



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending November 6, 2011

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

Good Week for Field Work: Pennsylvania had an average of 5 days suitable for field work. Pennsylvania farmers were treated to a welcomed surprise this week, good weather for field work. It was an "all hands on deck" week for most farms in the area as they were busy taking full advantage of the workable days to catch up on fall field activities. Primary field activities for the week were harvesting of corn and soybeans, spreading manure, and preparing soil for spring planting. Fall plowing is 61% complete, behind the 72% this time last year, and behind the 5-year average of 77%.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending Nov 06, 2011

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
0	0	55	45

Crop Progress: The year's corn crop is 57% harvested, behind the 76% at this time last year and the 5-year average of 67%. Barley planting is 92% complete, behind the 98% at this time last year and the 5-year average of 98%. Barley is 60% emerged, behind the 92% at this time last year and the 5-year average of 92%. Winter wheat planting is 74% complete, compared to the 88% at this time last year and the 5-year average of 92%. Winter wheat is 61% emerged, compared to the 73% at this time last year and the average of 75%. The soybean harvest is 49% complete, compared to the 82% last year and the average of 70%. The potato harvest is 96% complete, compared to 99% at this time last year and the 5-year average of 98%. The fourth cutting of alfalfa is 90% complete, behind the previous year's 97% and the 5-year average of 96%.

Crop Condition: State-wide winter wheat conditions are; 0% very poor, 1% poor, 35% fair, 41% good, and 23% excellent. Soybean conditions are; 2% very poor, 6% poor, 23% fair, 49% good, and 20% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 7% very poor, 15% poor, 37% fair, 30% good and 11% excellent.

Nationwide as of October 30, 2011: Near-normal temperatures prevailed across much of the country during the week, with isolated locations in the Northwest and Rocky Mountains experiencing temperatures 6°F or more below normal. An early-season storm system dumped heavy weekend snow on much of the Northeast, while cool, mostly dry weather promoted fieldwork in much of the Midwest.

Corn: Nationally, 78 percent of the corn crop was harvested by October 30, twelve percentage points—or 8 days—behind last year but 16 points ahead of the 5-year average. Despite late-week freezes that ended the growing season in sections of the Corn Belt that had not previously experienced a freeze, mostly dry weather favored fieldwork during the week. However, significant harvest delays persisted in Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Soybeans: By week's end, producers had harvested 87 percent of this year's soybean crop, 8 percentage points behind last year but 8 points ahead of the 5-year average. Harvest progress was ahead of or near normal in all estimating states except Ohio, where adverse weather conditions earlier in the season delayed planting and hindered crop growth. Winter Wheat: By October 30, winter wheat producers had seeded 89 percent of the 2012 crop, 3 percentage points behind last year but slightly ahead of the 5-year average. Led by California, double-digit seeding was evident in half of the estimating states during the week. Nationwide, 68 percent of the winter wheat crop was emerged by week's end. This was 5 percentage points behind last year and 4 percentage points behind the 5-year average. Despite improved soil moisture aiding recent crop emergence in portions of Texas, overall progress remained 23 percentage points—or nearly 3 weeks—behind normal. Overall, 46 percent of the winter wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down slightly from last week but unchanged from last year.

Weather Data For Week Ending November 6, 2011

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - November 6, 2011					
	Temperature			Precipitation			Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	66	26	47	-2	0.00	0	35.16	7.97	105	3,125	486	5,100
Franklin_AG	63	25	42	-4	0.13	1	37.14	8.50	126	2,986	579	4,928
Meadville-Port	63	26	44	0	0.00	0	34.28	5.16	118	3,032	829	4,984
Mercer	64	26	43	-2	0.10	1	35.46	8.24	137	2,945	562	4,912
Springboro	64	23	43	-5	0.04	1	39.30	13.13	122	2,644	63	4,557
Warren	63	25	42	-3	0.02	2	33.50	4.41	113	2,757	435	4,666
North Central												
Bradford Region	60	22	39	-3	0.01	1	35.36	6.58	128	2,320	665	4,136
Oswayo	61	16	38	-5	0.00	0	34.89	7.38	116	2,273	437	4,103
Kane	61	21	38	-3	0.04	1	40.48	10.97	112	2,201	587	4,010
Laporte	52	24	38	-7	0.00	0	63.32	36.62	121	2,410	35	4,259
Lock Haven	57	24	41	-4	0.00	0	38.82	12.66	100	3,186	658	5,163
Port Allegany	61	23	40	-2	0.00	0	35.22	7.71	120	2,462	626	4,335
Renovo	59	25	42	-4	0.02	1	38.79	12.63	118	3,121	593	5,096
Ridgway	63	21	40	-4	0.01	1	33.96	5.61	122	2,478	593	4,361
Stevenson Dam	62	24	42	-1	0.00	0	38.52	10.17	99	2,972	1,087	4,922
Towanda	61	24	41	-3	0.00	0	48.07	25.83	100	2,810	414	4,762
Wellsboro	59	22	40	-3	0.00	0	38.55	16.20	113	2,374	594	4,209
Williamsport	58	25	42	-5	0.00	0	51.18	24.99	103	3,438	650	5,459
Northeast												
Hawley	61	20	38	-6	0.00	0	52.12	26.91	100	2,534	493	4,461
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	58	24	42	-5	0.00	0	43.60	19.19	102	3,150	507	5,151
Susquehanna	59	22	39	-3	0.00	0	48.56	21.34	105	2,662	739	4,600
West Central												
Butler	63	25	42	-4	0.09	1	33.20	6.40	117	3,012	514	4,999
New Castle	68	27	44	-2	0.11	1	35.59	10.90	111	3,357	855	5,363
Slippery Rock	68	24	44	-1	0.10	1	36.84	10.42	117	3,083	842	5,073
Central												
Altoona/Blair	65	28	43	-4	0.01	1	35.24	11.46	98	3,357	697	5,364
DuBois	60	24	41	-3	0.00	0	36.29	9.32	116	2,821	544	4,749
Lewistown	65	26	43	-5	0.00	0	44.56	19.08	102	3,453	529	5,489
Middletown	61	28	44	-5	0.00	0	55.10	29.76	94	3,824	504	5,905
Prince Gallitzi	61	22	41	-4	0.00	0	36.64	6.34	103	2,789	660	4,700
Selinsgrove	59	24	41	-6	0.00	0	51.82	25.30	106	3,198	482	5,193
State College	61	27	41	-5	0.00	0	38.04	14.01	101	3,195	587	5,161
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	61	24	42	-6	0.01	1	50.18	22.72	95	3,614	586	5,669
Lehighton	56	25	40	-8	0.00	0	44.47	16.95	103	3,060	143	5,076
Matamoras	59	22	40	-6	0.00	0	55.64	27.89	103	2,745	134	4,722
Mt_Pocono	57	21	39	-2	0.00	0	56.51	26.52	111	2,676	931	4,599
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	63	32	46	1	0.07	1	28.33	3.31	112	3,561	875	5,608
Indiana_PA	61	28	44	-3	0.05	1	38.58	9.42	132	3,116	515	5,103
Myersdale	63	20	38	-7	0.00	0	33.18	4.80	110	2,394	-100	4,279
Chalk_Hill	61	22	39	-8	0.06	1	46.85	19.43	119	2,473	-398	4,370
Pittsburgh Intl	63	29	45	-2	0.08	1	25.46	2.20	103	3,513	700	5,546
Connellsville	67	25	45	-3	0.02	1	37.77	10.35	131	3,382	511	5,417
Waynesburg	64	24	43	-3	0.01	1	46.05	20.74	108	3,133	543	5,148
South Central												
Biglerville	62	27	43	-7	0.00	0	41.38	17.15	84	3,633	387	5,696
Everett	67	22	41	-6	0.00	0	37.45	14.05	97	3,013	359	5,015
Hanover	64	25	42	-7	0.00	0	38.96	14.73	98	3,581	335	5,623
Harrisburg_AP	61	28	44	-6	0.00	0	54.00	28.66	87	3,842	512	5,923
South Mountain	63	25	41	-6	0.00	0	38.87	15.09	98	2,947	297	4,917
York	64	23	42	-8	0.00	0	43.54	17.90	98	3,605	360	5,666
Southeast												
Green Lane	61	27	43	-6	0.00	0	43.50	16.87	94	3,609	725	5,674
Hamburg	59	26	42	-4	0.00	0	46.75	15.77	102	3,504	898	5,544
West_Chester	63	24	42	-8	0.00	0	44.95	15.96	82	3,625	393	5,683
Lancaster	61	27	43	-5	0.00	0	40.96	14.07	99	3,719	660	5,785
Neshaminy Falls	62	26	44	-5	0.00	0	49.96	19.43	80	3,781	765	5,848
New Holland	61	29	45	-3	0.00	0	42.02	15.13	94	3,690	631	5,760
Philadelphia	63	31	48	-4	0.00	0	45.74	19.92	77	4,401	840	6,535
Philadelphia NE	62	28	45	-6	0.00	0	46.37	20.55	85	4,085	524	6,198
Reading	61	25	42	-6	0.06	1	39.79	11.26	98	3,932	939	6,021
Sellersville	61	24	41	-7	0.01	1	44.31	17.68	90	3,345	461	5,372
Doylestown_AG	62	28	43	-6	0.00	0	49.75	19.22	96	3,780	764	5,861

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 began the week very cold with a temperature of 21 degrees on Monday, and a daytime high of 45 degrees with clouds and sun. Tuesday morning was 33 with some sun and warmed to 50 degrees. Wednesday started 32 and very frosty with some sun and warmed to 60 degrees and good drying day. Thursday started 35 degrees and sunny into the low 60's. Producers got back into fields on Tuesday and have been busy with harvesting corn and soybeans. The snow from last weekend caused some of the corn stalks to breakdown which will make harvesting even more interesting. Corn quality has been affected as ends of ears have been exposed to excessive moisture this fall. Sorghum silage stalks were laid flat after last weekend's snow and producers will not get anything off of those fields. Some late wheat is being planted and producers are also reporting wheat prevented planting due to excessive moisture this fall. Apple harvesting is about done in the county with some larger producers still finishing up. Overall the producers are busy trying to harvest what they can and when conditions permit.

CAMBRIA COUNTY, Dolly Little

Harvesting corn and soybeans continues.

CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker

This has been a good week for field work.

CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS)

Just a beautiful week for November in Crawford County. Everybody is out in the fields doing whatever they can to take advantage of the dry weather. Combines have been rolling all day and night taking off corn and beans and dairy producers are harvesting the last hay crop for silage.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr

Some corn was harvested after the snow melted in mid week, however still too wet for soybeans. Corn and beans were affected by the snow (6-8 inches). Oats and alfalfa for forage were flattened by the snow and now will be difficult to harvest. Apple harvest has been completed with reports of less than average yields with poor quality due to scab, hail and cracking. No significant damage to the fruit trees from the snow.

LEBANON COUNTY, Charlene Ziegler

There was heavy frost several mornings last week but no precipitation. Soybeans were combined, more cover crop seeded and corn harvested during the sunny days. Attempts were made at mowing alfalfa for silage. The heavy snow the week before flattened the alfalfa making it difficult to mow.

MERCER COUNTY, JAMES P. RUST

This has been the week to harvest soybeans in our area. Sunny days -five in a row has the combines running day and night. A lot of prevented planting wheat is being reported due to Sept-Oct excessive rainfall. Farmers are chopping, disking, or chisel plowing fields after harvesting corn in preparing the soil for spring.

SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer

Finally, a decent week to work in the fields in spite of some soft spots in the poorly drained areas. Corn and Soybean harvest is in full swing with the corn yields being very poor to near normal, and the soybean yields being below normal to above normal. There is some late season hay being made. The winter wheat and barley are looking good. The main field activities for the week were harvesting, haymaking, and manure spreading.

SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, Willie Keeney

Most corn silage has been harvested at this point. Fall manure applications are being made. Equipment is being stored for the winter.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY, Tom Sierzega

Drier weather this week has allowed for corn and soybean harvest to continue. Fields that are still wet, are making harvest challenging.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending November 6, 2011

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fall plowing	61	72	77
Corn, harvested	57	76	67
Barley, planted	92	98	98
Barley, emerged	60	92	92
Wheat, planted	74	88	92
Wheat, emerged	61	73	75
Soybeans, harvested	49	82	70
Potatoes, harvested	96	99	98
Alfalfa, 4th cutting	90	97	96

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending November 6, 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	1	35	41	23
Soybeans	2	6	23	49	20
Pasture	7	15	37	30	11

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