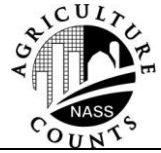




Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Northeastern Regional Field Office

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Week Ending August 11, 2013

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

Fair Week for Field Work: Pennsylvania had an average of 4 days suitable for field work. This week Pennsylvania experienced mild temperatures with cool nights and some areas experienced rain showers several days. Corn and soybeans are in great shape and seem to be the best crop in many years. Yields and quality for corn and soybeans are expected to be high as both crops have received rain and the right temperatures at the optimum times of growth. Alfalfa and timothy/clover continue to be cut in between rain showers. Peach and apple harvest are well underway and the yields are looking somewhat average. Harvesting of fruits continues to be slowed by the cool nights but overall the fruit crops look great. Oats continue to be harvested while tobacco and potato harvest should be really picking up the next couple of weeks. The coming week looks to be about the same type of weather that was experienced this week with mild temperatures and rain showers expected. Field activities for the week included cutting alfalfa, timothy and other forage; harvesting oats, tobacco, potatoes, peaches and apples, side dressing fields with nitrogen and applying other fertilizer, mowing pastures, spraying herbicides and pesticides.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending August 11, 2013

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
2	8	77	13

Crop Progress: Corn is 97% silked (tasseled), which is the same progress at this time last year of 97% but ahead of the 5-year average of 92% silked. Corn is 48% doughed, which is behind progress at this time last year of 56% but ahead of the 5-year average of 36% doughed. Corn is 7% dent, which is behind progress at this time last year of 16% and the 5-year average of 8% dent. Oats are 94% ripe, which is behind progress at this time last year of 99% but ahead of the 5-year average of 92% ripe. Oats are 63% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 95% and the 5-year average of 75% harvested. Tobacco is 10% harvested, which is ahead of progress at this time last year of 4% and the 5-year average of 8% harvested. Potatoes are 9% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 22% and the 5-year average of 11% harvested. Alfalfa second cutting is 99% cut, which is ahead of progress at this time last year of 96% and the 5-year average of 95% cut. Alfalfa third cutting is 63% cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 80% and the 5-year average of 70% cut. Timothy/Clover second cutting is 79% cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 88% but ahead of the 5-year average of 77% cut. Peaches are 76% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 91% but ahead of the 5-years average of 63% harvested. Apples are 28% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 37% but ahead of the 5-years average of 24% harvested.

Crop Condition: Corn conditions are; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 10% fair, 41% good, and 46% excellent. Soybean conditions are; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 12% fair, 59% good, and 29% excellent. Quality of Hay made conditions are; 1% very poor, 14% poor, 24% fair, 54% good and

7% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 0% very poor, 7% poor, 38% fair, 44% good and 11% excellent. Peaches conditions are; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 8% fair, 46% good and 46% excellent. Apples conditions are; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 9% fair, 50% good and 41% excellent.

Nationwide as of August 4, 2013: With the exception of portions of the Southwest and Texas, below-normal temperatures blanketed much of the United States during the week. Most notably, weekly temperatures averaged more than 10°F below normal in parts of South Dakota. A frontal system delivered much-needed moisture to portions of the western Corn Belt during the week; however, additional rainfall was needed to support crop development. Elsewhere, much of the Southeast welcomed drier weather, allowing previously soaked fields some time to dry out. Corn: By August 4, eighty-six percent of this year's corn crop was at or beyond the silking stage. This was 12 percentage points behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average. Cooler weather, coupled with below-average precipitation in recent weeks, left developing corn in portions of the western Corn Belt in need of additional moisture to ensure adequate pollination. Nationwide, 18 percent of the corn crop was at or beyond the dough stage by week's end, 40 percentage points behind last year and 13 points behind the 5-year average. Overall, 64 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up slightly from last week and 41 percentage points better than the same time last year. Soybeans: Seventy-nine percent of the soybean crop was blooming by week's end, 14 percentage points behind last year and 6 points behind the 5-year average. In Iowa, dry weather entrenched for the past month left soil moisture levels rated mostly very short to short as the majority of soybean stands progressed through the critical bloom stage. Nationally, 39 percent of this year's soybean crop was setting pods by August 4, thirty percentage points behind last year and 12 points behind the 5-year average. Overall, 64 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up slightly from last week and 35 percentage points better than the same time last year. Winter Wheat: Producers had harvested 87 percent of this year's winter wheat crop by week's end, 2 percentage points behind last year but slightly ahead of the 5-year average. Other Small Grains: Oat producers had harvested 38 percent of this year's crop by August 4, forty-six percentage points behind last year and 14 points behind the 5-year average. In Wisconsin, harvest was expected to gain speed in the next week, as producers in northern and central areas combine their fields. Overall, 55 percent of the oat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down slightly from last week. Comparison data for the previous year was unavailable due to the early harvest of last year's crop. By August 4, producers had harvested 4 percent of this year's barley crop, 31 percentage points behind last year and 7 points behind the 5-year average. Rainfall limited harvest in portions of Washington, while high winds coupled with heavy rain and hail led to the loss of some ripe fields in Idaho. Overall, 65 percent of the barley crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 3 percentage points from last week but 4 points better than the same time last year.

Weather Data For Week Ending August 11, 2013

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - August 11, 2013					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	83	53	69	-3	0.06	3	21.84	6.32	61	1,946	287	3,125
Franklin_AG	83	50	68	-3	1.14	3	19.48	1.18	69	1,871	295	3,041
Meadville-Port	78	50	67	-2	0.69	3	16.98	-0.76	67	1,894	452	3,083
Clarion	79	48	66	-4	1.12	4	20.41	1.58	64	1,620	23	2,766
Springboro	82	46	66	-5	0.29	3	24.46	8.90	61	1,677	19	2,821
Warren	82	50	67	-2	0.00	0	15.36	-2.63	60	1,746	212	2,904
North Central												
Bradford Region	79	40	64	-2	0.65	3	14.96	-3.25	68	1,553	427	2,707
Oswayo	80	40	62	-4	1.12	3	15.72	-1.56	54	1,365	120	2,477
Kane	81	41	65	2	0.62	3	19.86	1.55	59	1,364	255	2,477
Laporte	77	49	64	-7	2.39	3	25.21	8.28	56	1,484	-94	2,618
Lock Haven	86	51	68	-3	0.68	4	17.52	0.94	52	1,949	280	3,146
Coudersport_1SW	81	45	63	-4	1.04	3	17.22	-0.06	64	1,414	169	2,535
Renovo	85	50	69	-2	0.25	3	14.51	-2.07	53	1,946	277	3,134
Ridgway	83	48	66	-2	0.82	3	19.39	0.84	63	1,607	350	2,746
Stevenson Dam	84	50	67	0	0.37	3	16.11	-2.44	50	1,775	518	2,939
Towanda	83	49	66	-5	0.42	3	17.29	3.27	47	1,727	137	2,898
Wellsboro	80	46	63	-3	0.52	3	17.46	3.30	60	1,433	242	2,570
Williamsport	85	53	71	-2	1.20	3	15.30	-1.30	48	2,142	297	3,374
Northeast												
Hawley	82	45	65	-3	1.27	5	23.75	7.92	55	1,593	239	2,733
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	85	51	69	-3	0.35	3	12.76	-2.84	49	2,054	299	3,273
Susquehanna	82	48	66	-2	1.62	3	19.72	2.74	52	1,668	368	2,829
West Central												
Butler	81	48	67	-4	1.55	4	20.42	3.21	62	1,850	217	3,024
New Castle	81	50	68	-2	1.31	4	19.53	3.75	59	1,906	265	3,090
Slippery Rock	83	49	68	1	1.69	4	17.79	1.05	57	1,935	456	3,111
Central												
Altoona/Blair	82	49	69	-3	1.53	4	13.91	-1.46	60	2,040	284	3,259
DuBois	81	49	68	-2	1.01	4	15.53	-1.72	52	1,884	359	3,068
Lewistown	86	54	70	-3	1.31	4	14.38	-2.26	55	2,175	251	3,416
Middletown	85	59	72	-4	0.75	4	14.79	-1.31	58	2,367	197	3,632
Prince Gallitzi	82	47	68	0	1.15	3	16.81	-2.90	56	1,792	391	2,975
Selinsgrove	84	53	69	-4	0.16	2	18.22	1.61	50	2,006	205	3,224
State College	81	54	68	-3	0.62	3	19.80	4.47	55	1,991	253	3,203
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	85	52	71	-3	3.01	4	20.28	3.19	52	2,223	234	3,472
Lehighton	81	52	68	-6	1.59	3	22.45	5.35	53	1,883	-36	3,106
Matamoras	82	52	69	-3	2.58	3	23.86	6.17	54	1,923	185	3,133
Mt_Pocono	79	47	65	-1	2.70	4	26.00	7.49	54	1,621	432	2,773
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	83	54	70	-1	0.79	3	20.41	4.03	59	2,247	483	3,483
Indiana_PA	82	50	69	-2	1.66	3	20.02	1.02	65	1,991	293	3,201
Myersdale	82	45	65	-5	4.55	4	19.42	0.75	68	1,583	-30	2,738
Chalk_Hill	84	45	66	-7	2.84	4	25.01	6.80	67	1,622	-256	2,778
Pittsburgh Intl	84	52	71	-1	0.17	3	17.84	2.43	54	2,196	351	3,419
Connellsville	86	51	70	-2	2.39	3	24.10	5.89	72	2,025	147	3,231
Waynesburg	85	47	67	-4	1.68	3	19.43	2.59	62	1,906	201	3,104
South Central												
Biglerville	85	56	71	-4	1.30	2	15.25	0.44	51	2,209	85	3,458
Everett	82	48	68	-4	1.60	3	14.50	-0.45	56	1,847	116	3,048
Hanover	84	53	70	-5	1.03	4	15.12	0.31	61	2,181	57	3,427
Harrisburg_AP	85	56	72	-4	0.38	4	13.56	-2.54	61	2,358	181	3,628
South Mountain	80	50	67	-5	0.51	4	18.76	3.39	59	1,778	29	2,980
York	85	52	71	-4	2.78	4	16.49	0.09	56	2,228	113	3,462
Southeast												
Green Lane	85	55	71	-2	0.39	4	21.74	4.99	53	2,198	303	3,447
Hamburg	85	55	71	-1	1.32	3	19.60	-0.14	58	2,169	437	3,414
West_Chester	86	53	71	-4	0.46	4	24.60	6.12	58	2,182	79	3,424
Lancaster	86	55	71	-3	0.67	3	16.11	-1.14	54	2,207	211	3,447
Neshaminy Falls	85	53	73	-1	0.76	3	21.55	1.96	53	2,319	339	3,581
New Holland	87	55	73	-2	0.87	2	18.83	1.58	52	2,343	347	3,609
Philadelphia	88	62	75	-2	0.41	2	27.27	10.48	50	2,667	383	3,955
Philadelphia NE	88	56	75	-2	0.76	4	20.23	3.44	57	2,443	159	3,712
Reading	86	55	73	-2	0.70	2	19.07	0.83	51	2,415	454	3,686
Sellersville	85	52	70	-4	0.35	4	25.10	8.35	49	2,087	192	3,315
Doylestown_AG	86	55	71	-3	1.02	4	26.03	6.44	52	2,307	327	3,565

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 with morning temperatures in the low 60's and daytime into the 70's. Wednesday evening into Thursday the county had pretty nice thunderstorms and they hung around for a few hours. York Springs received 2.75" where around Gettysburg only had 1". Corn continues to grow with some stalks around 8' tall. Some producers are saying it's the best crop they've ever seen. Early soybeans are looking really good and about waist high. Later planted soybeans are coming now with recent rains but are not real tall. Hay making has been a challenge this year. Hay crop continues to grow after first cutting is made. Peaches are being harvested with freestone being popular and are readily available at fruit farm markets around the county. Apples are being harvested with more varieties going to be ready in a few weeks. Apple crops on the same farms can be different yields this year and producers and fruit agents are puzzled why on some farms the higher ground was affected and just down road the lower ground was affected. This is puzzling as most of the time it either affects higher or lower but not both having some and others have none to harvest.

ADAMS County, Lee Showalter

Peach harvest is starting to pick up as we come into the varieties with the best crops. It continues to be slowed by cool nights. Quality has been good. Ginger Gold apple harvest will start this week. Size and quality is good. Most growers have less than a full crop of this variety. The remainder of the apple crop continues to size well. All major growing areas have had adequate rain.

CAMBRIA County, Dolly Little

Between rain storms oats harvesting continues while some producers are still trying to finish 1st crop hay.

CENTRE County, Dick Decker

Field work continued between showers. 3/4 inch rainfall for the week.

FRANKLIN County, Thomas Kerr

After a nice Monday, the week turned cloudy and misty reducing any hay making or field work. Peach harvest is going great though and apples are sizing well. Looks like an average year for fruit.

MERCER County, JAMES P. RUST

Corn crop has had lots of rain at the most important times and should produce good yields this year. This past week's hay making was difficult due to the short periods of mid-afternoon rain showers that occurred on several days. Cooler days and nights has slowed down the ripening of tomatoes and garden crops. Sweet corn is yielding excellent for the producers. Peach picking has just begun in the area and in most orchards reporting good yields. We received 2.5 inches of rainfall this past week.

SNYDER County, William C. Sheaffer

The corn and soybean crops are looking very good. Third cutting of alfalfa is near completion. Widespread rains during the week limited the field activities.

SOMERSET County, Dale Kriner, NRCS

Heavy rains and high winds on Wednesday and Thursday caused some localized flooding and blew off 2 barn roofs.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending August 11, 2013

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, silk	97	97	92
Corn, dough	48	56	36
Corn, dent	7	16	8
Oats, ripe	94	99	92
Oats, harvested	63	95	75
Tobacco, harvested	10	4	8
Potatoes, harvested	9	22	11
Alfalfa, 2nd cutting	99	96	95
Alfalfa, 3rd cutting	63	80	70
Timothy clover, 2nd cutting	79	88	77
Peaches, harvested	76	91	63
Apples, harvested	28	37	24

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending August 11, 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	2	10	41	46
Soybeans	0	0	12	59	29
Quality of hay made	1	14	24	54	7
Pasture	0	7	38	44	11
Peaches	0	0	8	46	46
Apples	0	0	9	50	41

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