

Crop Progress & Condition



PENNSYLVANIA

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United States Department of Agriculture

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Week ending May 4, 2014

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by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

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Crop Progress (in %):

	May 4	Last Year	5-year Average
Spring Tillage	39	75	-
Corn Planted	8	26	25
Oats Planted	51	85	73
Oats Emerged	26	47	43
Barley Headed	23	21	46
Potatoes Planted	8	48	34
Tobacco	80	95	-
Apples Pink	61	99	96
Apples Full Bloom	34	87	91
Cherries Half Inch Green to Pink	90	99	99
Cherries Full Bloom	66	96	97
Peaches Pink	75	99	-
Peaches Full Bloom	71	96	97

Poor Week for Field Work: Pennsylvania had an average of 2 days suitable for field work this week. Fieldwork is being stalled due to fields being very wet from the heavy rainfall received during the week. Reports of precipitation ranged anywhere from 0.5 inches to 5.7 inches throughout the state. Growth of pastures, forages, and winter small grains are also behind average growth for this time of year. Hay is in demand because of the lack of pasture and rye growing this spring. Seeding of crops have also slowed due to the weather. However, warmer temperatures have allowed fruit crops some progress. Although there have been reports of cold damage to fruit crops, most operators are glad to see peaches, apples, and cherries blooming. The extent of the damage to fruit crops from the extreme winter weather is yet to be seen. Looking to the week ahead, temperatures in Pennsylvania will range from the high 30's to the mid 80's with a low chance of rain over the weekend. Farm operators will be playing "catch-up" assuming the weather cooperates. Field activities for the week include spraying for insects, weed control, applying fertilizer, planting crops, and readying equipment for fieldwork.

PA Soil Moisture for Week Ending May 4, 2014 (equal to 100%)

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil	0%	1%	72%	27%
Subsoil	0%	1%	77%	22%

Crop Condition (in %):

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	0	6	28	58	8
Alfalfa Hay	0	2	31	60	7
Other Hay	0	2	31	60	7
Pasture	6	14	46	27	7

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit www.usda.gov/oce/weather and click on "[Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin](#)."

May 4, 2014 Pennsylvania Weekly Weather Summary

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2014					
		Temperature			Precipitation			Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
Region	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest	Clarion	61	37	49	-3	1.89	6	5.63	+1.30	17	48	+7	263
	Erie	61	42	51	-2	1.04	4	3.94	+0.15	14	81	+26	299
	Franklin_AG	61	37	51	-2	2.24	5	5.82	+1.76	17	60	+7	295
	Meadville-Port	59	42	51	0	2.03	5	5.03	+1.20	15	79	+41	328
	Springboro	60	30	49	-3	1.85	5	5.61	+2.06	16	55	+17	249
	Warren	63	32	49	-3	1.71	5	4.37	+0.18	16	55	+13	266
North Central	Bradford_Region	58	31	47	-2	1.48	4	4.65	+0.71	15	50	+27	228
	Coudersport_1SW	60	25	46	-5	1.15	4	3.82	+0.30	14	41	+9	177
	Kane	59	29	48	+2	1.50	5	4.48	+0.15	15	41	+29	222
	Laporte	64	31	46	-5	1.05	4	4.35	+0.41	15	32	+2	171
	Lock_Haven	71	33	50	-4	0.58	5	3.22	-0.51	13	77	+9	303
	Oswayo	59	23	46	-4	1.10	4	3.55	+0.05	14	37	+15	183
	Renovo	66	32	50	-5	1.30	5	3.84	+0.16	14	69	-6	304
	Ridgway	60	34	49	-2	1.32	4	4.67	+0.62	15	55	+31	259
	Stevenson_Dam	66	32	47	-5	1.40	5	3.79	-0.01	14	38	-2	219
	Towanda	68	31	49	-5	0.78	4	2.92	-0.67	13	57	+7	235
	Wellsboro	62	29	46	-4	1.27	4	3.89	+1.05	14	41	+18	188
	Williamsport_AP	70	32	52	-4	1.02	3	3.04	-0.93	10	114	+35	368
Northeast	Hawley	73	28	47	-4	2.12	5	4.42	+0.17	15	45	+17	200
	Milanville	74	32	49	-2	1.75	3	3.50	-0.75	12	64	+36	250
	Susquehanna	68	30	48	-5	1.07	4	3.85	-0.60	15	51	+7	215
	Wilkes-Barre	72	32	52	-3	0.96	3	3.07	-0.65	12	112	+38	346
West Central	Butler	63	38	52	-1	1.32	5	4.24	+0.24	15	71	+27	325
	New_Castle_Ag	61	37	52	-2	1.78	4	4.96	+1.24	16	83	+26	343
	Slippery_Rock	66	38	52	+2	1.97	5	5.13	+1.19	15	83	+52	343
Central	Altoona_AP	64	41	51	-4	1.16	4	3.64	-0.08	14	108	+28	369
	Du_Bois	61	37	50	-3	1.58	5	4.83	+1.00	15	99	+56	351
	Lewistown	70	36	51	-5	1.19	4	3.74	+0.03	13	93	+2	352
	Middletown	73	40	54	-4	3.52	4	6.09	+2.24	13	150	+14	450
	Prince_Gallitzi	62	39	49	-4	1.05	4	3.11	-0.66	16	68	+19	293
	Selinsgrove_2S	72	34	51	-4	1.27	3	4.55	+0.47	11	76	+3	306
	State_College_P	66	38	51	-4	1.21	5	3.62	+0.02	14	93	+27	338
East Central	Allentown-Bethl	75	33	53	-2	3.94	4	7.00	+2.98	13	129	+53	387
	Lehighton	74	35	50	-3	4.28	3	7.41	+2.85	13	66	+18	287
	Mt_Pocono	68	31	47	-2	3.11	3	6.09	+1.20	12	58	+43	243
Southwest	Pittsburgh_Alle	65	46	55	+3	1.93	5	4.50	+0.91	16	203	+142	506
	Chalk_Hill	63	30	50	-3	1.06	4	3.50	-2.21	17	67	+6	287
	Connellsville_A	65	32	52	-3	1.13	5	4.07	-0.21	16	122	+39	391
	Indiana_3SE	63	31	51	-4	1.24	5	4.04	-0.24	15	81	+7	330
	Meyersdale	63	30	47	-6	1.19	5	3.24	-1.33	15	39	0	238
	Pittsburgh_Intl	63	45	54	-2	1.42	4	4.39	+0.94	15	164	+70	456
	Waynesburg	70	37	53	-1	1.39	5	3.71	-0.04	17	98	+28	360
South Central	Biglerville	73	40	52	-3	2.82	3	5.43	+1.24	12	116	+44	387
	Everett	67	35	48	-6	1.63	4	4.14	+0.28	13	45	-19	257
	Hanover	74	37	53	-5	3.95	3	6.58	+2.72	13	107	-23	376
	Harrisburg_AP	73	37	53	-5	2.80	4	5.52	+1.67	13	132	-4	422
	South_Mountain	67	37	50	-8	2.51	4	5.39	+0.82	15	64	-71	301
	York_AP	74	35	54	-4	3.84	5	6.51	+2.47	14	131	-3	403
Southeast	Doylestown_AG	76	36	54	-5	4.53	3	7.00	+2.55	11	123	-18	385
	Green_Lane	75	36	53	-3	5.70	4	9.23	+5.00	11	117	+37	379
	Hamburg	75	37	52	-5	4.48	4	7.04	+2.91	13	94	+7	347
	Lancaster_AP	74	37	54	-3	2.56	5	4.84	+1.04	14	128	+24	400
	Neshaminy_Falls	79	35	54	-3	5.25	3	7.48	+2.93	12	124	+21	396
	New_Holland	76	39	55	0	4.37	5	6.85	+2.46	14	136	+54	421
	Philadelphia_AP	79	44	58	-1	4.94	4	6.82	+2.85	10	219	+64	534
	Philadelphia_NE	80	40	58	+2	5.44	4	7.26	+2.71	12	218	+115	522
	Reading_AP	75	38	54	-3	3.83	4	6.64	+2.41	13	155	+48	446
	Sellersville	76	33	52	-5	4.74	4	9.09	+4.38	12	91	+3	331
	West_Chester	76	33	53	-4	5.51	5	8.96	+4.71	13	118	-1	373

Summary based on NWS data. DFN = Departure From Normal.
 Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
 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 wet week. The county had between 3.5 to 5 inches of rainfall throughout the whole county Monday evening-Thursday. Fields are very wet and some wind over the weekend helped in drying things off a little but not enough to get into most fields. No additional corn or soybeans were planted due to wet weather. Wheat, barley, rye and other small grains for forage are now nice and green and getting some height. Some areas that were wet last fall and didn't get a good stand still are not looking too good. Hay continues to get greener with the warmer days and sunshine. No additional oats have been seeded this week.

The fruit trees are now out in blossom. The cherries though took a big hit in mid April and will have a significant loss to the crop this year due to cold temperatures. The fruit growers were busy trying to keep from getting the apple scab because of last week's wet weather. Producers were encouraged by Penn State Extension to spray prior to rains. The apple blossoms came in time for the Apple Blossom Festival held this past weekend by the Adams County Fruit Growers Association. Still not too late to enjoy the beauty of the fruit blossoms in the county. Vegetables will be planted outside when soil conditions permit. Overall, the producers are busy finishing up preparing planting equipment for their upcoming planting season and are eagerly awaiting soil conditions to improve to be able to plant their 2014 crops.

ADAMS/FRANKLIN County, Thomas Kerr

Heavy rains this week slowed field work. Saw a field of corn emerging. A lot of corn has been planted considering the weather. Pastures are rebounding from the harsh winter. Barley and wheat showing some winter damage. Fruit damage due to the cold of several weeks ago ranges from no damage to complete blocks that are gone. Apples just now in bloom so will wait to see if any damage.

CLARION/VENANGO/FOREST/WARREN County, Tom Tanner

Spreading of fall manure. Liming and fertilizing of sod fields. Planting of spring oats. No one seems to be getting a break because of the rains!

COLUMBIA/LACKAWANNA/LUZERNE/MONTOUR County, C. John Esslinger

Tree fruit progress is slow. Approximately 75% of peach flower buds killed by winter damage in orchards north of I-80. Vegetable planting about 10 days behind normal. Cool season vegetables are growing very slowly.

BUTLER/BEAVER/ALLEGHENY County, Luke Fritz

There is essentially no field work being done. A few producers did get some oats and alfalfa planted but for the most part still waiting for warm and dry conditions. It appears pastures and hay fields are slowly starting to grow.

CAMBRIA County, Dolly Little

Little field work this week because of rain.

CENTRE County, Dick A. Decker

Some field work during the week with a few starting corn planting. Soil temperatures remain low (below 45 F) My gauge had 0.8 inches of rainfall.

JUNIATA/SNYDER County, William C. Sheaffer

Heavy rains at the beginning of the week curtailed most field activities. Oats planting is near completion with corn planting beginning on the well drained high land soils. Main activities for the week were manure spreading, spraying and machine maintenance.

UNION County, Glenn L. Spangler

Cool wet weather has delayed spring field work and planting. Also growth of pastures, forages and winter small grains is behind average growth. Hay is in demand because of the lack of pasture and rye growth this spring.

SCHUYLKILL County, Kelly Sundy

Two days were suitable for field work last week due to the rain weather pattern that hung over Pennsylvania. The county received approximately 3+ inches of rain between Monday - Saturday. Livestock are on pasture; however pasture conditions are not optimal.

WESTMORELAND County, Thomas Sierzega

Cooler than normal temperatures keeping all activities behind schedule. Many rainy days but not much rain keeping pastures and hay behind schedule. More sweet corn under plastic planted.

LANCASTER County, Jeff Graybill

This week farmers will play catch-up - assuming the weather cooperates!!

LEBANON County, Charlene Ziegler

Over 3.5 inches of rain fell over a period of 2 days. Fields were saturated. Temperatures remain cool. Soil temperature is still below 50 degrees. Prior to the rainy weather, manure was able to be applied to the fields. Cover crop was also burn downed.

MONTGOMERY County, Andrew Frankenfield

Very heavy rain Wednesday, 5"+ caused flooding and soil erosion. No field work since Monday 4/28 and field activity will be delayed for a while to allow field conditions to dry out. Once fields dry planting will likely begin in earnest.

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