



# Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
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Week Ending July 21, 2013

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**Excellent Week for Field Work:** Pennsylvania had an average of 6 days suitable for field work. This week Pennsylvania experienced hot and humid days almost every day of the week. There were some scattered thunderstorms in different parts of the state but those did little to break the scorching temperatures. Crops did take a beating from the hot temperatures as some conditions did begin to deteriorate. With very little rain this week farmers were finally able to get into the fields and do some work. Dry hay was finally able to be made, while harvesting of wheat and barley really took off this week. Corn is looking great and most is in tassel right now with some small ears are starting to emerge from the stalks. Fruits trees and production are looking good with peach and apple harvesting is under way. The week ahead looks like a return to normal temperatures with highs in the 80's, and some rain, so farmers should be able to get more field work done and crops will continue to prosper. Field activities for the week included cutting alfalfa, hay and other forage; harvesting barley and wheat, harvesting peaches and apples, side dressing fields with nitrogen and applying other fertilizer, mowing pastures, spraying herbicides and pesticides.

**PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending July 21, 2013**

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
0	9	79	12

**Crop Progress:** Corn is 54% silked (tasseled), which is behind progress at this time last year of 72% but the same as the 5-year average of 54% silked. Corn is at 82 inches in height, which is ahead of progress at this time last year of 70 inches and the 5-year average of 67 inches in height. Barley is 98% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 99% but ahead of the 5-year average of 97% harvested. Winter wheat is 99% ripe, which is ahead of progress at this time last year of 97% and the 5-year average of 98% ripe. Winter wheat is 88% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 98% and the 5-year average of 91% harvested. Oats are 95% yellow, which is ahead of progress at this time last year of 93% but ahead of the 5-year average of 74% yellow. Oats are 34% ripe, which is behind progress at this time last year of 61% but ahead of the 5-year average of 34% ripe. Oats are 8% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 35% and the 5-year average of 17% harvested. Alfalfa second cutting is 84% cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 96% and the 5-year average of 89% cut. Alfalfa third cutting is 23% cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 32% but the same as the 5-year average of 23% cut. Timothy/Clover first cutting is 96% cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 98% and the 5-year average of 98% cut. Timothy/Clover second cutting is 29% cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 67% and the 5-year average of 44% cut. Peaches are 25% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 51% and the 5-years average of 28% harvested. Apples are 8% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 15% and the 5-years average of 9% harvested.

**Crop Condition:** Corn conditions are; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 11% fair, 47% good, and 38% excellent. Winter wheat conditions are; 3%

very poor, 13% poor, 27% fair, 48% good, and 9% excellent. Oats conditions are; 0% very poor, 2% poor, 18% fair, 54% good, and 26% excellent. Soybean conditions are; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 14% fair, 70% good, and 16% excellent. Alfalfa stand conditions are; 0% very poor, 2% poor, 19% fair, 64% good, and 15% excellent. Timothy/Clover stand conditions are; 0% very poor, 2% poor, 18% fair, 69% good, and 11% excellent. Quality of Hay made conditions are; 0% very poor, 4% poor, 25% fair, 50% good and 21% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 0% very poor, 2% poor, 37% fair, 48% good and 13% excellent. Peaches conditions are; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 24% fair, 64% good and 12% excellent. Apples conditions are; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 15% fair, 55% good and 30% excellent.

**Nationwide as of July 14, 2013:** Hot weather blanketed much of the nation's midsection during the week, quickly maturing any remaining small grain crops but hampering the development of some dryland row crops. Most notably, daytime highs pushed the mercury to well over 100°F throughout the central and southern Great Plains. Elsewhere, near-normal temperatures, coupled with above-average rainfall, maintained abundant soil moisture levels but slowed fieldwork in the Atlantic Coast States. Corn: By week's end, 16 percent of this year's corn crop was at or beyond the silking stage. This was 51 percentage points behind last year and 19 points behind the 5-year average. Drier weather continued throughout much of Iowa, affording producers ample time for herbicide applications, but causing a marked decline in soil moisture which led to some signs of crop stress. Overall, 66 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 2 percentage points from last week but 35 percentage points better than the same time last year. Soybeans: Twenty-six percent of the soybean crop was at or beyond the blooming stage by July 14, thirty-seven percentage points behind last year and 14 points behind the 5-year average. Warm weather promoted crop development in most of the major producing regions. Overall, 65 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 2 percentage points from last week but 31 points better than the same time last year. Winter Wheat: Producers had harvested 67 percent of the nation's winter wheat crop by week's end, 14 percentage points behind last year and 4 points behind the 5-year average. Harvest was virtually complete in the southern Great Plains. Other Small Grains: By July 14, ninety-one percent of the oats were at or beyond the heading stage, 8 percentage points behind last year and 2 points behind the 5-year average. Twelve percent of the oat crop was harvested by week's end, 23 percentage points behind last year and 6 points behind the 5-year average. Overall, 58 percent of the oat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down slightly from last week and the same time last year. With rapid progress evident in most states during the week, 76 percent of the barley crop was at or beyond the heading stage by July 14. This was 18 percentage points behind last year but 4 points ahead of the 5-year average. In Idaho, 19 percent of the barley crop was reported to be turning color, ahead of the normal pace, as hot, dry weather hastened maturation. Overall, 65 percent of the barley crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down slightly from last week but 5 percentage points better than the same time last year.

## Weather Data For Week Ending July 21, 2013

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - July 21, 2013					
	Temperature			Precipitation			Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
<b>Northwest</b>												
Erie	92	66	80	9	1.30	2	19.00	5.90	51	1,547	343	2,516
Franklin_AG	93	65	79	9	0.95	6	17.59	2.25	58	1,517	366	2,477
Meadville-Port	89	62	78	10	1.03	4	15.12	0.48	58	1,539	491	2,518
Clarion	89	62	76	7	0.99	6	17.83	1.89	54	1,300	117	2,236
Springboro	89	61	77	7	1.48	2	21.29	8.25	50	1,355	140	2,289
Warren	93	63	78	9	0.43	2	13.32	-1.93	56	1,397	278	2,345
<b>North Central</b>												
Bradford Region	88	57	74	9	0.25	4	13.24	-2.24	58	1,269	467	2,213
Oswayo	91	59	76	11	0.56	4	11.95	-3.01	49	1,140	236	2,041
Kane	89	58	75	11	0.22	2	18.10	2.56	52	1,107	315	2,010
Laporte	88	61	76	6	0.00	0	18.73	4.16	47	1,183	32	2,107
Lock Haven	95	66	80	10	1.13	2	15.64	1.50	42	1,561	330	2,548
Coudersport_1SW	91	61	76	10	0.46	2	12.84	-2.12	54	1,134	230	2,045
Renovo	94	66	80	9	0.37	1	14.42	0.28	44	1,555	324	2,533
Ridgway	90	62	76	10	0.28	3	15.15	-0.57	54	1,293	389	2,222
Stevenson Dam	92	65	78	12	1.40	1	14.25	-1.47	42	1,416	512	2,370
Towanda	94	62	79	9	0.00	0	14.09	2.02	38	1,374	212	2,335
Wellsboro	89	61	75	10	0.81	1	15.20	3.01	51	1,148	303	2,075
Williamsport	95	67	82	10	0.02	1	12.81	-1.38	40	1,700	330	2,722
<b>Northeast</b>												
Hawley	92	62	77	10	0.02	1	21.10	7.58	44	1,253	283	2,183
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	96	66	81	10	0.00	0	11.12	-2.12	38	1,628	328	2,637
Susquehanna	92	62	78	11	0.00	0	14.70	0.24	43	1,316	385	2,267
<b>West Central</b>												
Butler	91	66	78	9	0.38	4	17.39	2.93	51	1,507	307	2,471
New Castle	91	66	79	8	0.72	5	16.05	2.67	48	1,544	335	2,518
Slippery Rock	93	64	79	11	0.61	5	14.91	0.74	47	1,561	474	2,527
<b>Central</b>												
Altoona/Blair	93	65	79	8	0.19	3	11.55	-1.72	50	1,643	338	2,652
DuBois	89	65	78	9	0.52	3	11.90	-2.77	43	1,516	397	2,490
Lewistown	96	68	83	10	0.06	1	12.23	-2.00	46	1,737	303	2,768
Middletown	97	72	84	9	0.01	1	10.45	-3.39	50	1,880	252	2,935
Prince Gallitzi	90	63	78	10	0.00	0	14.67	-2.07	48	1,437	413	2,410
Selinsgrove	96	68	81	10	0.04	2	15.53	1.30	41	1,600	265	2,608
State College	92	68	81	10	0.00	0	18.12	5.02	46	1,602	315	2,604
<b>East Central</b>												
Allentown-Bethel	98	68	83	10	0.26	1	14.18	-0.03	40	1,768	285	2,807
Lehighton	94	68	80	7	0.13	1	17.87	3.56	43	1,488	67	2,501
Matamoras	94	67	81	10	0.06	1	18.49	3.42	44	1,510	228	2,510
Mt_Pocono	90	64	78	12	0.05	1	19.88	4.16	43	1,288	448	2,230
<b>Southwest</b>												
Pittsburgh/Alle	91	68	80	8	1.29	4	16.95	3.04	49	1,840	528	2,866
Indiana_PA	90	66	79	9	0.45	5	16.18	0.05	55	1,617	354	2,617
Myersdale	88	60	74	5	0.24	2	13.56	-2.15	57	1,277	91	2,222
Chalk_Hill	90	59	75	3	1.63	3	19.08	3.72	56	1,320	-90	2,266
Pittsburgh Intl	91	68	80	9	0.17	2	15.28	2.24	45	1,784	405	2,797
Connellsville	92	66	79	7	1.25	3	19.95	4.59	61	1,617	207	2,613
Waynesburg	91	60	77	6	0.45	3	15.66	1.51	51	1,547	279	2,535
<b>South Central</b>												
Biglerville	95	68	82	7	0.67	2	12.50	-0.23	45	1,760	158	2,799
Everett	93	63	78	8	0.08	1	12.58	-0.16	50	1,483	208	2,474
Hanover	95	67	81	6	0.95	3	12.90	0.17	51	1,739	137	2,775
Harrisburg_AP	97	70	84	9	0.01	1	10.92	-2.92	50	1,877	242	2,937
South Mountain	90	65	77	6	2.58	3	17.27	4.00	50	1,415	117	2,407
York	95	68	81	7	0.01	1	10.38	-3.73	46	1,775	178	2,799
<b>Southeast</b>												
Green Lane	96	71	83	10	0.01	1	17.72	3.82	43	1,740	332	2,779
Hamburg	96	70	83	12	0.35	2	14.86	-1.87	48	1,717	443	2,752
West_Chester	96	68	82	7	0.00	0	20.44	4.81	47	1,724	140	2,756
Lancaster	95	70	82	9	0.02	1	14.24	-0.26	45	1,745	261	2,775
Neshaminy Falls	96	72	84	11	0.17	1	17.67	1.55	44	1,844	364	2,896
New Holland	96	71	83	10	0.00	0	15.71	1.21	44	1,867	383	2,923
Philadelphia	98	74	87	11	0.39	1	18.22	4.19	43	2,125	405	3,203
Philadelphia NE	97	74	85	9	0.00	0	16.37	2.34	47	1,925	205	2,984
Reading	96	71	84	10	0.26	1	15.10	-0.33	41	1,928	477	2,989
Sellersville	94	69	81	8	0.03	1	21.15	7.25	38	1,657	249	2,675
Doylestown_AG	95	72	84	11	0.00	0	21.12	5.00	39	1,842	362	2,890

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 very warm week of weather. Most mornings started out high 70's and got over 95 degrees during the day. Humidity was high all week. Thursday evening got cloudy and had some thunder but no rainfall. We could use a little moisture as this heat this week is showing on some crops. Saturday forecasts are calling for storms and then cooler temperatures on Sunday.

Corn and soybeans continue to grow that have been planted. Corn is in tassel and shooting ears. Double-cropped soybeans after barley, wheat and hay are being planted. Wheat continues to be harvested and straw continues to be baled. Wheat is coming in with low test weights and going for feed wheat. Hay continues to be baled this week again as weather has been good for drying conditions. Oats continues to mature and will be harvested soon.

Fruit crops are continuing to mature with fruit sizing up nicely as you drive down the countryside. Peaches continue to be harvested in the county and early apples will soon be harvested. Plums, apricots etc are also being harvested. Vegetables are being harvested. Sweet corn is also coming on and most producers have various plantings so they can have a longer sweet corn season. Overall the producers in the county are very busy putting in long days this week to get the harvesting and double-cropping accomplished on their farming operations.

### **CENTRE County, Dick Decker**

Great week for field work; no rain.

### **CLARION County, Tom Tanner**

To wet to make hay. Many farmers unable to make dry hay. Most of dry hay crop lost to wet weather. Majority of corn crop is in tassel. Harvesting of wheat and barley is in full swing.

### **FRANKLIN County, Thomas Kerr**

Hot dry week allowed for excellent hay making and finish wheat harvest. Yields are normal, but quality less than average. Showers late in week will aid regrowth of alfalfa and slow pasture decline. A lot of corn is pollinating at this time, and the hot weather may have an effect on yield. Peaches are excellent quality at this time.

### **INDIANA County, David B. Overdorff**

Last week was still hot and humid. Our area missed a lot of the big storms, only had 0.26" of rain last Thursday. We were a little gun shy on cutting any hay if you watched the forecast but we took a chance like everyone else around here in Brush Valley and got some cut and round baled. Not the best but will keep the animals satisfied during the winter months. Some of the first oats planted should be ready to cut this week if the weather cooperates. Had some planted later and it still has a few greenheads showing. As stated last week the hot and

humid and rainy weather is making the soybeans and corn really grow. Hope to maybe cut some more hay this week. The weather looks promising for that. Hope everyone has a safe farming week.

### **LEBANON County, Charlene Zeigler**

A good week for finishing combining barley, wheat or rye. Straw was also baled. Very hot and humid weather prevailed with a few storms or rain showers.

### **MERCER County, James P. Rust**

We received 0.6 inches of rainfall this past week. Most area farmers had hay ready to bale every day this week and it would rain between 2:00 and 4:00 PM. Wheat harvest is winding down. Sweet corn is ripening at a fast pace and is plentiful.

### **PERRY County, David L. Swartz**

Barley harvest was delayed at the end of June due to continual wet weather. As a result, double crop soybeans were 10-14 days later than usual in planting. But, the abundant moisture and the high temperatures this past week, have contributed to a quick germination, and stands of double crop soybeans look excellent. Corn planted on thin soils (shale) was showing moisture stress by the end of the week.

### **SNYDER County, William C. Sheaffer**

The heat and dry weather conditions provided the opportunity for grain harvest and haymaking. The wheat harvest is near complete and the oats harvest has begun with the yield being normal to slightly above. Soybeans are showing a lot of flowering. Main activities for the week were harvesting grain, haymaking and baling straw.

### **WESTMORELAND County, Tom Sierzega**

Very hot humid week with scattered rain showers. The drier weather finally allowed for some hay making and small grain harvest. Very hot, wet weather this season has allowed for exceptional growth for corn, soybeans and pasture. Sweet corn is being harvested.

**PA Crop Progress for Week Ending July 21, 2013**

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, silk	54	72	54
Corn average height, inches	82	70	67
Barley, harvested	98	99	97
Wheat, ripe	99	97	98
Wheat, harvested	88	98	91
Oats, turning yellow	95	93	74
Oats, ripe	34	61	33
Oats, harvested	8	35	17
Alfalfa, 2nd cutting	84	96	89
Alfalfa, 3rd cutting	23	32	23
Timothy clover, 1st cutting	96	98	98
Timothy clover, 2nd cutting	29	67	44
Peaches, harvested	25	51	28
Apples, harvested	8	15	9

**PA Crop Condition for Week Ending July 21, 2013**

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	1	3	11	47	38
Wheat	3	13	27	48	9
Oats	0	2	18	54	26
Soybeans	0	0	14	70	16
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand	0	2	19	64	15
Timothy clover stand	0	2	18	69	11
Quality of hay made	0	4	25	50	21
Pasture	0	2	37	48	13
Peaches	0	0	24	64	12
Apples	0	0	15	55	30

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