolly Little - It has been a cool wet week with 3+ inches of snow on Wednesday. Producers are not able to get into the fields to start the spring plowing or planting. Very little field work accomplished, possible some top dressing on the winter wheat.

CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker - Spring work including manure hauling and frost seeding continued during the week.

ERIE COUNTY, Nancy Lewis - Frigid temperatures and no snow offered producers with corn still standing an opportunity to finish harvesting.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr - Week was damp and cold. Some field work late included hauling manure and slipping corn stubble. A few fields of alfalfa have been planted, but only on exceptionally light dry soils. With a low of 18 degrees, some fruit buds have been damaged, but too early to tell if it was significant.

INDIANA COUNTY, DAVID B. OVERDORFF - Getting the plow ready, but it has been to sticky and wet yet to do any plowing. This week coming does not look any better yet either. Hope everyone has a safe and great week of farming!

MERCER COUNTY, JAMES P. RUST - Extremely cold nights all week 12-16 Degrees F each night. Very little farming activity in the fields.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Andrew Frankenfield - A cold and wet March prevented most field work this spring.

SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer - Very limited field activities. Applying fertilizer and spreading manure where field conditions would permit.

TIOGA COUNTY, Sherri Butters- We are still receiving snowfall. Ground is saturated. Where animals are out year around, pastures are very messy. Fieldwork is non-existent and it will be some time before conditions are suitable. Tioga County has experienced one of the harshest winters in several years. Snow has fallen in record amounts coupled with very cold temperatures.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY, Eric Oesterling - Cold damp weather has prevented most field work. Some manure spreading.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending April 3, 2011

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending April 3, 2011

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Wheat	0	3	19	64	14
Pasture	18	26	28	24	4

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