



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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Week Ending July 28, 2013

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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. This week was much cooler in Pennsylvania as compared to previous weeks. The beginning and end of the week saw rain though out the state. Monday, parts of Lebanon County saw 8 plus inches of rain and Sunday the Philadelphia region saw 9 plus inches of rain causing flooding in many of these areas. The cooler temperatures and the few inches of rain are just what crops needed to keep growing perfectly. With no rain mid-week farmers were able to get into the fields to mow and bale hay and work on other field activities. Corn and soybeans are looking great but overall most crops in Pennsylvania are some of the best we have seen in recent years. Hay was still somewhat hard to make because of wet conditions and quality is fair because of late harvesting due to the excess moisture. Harvest is underway for peaches and apple harvest is just starting to pick up, while the fruit crops overall look great. Field activities for the week included cutting alfalfa, hay and other forage; finishing 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 28, 2013

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
2%	12%	78%	8%

Crop Progress: Corn is 80% silked (tasseled), which is behind progress at this time last year of 85% but ahead of the 5-year average of 72% silked. Corn is 9% doughed, which is behind progress at this time last year of 13% and the 5-year average of 11% doughed. Corn is at 88 inches in height, which is ahead of progress at this time last year of 75 inches and the 5-year average of 72 inches in height. Winter wheat is 97% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 99% but ahead of the 5-year average of 96% harvested. Oats are 80% ripe, which is behind progress at this time last year of 91% but ahead of the 5-year average of 60% ripe. Oats are 38% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 60% but ahead of the 5-year average of 33% harvested. Potatoes are 5% harvested, which is the same progress at this time last year of 5% but ahead of the 5-year average of 4% harvested. Alfalfa second cutting is 88% cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 96% and the 5-year average of 92% cut. Alfalfa third cutting is 28% cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 59% and the 5-year average of 41% cut. Timothy/Clover second cutting is 60% cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 77% but ahead of the 5-year average of 57% cut. Peaches are 46% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 62% but ahead of the 5-years average of 39% harvested. Apples are 10% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 24% and the 5-years average of 15% harvested.

Crop Condition: Corn conditions are; 2% very poor, 1% poor, 9% fair, 50% good, and 38% excellent. Oats conditions are; 3% very poor, 2% poor, 28% fair, 46% good, and 21% excellent. Soybean

conditions are; 0% very poor, 1% poor, 12% fair, 57% good, and 30% excellent. Quality of Hay made conditions are; 2% very poor, 3% poor, 19% fair, 51% good and 25% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 5% very poor, 4% poor, 37% fair, 46% good and 8% excellent. Peaches conditions are; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 1% fair, 44% good and 55% excellent. Apples conditions are; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 9% fair, 46% good and 45% excellent.

Nationwide as of July 21, 2013: Below-average temperatures, coupled with widespread rainfall, helped to ease abnormally dry conditions throughout the Southwest and southern Great Plains. The rain boosted soil moisture levels and aided developing row crops. Most notably, temperatures in Texas' Southern Plains regions averaged more than 8°F below normal, while rainfall totaled more than 5 inches. Elsewhere, hot, dry weather negatively impacted row crops, but quickly matured remaining small grains ahead of harvest. Corn: By week's end, 43 percent of this year's corn crop was at or beyond the silking stage. This was 41 percentage points behind last year and 13 points behind the 5-year average. Double-digit progress was evident in most areas, as warm weather favored rapid phenological development during the week. In portions of the southern and western Corn Belt, short-term soil moisture deficits negatively impacted some corn, as development advanced to the critical reproductive stage. Overall, 63 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 3 percentage points from last week but 37 points better than the same time last year. Soybeans: Forty-six percent of the soybean crop was at or beyond the blooming stage by July 21, thirty-two percentage points behind last year and 13 points behind the 5-year average. In Illinois, recent shortages of soil moisture stressed the developing crop in some areas. Nationally, 8 percent of the soybean crop was setting pods by week's end, 25 percentage points behind last year and 11 points behind the 5-year average. Overall, 64 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down slightly from last week but 33 percentage points better than the same time last year. Winter Wheat: By July 21, three-quarters of the winter wheat crop was harvested, 9 percentage points behind last year and slightly behind the 5-year average. In Idaho, hot, dry weather quickly matured the winter wheat crop, with more widespread harvest expected in the next week. Other Small Grains: By week's end, 95 percent of the oat crop was at or beyond the heading stage, 5 percentage points behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average. Producers had harvested 18 percent of this year's crop by July 21, thirty-five percentage points behind last year and 8 points behind the 5-year average. Overall, 56 percent of the oat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 2 percentage points from last week and 3 points below the same time last year. Ninety-one percent of the barley crop was at or beyond the heading stage by week's end, 7 percentage points behind last year but 3 points ahead of the 5-year average. Above-average temperatures, coupled with drier weather, spurred crop development in North Dakota. Overall, 65 percent of the barley crop was reported in good to excellent condition, unchanged from last week but 8 percentage points better than the same time last year.

Weather Data For Week Ending July 28, 2013

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - July 28, 2013					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	81	55	69	-4	2.04	3	21.04	7.17	54	1,679	321	2,718
Franklin_AG	85	47	67	-5	0.53	4	18.12	1.73	62	1,637	340	2,667
Meadville-Port	82	49	67	-3	0.98	3	16.10	0.46	61	1,658	477	2,707
Clarion	83	47	66	-5	0.74	3	18.57	1.65	57	1,412	89	2,418
Springboro	82	46	65	-8	2.54	3	23.83	9.95	53	1,459	93	2,463
Warren	84	47	66	-4	1.70	3	15.02	-1.12	59	1,514	255	2,532
North Central												
Bradford Region	82	39	64	-2	1.02	3	14.26	-2.13	61	1,369	455	2,383
Oswayo	82	40	64	-3	2.92	3	14.42	-1.32	49	1,198	176	2,170
Kane	81	40	65	-1	1.63	3	19.73	3.28	55	1,210	308	2,183
Laporte	81	47	66	-6	4.49	3	23.22	7.83	50	1,294	-4	2,288
Lock Haven	88	49	70	-2	0.29	2	15.93	0.95	44	1,698	320	2,755
Coudersport_1SW	83	44	64	-3	3.10	3	15.94	0.20	57	1,231	209	2,212
Renovo	87	47	69	-3	0.24	3	14.66	-0.32	47	1,690	312	2,738
Ridgway	84	46	66	-2	2.99	3	18.14	1.44	57	1,406	383	2,405
Stevenson Dam	86	49	68	1	0.62	2	14.87	-1.83	44	1,543	520	2,567
Towanda	87	48	68	-4	1.10	2	15.19	2.43	40	1,498	189	2,529
Wellsboro	82	43	64	-3	1.22	3	16.42	3.53	54	1,248	284	2,245
Williamsport	88	52	72	-2	0.56	2	13.37	-1.66	42	1,856	325	2,948
Northeast												
Hawley	84	47	68	-1	0.80	3	21.90	7.61	47	1,380	278	2,380
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	89	50	72	0	0.99	3	12.11	-1.95	41	1,785	331	2,864
Susquehanna	83	49	68	0	1.83	3	16.53	1.23	46	1,444	387	2,465
West Central												
Butler	83	50	67	-5	1.31	3	18.70	3.33	54	1,629	282	2,663
New Castle	83	50	67	-4	1.30	3	17.35	3.13	51	1,664	308	2,708
Slippery Rock	89	48	68	-1	0.66	3	15.57	0.51	50	1,690	470	2,726
Central												
Altoona/Blair	84	49	70	-3	0.65	3	12.20	-1.82	53	1,781	322	2,860
DuBois	85	48	68	-3	2.24	3	14.14	-1.35	46	1,642	383	2,686
Lewistown	89	53	72	-3	0.93	2	13.16	-1.93	48	1,894	292	2,995
Middletown	88	55	75	-2	3.51	2	13.96	-0.65	52	2,056	246	3,181
Prince Gallitzi	82	45	67	-2	0.75	3	15.42	-2.40	51	1,559	408	2,602
Selingsgrove	88	52	71	-2	1.93	2	17.46	2.41	43	1,749	254	2,827
State College	84	53	69	-3	1.51	3	19.63	5.76	49	1,736	295	2,808
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	89	56	74	-2	1.64	3	15.82	0.63	43	1,936	280	3,045
Lehighton	85	52	71	-4	1.11	2	18.98	3.71	45	1,634	45	2,717
Matamoras	86	56	71	-2	1.43	3	19.92	3.94	47	1,662	226	2,732
MT_Pocono	82	50	68	2	1.80	2	21.68	5.00	45	1,415	456	2,427
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	82	54	69	-4	2.40	4	19.35	4.56	53	1,975	509	3,071
Indiana_PA	82	52	68	-4	1.87	4	18.05	0.86	59	1,742	332	2,812
Myersdale	80	47	66	-5	1.32	4	14.88	-1.93	61	1,392	64	2,407
Chalk_Hill	81	45	65	-8	2.46	4	21.54	5.14	60	1,426	-144	2,442
Pittsburgh Intl	84	54	69	-4	2.02	3	17.30	3.43	48	1,922	384	3,005
Connellsville	84	51	70	-4	1.35	4	21.30	4.90	65	1,756	186	2,822
Waynesburg	83	51	68	-4	1.75	4	17.41	2.33	55	1,677	262	2,735
South Central												
Biglerville	89	55	73	-4	1.00	2	13.55	0.14	46	1,921	142	3,030
Everett	83	49	68	-4	0.38	2	12.96	-0.55	52	1,611	182	2,672
Hanover	86	54	72	-4	0.87	2	13.77	0.36	53	1,897	118	3,003
Harrisburg_AP	87	54	74	-3	2.18	3	13.10	-1.51	53	2,048	231	3,178
South Mountain	81	49	68	-4	0.82	2	18.09	4.07	52	1,547	95	2,609
York	88	52	73	-3	2.98	2	13.36	-1.52	48	1,938	166	3,032
Southeast												
Green Lane	88	58	73	-1	2.62	3	20.34	5.46	46	1,904	328	3,013
Hamburg	86	56	73	2	2.51	2	17.37	-0.41	50	1,878	450	2,983
West_Chester	89	56	74	-3	1.29	3	21.73	5.07	50	1,891	132	2,993
Lancaster	88	53	73	-2	0.82	3	15.06	-0.42	48	1,911	252	3,011
Neshaminy Falls	88	59	74	-2	1.98	3	19.68	2.33	47	2,010	362	3,132
New Holland	90	54	74	-2	1.76	4	17.47	1.99	48	2,035	376	3,161
Philadelphia	91	63	77	0	3.05	2	21.27	6.27	45	2,315	406	3,463
Philadelphia NE	88	61	76	-3	1.42	2	17.79	2.79	49	2,104	195	3,233
Reading	87	56	74	-1	2.57	3	17.67	1.26	44	2,098	473	3,229
Sellersville	87	57	72	-2	2.41	3	23.56	8.68	41	1,814	238	2,902
Doylestown_AG	88	60	73	-2	2.28	4	23.40	6.05	43	2,008	360	3,126

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 started the week off with anywhere from 1/2" to 1 1/2" of rainfall Monday evening. Corn and soybeans continue to grow. Most corn is now in tassel and looking pretty good since we got some moisture beginning of the week. Early crop soybeans are getting some height on them and some double cropped soybeans were finished planting beginning of this week after wheat, barley or hay was harvested. Hay continues to be baled when weather conditions permit. Regrowth of hay is happening with recent rainfalls also.

Fruit crops continue to mature and size is looking nice for this time of the year on apples. Peaches are being harvested in the county and not quite halfway into the peach season. Sweet corn and other vegetables are also being harvested throughout the county. The fruits and vegetables are also looking pretty good since we had rainfall this week and cooler temperatures. Overall the producers are still putting in some long days to get their work completed when the weather is fit. Some producers stating this is the best their corn has ever looked. They are hoping the rains continue through July/August to continue the progress of the crops.

BUTLER County, L Fritz

Corn crop looks good as ever for this time of year. Harvesting of wheat and oats continues as weather permits along with 2nd cutting hay.

CAMBRIA County, Dolly Little

Finally able to harvest hay - quality poor because of the lateness.

CENTRE County, Dick Decker

The rains continued with 2.8 inches for the week. A few sunny days allowed for some hay making.

ERIE County, Nancy Lewis

With the heavy downpours experienced since Memorial Day, corn planted early has survived better than later planted corn.

FRANKLIN County, Thomas Kerr

Nice weather this week allowed hay harvest to continue and showers were still sparse in parts of the area. Overall crops are doing well. Corn grain yield has been affected by the previous weeks hot weather.

INDIANA County, David B. Overdorff

Well this week wasn't too bad despite having over .85" of rain last Monday. Cut a total of about 25-30 acres of oats on Thursday and

Friday last week. It looked and did real well. And the corn and soybeans just keep growing and looking really well with the warm and rainy weather we have been having. The hay has been another story. Some of the 1st places that the hay was made it will be ready for the second cutting. But still have some places that we never got the 1st cutting off. Probably going to just mow it down. Hope to get the rest of the oats cut this week. Have a safe farming week.

LANCASTER County, Jeffrey Graybill

Crops are looking very good. Tobacco harvest will start this week!

LEBANON County, Charlene

Storms went through the county this week. One dumped as much as 9 inches in the southern part to 2.5 inches in northern section. Some crops were underwater in low lying areas. The ears on the corn are large. Soybean pods are filling out. After the storms were gone, there was dry, cool weather and hay was cut for haylage or to be baled.

MERCER County, JAMES P. RUST

We received 1.2 inches of rainfall this past week. Still have area farmers with second cutting hay to bale. Sweet corn is ripening at a fast pace and is plentiful. Peaches - early varieties are ripening quickly.

SNYDER County, William C. Sheaffer

The third cutting of alfalfa is off to a good start; however, the potato leafhopper population is requiring that insecticide be applied. The soybeans are flowering and setting pods, and looking very healthy; while the double cropped beans have emerged and are also looking good. The main activities for the week were haymaking, straw baling and harvesting.

UNION County, James Brubaker

Cooler temperatures and long lasting dew caused day drying problems during the week. Soil moisture could become critical without significant rainfall in the near future. Late planted beans after wheat harvest are emerging.

WESTMORELAND County, John Lohr

There were about 3 good days for hay making. Unfortunately there was still some old first cutting being baled. Growing conditions remain excellent with near normal temperatures and above normal precipitation. It has been a challenge getting wheat and oats harvested.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending July 28, 2013

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, silk	80	85	72
Corn, dough	9	13	11
Corn average height, inches	88	75	72
Wheat, harvested	97	99	96
Oats, ripe	80	91	60
Oats, harvested	38	60	33
Potatoes, harvested	5	5	4
Alfalfa, 2nd cutting	88	96	92
Alfalfa, 3rd cutting	28	59	41
Timothy clover, 2nd cutting	60	77	57
Peaches, harvested	46	62	39
Apples, harvested	10	24	15

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending July 28, 2013

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	2	1	9	50	38
Oats	3	2	28	46	21
Soybeans	0	1	12	57	30
Quality of hay made	2	3	19	51	25
Pasture	5	4	37	46	8
Peaches	0	0	1	44	55
Apples	0	0	9	46	45

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