



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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Week Ending June 24, 2012

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Excellent Week for Field Work: Pennsylvania had an average of 6 days suitable for field work. Overall, the week consisted of multiple sunny days allowing farmers to get into the fields. Field activities for the week included planting, harvesting, baling hay and straw, and applying fertilizer.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending June 24, 2012

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
7	25	68	0

Crop Progress: Corn height is 32 inches, ahead of 22 inches last year and the average of 24 inches. Barley harvested is 91% complete, ahead of 63% last year and the 5-year average of 40%. Winter wheat is 91% yellow, which is ahead of last year's 90% and the average of 80%. Winter wheat is 36% ripe, ahead of 33% at this time last year and the 5-year average of 19%. Winter wheat harvest has begun and is 11% complete, compared with 4% last year and the average of 3%. Oats are 88% headed, compared with 33% last year and the average of 61%. Oats are 13% yellow, compared with 0% at this time last year and the average of 2%. Soybean planting continues and is 97% complete, compared to 94% at this time last year and the 5-year average of 94%. Soybeans are 89% emerged, which is ahead of last year's 75% and the average of 81%. The first cutting of alfalfa continues and is 99% complete, compared with last year's 95% and the average of 93%. Second cutting alfalfa continues and is 40% complete, ahead of last year's 24% and the average of 25%. The first cutting of timothy/clover continues, and is 92% complete, compared with last year's 79% and the average of 75%. Second cutting of timothy/clover has started and is 10% complete.

Crop Condition: State-wide corn conditions are; 0% very poor, 2% poor, 12% fair, 49% good, and 37% excellent. Winter wheat conditions are; 0% very poor, 1% poor, 6% fair, 56% good, and 37% excellent. Oat conditions are; 0% very poor, 1% poor, 18% fair, 61% good, and 20% excellent. Soybean conditions are; 0% very poor, 1% poor, 14% fair, 59% good, and 26% excellent. Alfalfa conditions are; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 25% fair, 55% good, and 17% excellent. Timothy/clover conditions are; 0% very poor, 2% poor, 25% fair, 66% good, and 7% excellent. Quality of hay made is; 0% very poor, 2% poor, 18% fair, 42% good and 38% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 5% very poor, 6% poor, 32% fair, 42% good and 15% excellent. Peach conditions are; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 32% fair, 40% good, and 28% excellent. Apple conditions are; 1% very poor, 0% poor, 15% fair, 46% good, and 38% excellent.

Nationwide as of June 17, 2012: Temperatures across the nation's northern tier and throughout much of the Southeast were slightly below normal during the week, with readings in portions of Virginia and the Carolinas as much as 4°F below average. Elsewhere, hot weather maintained a rapid dry down pace for winter wheat. Beneficial rain fell in many locations east of the Great Plains during the week, aiding row crop development but slowing the winter wheat harvest. Most notably, an isolated area in Minnesota received more

than 8 inches of rain during the week, while rainfall totaled 4 inches or more at a few locations along the Gulf Coast.

Corn: By June 17, corn silking had advanced to 5 percent complete, 3 percentage points ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. Overall, 63 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 3 percentage points from last week and 7 points below the same time last year. Less-than-adequate soil moisture levels coupled with above-average temperatures led to crop condition declines of 4 percentage points or more in four of the six largest corn producing states during the week.

Soybeans: Nationally, 95 percent of the soybean crop was emerged by week's end, 18 percentage points ahead of last year and 14 points ahead of the 5-year average. Warm weather throughout much of the growing season has promoted rapid phenological development. By June 17, five percent of this year's crop was blooming, 3 percentage points ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. Blooming was most advanced in the Delta, although progress in Louisiana was behind normal. Overall, 56 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 4 percentage points from last week and 12 points below the same time last year.

Winter Wheat: By week's end, 94 percent of the winter wheat crop was at or beyond the heading stage, 6 percentage points ahead of last year and 3 points ahead of the 5-year average. Under mostly sunny skies, producers harvested 13 percent of the nation's crop during the week. Harvest progress, at 48 percent complete, was 23 percentage points ahead of last year and 32 points ahead of the 5-year average. Overall, 54 percent of the winter wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up slightly from last week and 18 percentage points better than the same time last year.

Small Grains: Heading of this year's oat crop was rapid during the week, as above-average temperatures boosted crop growth in many states. By week's end, 79 percent of the crop was at or beyond the heading stage, 33 percentage points ahead of last year and 25 points ahead of the 5-year average. Overall progress was 20 percentage points or more ahead of normal in all estimating states except Texas, where heading was complete and harvest was nearing completion. Overall, 67 percent of the oat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, with declines evident in all major growing states except Minnesota and Texas. Nineteen percent of the barley crop was at or beyond the heading stage by week's end, 18 percentage points ahead of last year and 13 points ahead of the 5-year average. Progress was most rapid in Minnesota, where 45 percent of the crop began heading during the week. Overall, 67 percent of the barley crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up 3 percentage points from last week but down 7 points from the same time last year. One-third of the nation's spring wheat crop was headed by June 17, thirty-two percentage points ahead of last year and 26 points ahead of the 5-year average. In Washington, head development was behind normal, as cool weather and wet fields delayed crop growth. Overall, 76 percent of the spring wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up slightly from last week and 4 percentage points better than the same time last year.

Weather Data For Week Ending June 24, 2012

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - June 24, 2012					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	90	60	76	9	0.02	1	6.49	-3.53	28	964	295	1,646
Franklin_AG	91	53	73	7	0.17	2	7.01	-4.07	35	903	257	1,582
Meadville-Port	88	56	73	8	0.15	1	7.43	-3.32	29	948	372	1,642
Clarion	89	50	71	4	0.82	2	9.21	-2.63	32	786	101	1,447
Springboro	90	52	74	6	0.15	1	8.56	-1.03	29	810	126	1,454
Warren	90	53	73	6	0.24	1	7.98	-3.53	33	835	214	1,498
North Central												
Bradford Region	88	46	69	7	0.32	1	8.66	-2.91	33	744	320	1,390
Oswayo	88	44	69	6	0.11	1	7.46	-3.74	30	663	163	1,280
Kane	88	49	68	7	0.63	1	11.11	-0.59	34	658	241	1,280
Laporte	88	54	68	2	0.56	2	13.48	2.46	38	688	44	1,341
Lock Haven	93	55	73	6	0.06	2	10.27	-0.30	40	962	259	1,710
Coudersport_1SW	90	45	68	5	0.26	2	9.66	-1.54	39	662	162	1,281
Renovo	92	53	72	5	0.24	2	11.49	0.92	35	945	242	1,684
Ridgway	89	48	70	8	0.34	2	8.95	-2.65	37	772	288	1,436
Stevenson Dam	91	52	72	9	0.33	2	9.74	-1.86	31	901	417	1,622
Towanda	93	55	72	6	0.07	2	9.93	0.70	35	835	177	1,516
Wellsboro	89	50	68	5	0.19	1	8.45	-0.60	33	668	225	1,317
Williamsport	94	57	74	5	0.61	3	9.43	-1.18	35	1,061	254	1,822
Northeast												
Hawley	91	51	69	5	0.00	0	8.72	-1.77	33	729	207	1,387
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	93	56	73	5	0.29	2	10.38	0.52	34	982	234	1,701
Susquehanna	92	53	71	7	0.20	1	11.69	0.68	32	783	288	1,451
West Central												
Butler	92	54	73	7	0.24	1	7.17	-3.66	30	932	246	1,649
New Castle	94	54	76	9	0.25	1	6.86	-2.95	27	996	311	1,724
Slippery Rock	95	52	74	9	0.02	1	8.23	-2.27	28	949	335	1,669
Central												
Altoona/Blair	91	57	73	5	0.26	1	8.87	-1.14	30	1,034	269	1,792
DuBois	87	51	71	5	0.61	2	9.25	-1.98	34	857	223	1,551
Lewistown	95	58	74	5	0.13	2	11.13	0.55	39	1,013	163	1,795
Middletown	94	60	76	4	1.32	2	11.70	1.05	33	1,170	199	1,973
Prince Gallitzi	89	50	70	6	0.10	1	9.17	-3.30	30	819	247	1,522
Selinsgrove	96	57	73	4	0.55	4	9.94	-0.79	36	961	189	1,704
State College	89	58	73	5	0.30	1	11.00	1.18	39	965	217	1,713
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	95	57	74	4	0.00	0	12.79	2.08	31	1,086	215	1,862
Lehighton	90	53	70	0	0.06	3	13.21	2.47	36	882	52	1,625
Matamoras	94	54	72	4	0.42	1	11.98	0.62	41	879	146	1,625
Mt_Pocono	89	50	70	7	0.04	3	12.99	1.03	41	755	317	1,445
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	94	62	77	9	0.08	1	5.67	-4.76	30	1,182	415	1,951
Indiana_PA	88	55	72	5	0.55	3	9.11	-2.66	41	977	233	1,700
Myersdale	85	50	69	2	0.78	3	7.14	-4.26	34	680	-3	1,360
Chalk_Hill	86	50	69	-2	0.93	3	9.65	-1.73	34	756	-89	1,444
Pittsburgh Intl	92	56	76	7	0.08	1	7.11	-2.58	26	1,136	320	1,896
Connellsville	93	57	76	7	0.41	2	9.07	-2.31	30	1,066	221	1,836
Waynesburg	92	55	74	6	0.15	3	5.75	-4.73	28	957	220	1,703
South Central												
Biglerville	93	59	75	3	0.11	1	11.81	1.84	36	1,088	124	1,878
Everett	91	51	70	3	0.26	3	11.00	1.40	38	868	129	1,604
Hanover	94	58	74	3	0.14	3	9.68	-0.29	35	1,056	92	1,835
Harrisburg_AP	95	61	77	5	0.07	1	11.92	1.27	33	1,214	236	2,019
South Mountain	88	54	71	3	0.03	1	12.35	2.34	35	846	88	1,573
York	92	58	74	3	0.12	2	10.62	-0.16	36	1,068	98	1,832
Southeast												
Green Lane	95	54	74	4	0.01	1	11.61	1.25	31	1,045	228	1,835
Hamburg	94	58	73	6	0.08	2	12.60	0.07	34	1,023	303	1,800
West_Chester	96	52	74	2	0.25	1	9.91	-1.65	21	1,038	89	1,806
Lancaster	94	56	75	5	0.05	2	9.29	-1.26	28	1,124	250	1,903
Neshaminy Falls	96	51	76	5	0.68	2	10.98	-0.66	35	1,102	232	1,910
New Holland	95	56	76	6	0.37	2	11.25	0.70	28	1,149	275	1,961
Philadelphia	97	57	78	6	0.55	1	8.66	-1.68	22	1,312	272	2,141
Philadelphia NE	95	52	77	4	0.30	1	9.00	-1.34	26	1,177	137	1,987
Reading	96	59	76	6	0.03	1	10.22	-1.45	31	1,200	355	1,998
Sellersville	94	52	73	3	0.00	0	11.30	0.94	27	970	153	1,719
Doylestown_AG	95	54	75	5	0.20	1	13.07	1.43	31	1,096	226	1,889

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 a little rain to start the week in some parts. On Friday, we had some areas that had a thunderstorm with minimal rainfall. The temperatures were hot and humid in the 90's during Wednesday thru Friday. The county is on the dry side. Crops could use a little rainfall. Corn planting is completed. Some producers were busy replanting areas where the stand was not very good. Soybeans continue to be planted. Once the barley and wheat are harvested, those acreages will be double-cropped into soybeans. The barley harvest is complete. The wheat harvest has started. Hay continues to be made. With the weather we had last week, producers were really busy in the fields. Fruit crops continue to mature. All fruit is about two weeks ahead of normal years due to the weather we had this spring and early summer. The tart cherry harvest started last week and will probably finish this week. Farmers report that the early peaches will soon be harvested, if they haven't started already. Other stoned fruit will also be ready to harvest. It is unknown yet as to how the spring weather has affected the yields. Vegetables are maturing and looking pretty good. Overall, the producers are busy in the fields doing all sorts of field work. They are harvesting crops, which is good that we have crops to be harvested.

CAMBRIA COUNTY, Dolly Little

Making hay was the main activity this week.

CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker

Crops look good. This week had great field work conditions.

CLARION COUNTY, Tom Tanner

Many farmers are harvesting second crop hay. The legume grasses production has excellent yields. Farmers are spraying crops. Some areas of the Warren, Forest, Venango, and Clarion have an infestation of armyworm. An estimated 15 percent of grass hay was hit hard. Some farmers had to replant corn because of the infestation.

COLUMBIA COUNTY, David Reedy

The mild winter/early spring are having undesirable effects on this year's spring crops. Both counties have reported armyworm losses and other pest and rodent losses, perhaps all attributed to the mild winter. Overall the crop year seems to be on schedule with possibly some spraying or hay making slightly behind schedule.

ERIE COUNTY, Nancy Lewis

Armyworms are becoming a problem within the county. Producers have reported armyworms in timothy hay fields and in oat fields.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr

It was a good week for making hay and finishing up the barley. Some early wheat was taken off and the yield was good, but not exceptional. Pasture is beginning to show stress of the summer heat. Second cutting of alfalfa was about normal. Sweet cherries are done being harvested. Tart cherries are being harvested with some farms being quite short while others are a little better, but not near normal.

LANCASTER COUNTY, Chris Burkhart

Warm weather and adequate moisture has made for optimum growing conditions over the last week. Corn especially has been growing rapidly and looks excellent. Barley harvest is finished and the wheat harvest has started with good to great yields reported. Dry weather allowed for good, dry hay making but hopefully the heat and humidity will break giving us a welcome rain and more comfortable temperatures.

LEBANON COUNTY, Charlene Ziegler

More small grain combining, alfalfa and grass hay baling and chopping, spraying crops for insects and applying fertilizer kept Lebanon County's farmers busy. The weather was humid by the end of the week. The only rain this week occurred Tuesday morning.

MERCER COUNTY, James P. Rust

All crops are under severe stress due to drought conditions. Our area has only received 1.1 inch of rainfall for June - over 3 inches below the normal average. Late applied herbicides are not working properly with many herbicides that require at least a 1/2 inch of rain to activate the chemicals properly. Fertilizers have been applied to hay fields or side dressed corn with granular fertilizer applied. The granulars are still laying on the soil surface waiting for rainfall.

SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer

The harvesting of barley is near complete with respectable yields. The harvesting of wheat has begun. Making second cutting of hay is in full swing in an effort to get ahead of the leafhopper. Planting, spraying, harvesting and haymaking were the main activities for the week.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr

Excellent harvest conditions continue. The spotty nature of recent storms has left some areas in need of rain. A few later-planted soybean fields have uneven stands.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending June 24, 2012

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn average height, inches	32	22	24
Barley, harvested	91	63	40
Wheat, turning yellow	91	90	80
Wheat, ripe	36	33	19
Wheat, harvested	11	4	3
Oats, heading or headed	88	33	61
Oats, turning yellow	13	0	2
Soybeans, planted	97	94	94
Soybeans, emerged	89	75	81
Alfalfa, 1st cutting	99	95	93
Alfalfa, 2nd cutting	40	24	25
Timothy clover, 1st cutting	92	79	75
Timothy clover, 2nd cutting	10	0	0

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending June 24, 2012

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	0	2	12	49	37
Wheat	0	1	6	56	37
Oats	0	1	18	61	20
Soybeans	0	1	14	59	26
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand	1	2	25	55	17
Timothy clover stand	0	2	25	66	7
Quality of hay made	0	2	18	42	38
Pasture	5	6	32	42	15
Peaches	0	0	32	40	28
Apples	1	0	15	46	38

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