



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Northeastern Regional Field Office

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Week Ending September 1, 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 another good week for farmers to be out in the fields although many rain showers halted work on certain days. The rain was much needed in many parts of the state as soil moisture levels were starting to decline and crops were starting to be affected. Some areas received several inches of rain and storms while other areas just saw light showers. Either way, the rain was needed and it cooled temperatures down from the hot humid days that persisted throughout the week. Corn and soybeans are still maturing and developing nicely and the outlook still looks very good for yields. Corn silage harvest is beginning to start up and should really take off in the next couple of weeks. Tobacco and potato harvest are continuing to progress. Peach harvest is nearly complete while apples harvest will continue for the next couple of weeks. Producers are still reporting nice size fruits with good yields. Farmers are still cutting alfalfa, timothy and clover and should continue to do so if rains continue to come as needed to allow the forage to continue to grow. The week ahead look very nice with cooler temperatures and scattered rain showers predicted. With fall fast approaching county fairs are starting to take place, so get out, support agriculture and see what all your county has to offer in the agriculture industry. Field activities for the week included cutting alfalfa, timothy and other forage; harvesting oats, tobacco, potatoes, peaches and apples, planting barley, applying fertilizer, mowing pastures, spraying herbicides and pesticides.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending September 1, 2013

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
5	20	68	7

Crop Progress: Fall plowing is 25% plowed, which is ahead of progress at this time last year of 18% and the 5-year average of 17% plowed. Corn is 89% doughed, which is the same progress at this time last year of 89% but ahead of the 5-year average of 81% doughed. Corn is 49% dent, which is behind progress at this time last year of 57% but ahead of the 5-year average of 47% dent. Corn is 5% mature, which is behind progress at this time last year of 15% and the 5-year average of 10% dent. Corn silage is 13% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 30% and the 5-year average of 24% harvested. Barley is 9% planted, which is ahead of progress at this time last year of 0% and the 5-year average of 3% planted. Tobacco is 51% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 67% and the 5-year average of 56% harvested. Potatoes are 34% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 47% but ahead of the 5-year average of 28% harvested. Alfalfa third cutting is 88% cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 98% and the 5-year average of 94% cut. Alfalfa fourth cutting is 34% cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 48% and the 5-year average of 35% cut. Timothy/Clover second cutting is 95% cut, which is ahead of progress at this time last year of 94% and the 5-year average of 92% cut. Peaches are 92% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 98% but ahead of the 5-years

average of 91% harvested. Apples are 40% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 50% but ahead of the 5-year average of 39% harvested.

Crop Condition: Corn conditions are; 1% very poor, 1% poor, 10% fair, 38% good, and 50% excellent. Soybean conditions are; 0% very poor, 1% poor, 16% fair, 55% good, and 28% excellent. Quality of Hay made conditions are; 0% very poor, 3% poor, 15% fair, 59% good and 23% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 0% very poor, 19% poor, 30% fair, 41% good and 10% excellent. Apples conditions are; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 12% fair, 43% good and 45% excellent.

Nationwide as of August 25, 2013: Hot, mostly dry weather dominated much of the nation's northern tier, central Great Plains, and Rocky Mountains during the week, with daytime highs above 100°F in several locations. Most notably, temperatures in portions of the Dakotas and Minnesota averaged more than 8°F above normal. Much of the West welcomed above average rainfall during the week, boosting soil moisture levels and aiding row crop development. Similarly, portions of the Southeast received more than 4 inches of rain during the week. Corn: Seventy percent of this year's corn crop was at or beyond the dough stage by week's end. This was 24 percentage points behind last year and 9 points behind the 5-year average. Hot, dry weather throughout much of the northern Great Plains, western Corn Belt, and Great Lakes regions further reduced soil moisture and negatively impacted the developing corn crop. Nationwide, 23 percent of the corn crop was at or beyond the dent stage by August 25, fifty percentage points behind last year and 22 percentage points, or 11 days, behind the 5-year average. Overall, 59 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 2 percentage points from last week but 37 points better than the same time last year. Soybeans: By week's end, 96 percent of the soybean crop was at or beyond the blooming stage. This was 3 percentage points behind last year and 2 points behind the 5-year average. Eighty-four percent of the crop was setting pods by August 25, eleven percentage points behind last year and 6 points behind the 5-year average. Reports in Indiana indicate the need for soaking rainfall to benefit soybeans in the pod-filling stage. Overall, 58 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 4 percentage points from last week but 28 points better than the same time last year. Other Small Grains: Producers had harvested 83 percent of this year's oat crop by August 25, sixteen percentage points behind last year and 5 points behind the 5-year average. By week's end, 58 percent of the barley crop was harvested, 23 percentage points behind last year but 3 points ahead of the 5-year average. With harvest complete or nearly complete in the Treasure and Magic Valleys, progress in Idaho advanced rapidly under hot, dry conditions. Overall, 66 percent of the barley crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up slightly from last week. Comparison data for 2012 was unavailable due to the early completion of last year's harvest.

Weather Data For Week Ending September 1, 2013

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - September 1, 2013					
	Temperature			Precipitation			Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	85	67	76	8	1.51	4	24.80	6.39	66	2,388	321	3,777
Franklin_AG	87	53	73	7	3.17	4	23.32	2.29	76	2,261	313	3,641
Meadville-Port	84	64	74	9	2.20	3	20.06	-0.81	74	2,296	511	3,695
Clarion	85	50	72	6	1.58	4	22.47	0.70	72	1,987	26	3,343
Springboro	84	54	72	5	2.19	4	27.33	9.04	68	2,028	-23	3,382
Warren	86	52	73	8	2.21	4	19.29	-1.64	68	2,121	227	3,489
North Central												
Bradford Region	84	53	71	10	0.74	3	17.42	-3.57	75	1,871	478	3,235
Oswayo	85	48	71	9	1.30	4	17.61	-2.18	61	1,678	145	3,000
Kane	84	46	69	8	0.87	3	21.91	0.64	65	1,638	270	2,961
Laporte	80	54	69	4	0.55	6	27.10	7.75	66	1,803	-141	3,147
Lock Haven	89	52	74	8	0.46	4	18.50	-0.60	60	2,363	309	3,770
Coudersport_1SW	84	45	69	7	0.82	4	19.29	-0.50	72	1,728	195	3,059
Renovo	90	52	74	8	0.42	4	15.44	-3.66	59	2,364	310	3,762
Ridgway	86	48	71	8	1.02	4	20.86	-0.22	69	1,954	394	3,303
Stevenson Dam	88	52	73	10	1.00	3	17.99	-3.09	56	2,166	606	3,540
Towanda	88	50	73	7	2.88	5	20.54	4.50	55	2,114	154	3,495
Wellsboro	86	46	71	9	2.27	4	20.17	4.04	66	1,764	286	3,111
Williamsport	89	62	76	8	0.10	3	15.73	-3.16	54	2,599	335	4,041
Northeast												
Hawley	84	51	71	7	0.91	4	25.33	7.02	62	1,936	255	3,286
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	88	64	76	9	0.37	3	13.58	-4.24	55	2,503	351	3,932
Susquehanna	84	53	71	9	2.89	4	23.68	4.08	57	2,032	427	3,403
West Central												
Butler	85	53	72	6	1.61	4	22.76	2.78	72	2,227	212	3,611
New Castle	86	56	74	7	1.09	3	20.76	2.69	64	2,310	294	3,704
Slippery Rock	89	54	74	9	1.67	3	19.73	0.30	62	2,356	536	3,742
Central												
Altoona/Blair	86	57	74	7	0.36	3	15.06	-2.27	70	2,458	305	3,887
DuBois	86	60	74	10	0.81	4	17.01	-3.04	60	2,286	413	3,680
Lewistown	92	53	77	8	0.43	3	15.02	-3.72	62	2,643	285	4,094
Middletown	87	63	77	6	0.93	2	17.07	-1.30	68	2,851	196	4,326
Prince Gallitzi	86	54	73	9	0.32	3	17.79	-4.50	64	2,166	434	3,559
Selinsgrove	89	53	73	6	1.86	4	20.34	1.20	57	2,420	210	3,848
State College	86	58	75	8	0.12	2	20.12	2.64	62	2,415	284	3,837
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	88	62	75	6	4.20	3	26.65	6.62	60	2,672	238	4,131
Lehighton	84	53	71	2	1.36	5	24.85	4.98	63	2,246	-109	3,679
Matamoras	84	56	73	6	1.20	4	26.03	5.83	63	2,334	201	3,754
Mt_Pocono	81	60	70	9	1.25	3	27.70	6.34	60	1,977	499	3,339
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	86	60	75	8	0.97	2	21.99	3.43	67	2,692	533	4,138
Indiana_PA	82	59	73	6	1.68	4	23.09	1.54	77	2,395	308	3,815
Myersdale	83	48	69	2	2.16	2	23.78	2.74	77	1,902	-100	3,267
Chalk_Hill	84	48	69	0	2.65	3	29.04	8.34	76	1,936	-361	3,302
Pittsburgh Intl	86	63	76	9	0.75	2	19.10	1.59	59	2,656	398	4,089
Connellsville	87	57	74	5	2.02	4	29.32	8.62	84	2,456	159	3,872
Waynesburg	86	54	73	6	1.46	3	22.09	2.84	73	2,309	214	3,717
South Central												
Biglerville	90	58	75	5	0.20	3	18.13	1.00	59	2,662	69	4,121
Everett	86	47	70	3	1.32	3	16.61	-0.29	66	2,219	82	3,630
Hanover	88	61	75	5	0.01	1	17.46	0.33	70	2,608	15	4,064
Harrisburg_AP	88	62	77	6	0.20	1	16.11	-2.26	68	2,837	175	4,317
South Mountain	84	52	72	5	0.22	2	21.84	4.51	68	2,141	-5	3,553
York	88	57	76	5	0.04	3	19.91	1.20	65	2,674	94	4,118
Southeast												
Green Lane	87	58	74	6	1.39	6	25.70	6.22	64	2,643	320	4,102
Hamburg	88	55	74	7	0.61	5	21.71	-0.83	69	2,607	474	4,062
West_Chester	88	56	75	4	1.73	2	31.19	10.12	64	2,626	56	4,078
Lancaster	87	57	75	6	0.22	2	18.21	-1.54	59	2,655	201	4,105
Neshaminy Falls	87	60	75	6	0.70	3	25.56	2.90	59	2,786	359	4,258
New Holland	89	60	76	7	0.37	3	21.31	1.56	57	2,821	367	4,297
Philadelphia	89	65	77	5	1.04	1	31.44	12.13	55	3,196	394	4,694
Philadelphia NE	90	67	78	5	0.48	1	22.80	3.49	63	2,974	172	4,453
Reading	88	61	77	7	0.76	2	22.18	1.21	59	2,893	479	4,374
Sellersville	87	52	73	4	0.97	3	28.48	9.00	57	2,504	181	3,942
Doylestown_AG	86	55	74	5	1.81	3	30.18	7.52	60	2,761	334	4,229

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 morning temperatures in the 50's and daytime temperatures into the 80's. Tuesday and Wednesday some light showers early morning and morning temperatures in the 70's with high humidity and into the high 80's. Thursday and Friday morning foggy in the 70's with some sun by mid morning. Some rain Saturday afternoon.

Corn silage is starting to be chopped in the county. Corn and soybeans continue to mature. This will be a nice harvest for both corn and soybeans and storage will be at a premium. With the recent showers are beneficial to all crops in the county. Hay continues to be made when conditions permit. Pastures continue to do well with regrowth.

Peaches are plentiful but the price is low so some producers are debating if they can have pickers pick and still make anything on crop. Problem with price is that NY, NJ and PA peaches all came in season to pick at same time and our normal markets are not taking PA peaches since they have their own. Apples are also being picked and are being reported nice crop. Vegetables are doing good and fresh markets have plenty available for purchase. Overall the producers are readying equipment for corn and soybean harvests and also for fall plantings.

BUTLER County, L Fritz

Lot's of rain received this week, up to 5 inches in some places. Field work is on hold.

CENTRE County, Dick Decker

Some fall field work completed. A few staled corn silage cutting 1.2 inches of rainfall

FRANKLIN County, Thomas Kerr

Weather warmed up causing an oversupply of ripe peaches this week. Apples are maturing quickly as well. Corn silage harvest began and is in full swing this week, with many reporting good yields. The exception is the western part of the county where it has been dry and the harvest is less than normal and the corn was drying down fast.

LEBANON County, Charlene Zeigler

Some corn silage was chopped this week and tested to see if it is ready. During a few days of sun at the beginning of the week alfalfa was baled or made into haylage. Showers appeared at different times and at different areas during the latter part of the week.

MERCER County, James P. Rust

We received 2.7 inches of rainfall this past week and August was quickly removed from the list of driest Augusts in history. Recent fertilizer applications on hay fields have made a world of difference for potential yields since the rainfall. Tomatoes yields are being reported as excellent where proper disease control was in check. Late sweet corn plantings look excellent and on target for harvest if no early frost surprises happen.

SNYDER County, William C. Sheaffer

The showers were scattered, and the amount range from nothing to 2 1/2 inches. The corn and soybeans on the lighter soils are maturing prematurely. The main activities for the week were silo filling, planting and haymaking.

UNION County, James Brubaker

It is dry, but we have enough rain to keep crops moving toward a normal maturity.

UNION County

Lack of moisture is a problem as crops are maturing. Moisture stress and rapid maturing for both corn and soybeans can be seen in areas of shallow soil. Double cropped soybeans are very short and showing little growth.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending September 1, 2013

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fall plowing	25	18	17
Corn, dough	89	89	81
Corn, dent	49	57	47
Corn, mature	5	15	10
Corn silage, harvested	13	30	24
Barley, planted	9	0	3
Tobacco, harvested	51	67	56
Potatoes, harvested	34	47	28
Alfalfa, 3rd cutting	88	98	94
Alfalfa, 4th cutting	34	48	35
Timothy clover, 2nd cutting	95	94	92
Peaches, harvested	92	98	91
Apples, harvested	40	50	39

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending September 1, 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	1	10	38	50
Soybeans	0	1	16	55	28
Quality of hay made	0	3	15	59	23
Pasture	0	19	30	41	10
Apples	0	0	12	43	45

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