

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service

Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture 2301 N Cameron St, Rm G-19 · Harrisburg, PA 17110 (717) 787-3904 · (717) 782-4011 FAX · <u>www.nass.usda.gov</u>

Week Ending June 14, 2009

Issued weekly, April-November

Released June 15, 2009, 4 pm

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

Fair Week for Field Work: Although it may have been hit or miss across the state, the rainy and wet conditions had a large impact on field work and progress last week. There were a total of 3 days suitable for field work. Orchards and crops must be assessed to gauge how the recent rainy weeks have affected yield and quality expectations. A large amount of dry hay has yet to be cut, while quality dwindles with additional amounts of time that pass. Last week's primary activities included fruit thinning, evaluating fields, and taking care of any inside activities, while waiting for more favorable weather to get outside and into the field. Some corn and vegetables are still waiting to be planted as soil moisture continues to increase.

PA Topsoi	l Moisture for	Week Ending	June 14.	2009

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Crops: Corn condition is 0% very poor, 3% poor, 23% fair, 58% good, and 16% excellent. Ninety-three percent of the state's corn has been planted. This is compared to last year's 95%, and the five year average of 97%. Corn is now 80% emerged, compared to last year's 77%, and the average of 87%. The emerged corn has an average height of 12 inches, which is one inch ahead of last year, and 2 inches behind the average. Soybean condition is 0% very poor, 1% poor, 34% fair, 51% good, and 14% excellent. Soybean planting is now 74% planted statewide, compared with last year's 84%, and the average of 88%. Fifty-eight percent of soybeans have emerged, compared to last year's 62%, and the average of 66%. The wheat condition is 0% very poor, 3% poor, 17% fair, 55% good, and 25% excellent. Forty-seven percent of the wheat has turned yellow, compared to 49% last year, and the average of 39%. Eighty percent of the barley has yellowed, compared to last year's 86%, and the average of 88%. Seven percent of the barley is ripe, compared to last year's 29%, and the average of 30%. Oat conditions are reported at 0% very poor, 2% poor, 23% fair, 58% good, and 17% excellent. Thirty percent of the oats have headed, compared with last year's 41%, and the average of 33% Tobacco is 78% transplanted, compared to last year's 83%, and the 84% average.

Fruit: The peach conditions were 0% very poor, 4% poor, 5% fair, 68% good, and 23% excellent. The apple conditions were 0% very poor, 0% poor, 4% fair, 75% good, and 21% excellent.

Livestock: Pastures are 2% very poor, 2% poor, 17% fair, 60% good, and 19% excellent. Alfalfa crop conditions are 1% very poor, 2% poor, 16% fair, 52% good and 29% excellent. The first cutting of alfalfa is 79% completed, compared with last year's 80%, and the average of 79%. Timothy clover crop conditions continue to do well and are 0% very poor, 1% poor, 20% fair, 65% good, and 14% excellent. Forty-six percent of the timothy/clover cutting is complete, compared to last year's 55%, and the overall average of 49%. Overall quality of hay is 4% very poor, 6% poor, 22% fair, 59% good, and 9% excellent.

Nationwide as of June 7, 2009: A band of wet weather stretched across the U.S. from Oregon and northern California eastward into the Mid-Atlantic States. Showery weather also prevailed in the Southeast, while dry conditions were mostly confined to the Nation's northern tier and the Southwest. In the Southeast, heavy rain maintained adequate to locally excessive soil moisture reserves but hampered fieldwork, including soybean planting. Showery

weather also persisted from the lower Mississippi Valley into the southern Corn Belt, hampering fieldwork and increasing concerns with respect to disease in the maturing winter wheat crop. Across the remainder of the Midwest, cool, dry weather in the northern Corn Belt contrasted with beneficial showers across the previously dry western Corn Belt. Meanwhile, on the Plains, scattered showers boosted soil moisture reserves, although cool weather hampered crop growth across northern portions of the region. In fact, weekly temperatures averaged as much as 5 to10 degrees Fahrenheit below normal from the northern Plains into the Northeast. Scattered frost affected the Northeast on June 1 and parts of the northern Plains and upper Midwest on June 2, 3, and 6. Near-normal readings prevailed across the remainder of the U.S., except in the Northwest, where temperatures averaged up to 10 degrees Fahrenheit above normal. Elsewhere, mild, mostly dry weather in the Southwest contrasted with unusually wet conditions in the northern Intermountain West and neighboring areas. Chilly conditions prevailed early in the week across the Great Lakes region. June opened with daily-record lows in locations such as Scranton, Pennsylvania (36 degrees Fahrenheit). Another surge of cool air reached the northern Plains by June 2.By week's end, some late-season snow developed across the northern Rockies and northern High Plains.

Corn: By week's end, 97 percent of the Nation's corn acreage was planted, on par with last year's pace but 2 points behind the 5-year average. Emergence advanced to 87 percent complete, also on par with last year but 7 points behind normal. Following large jumps in the number of acres planted in previous weeks Overall, 69 percent of the crop was rated in good to excellent condition, compared with 60 percent a week ago and the previous year.

Sovbeans: Nationally, 78 percent of the 2009 soybean crop was planted, 2 points ahead of last year but 9 points behind the average. Emergence jumped 19 points during the week to 55 percent complete, 3 points ahead of the previous year but 15 points behind the 5-year average.

Winter Wheat: Heading in this year's winter wheat crop reached 84 percent by week's end, compared with 82 percent last year and 88 percent for the average. Harvest was underway in several States. At 5 percent complete, harvest progress was 3 points slower than last year's pace and 5 points slower than normal. Overall, 44 percent of the crop was rated in good to excellent condition, compared with 45 percent a week ago and 47 percent last year.

Small Grains: Barley seeding was virtually complete, with 96 percent of the Nation's crop sown by the end of the week, 4 points behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average. Nationwide, 79 percent of the crop had emerged, 18 points slower than a year ago and 16 points, or more than a week behind normal. Seventy-four percent of the crop was rated in good to excellent condition, compared with 72 percent last week and 68 percent last year. Nationally, emergence was evident in 96 percent of this year's oat acreage, 1 point below last year and 2 points below the 5-year average. Thirty-three percent of the crop was at or beyond the heading stage by week's end, on par with last year but 2 points behind the normal pace. Overall, 55 percent of the crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 1 point from a week ago and 6 points from the previous year.

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	Willow Grove	83	59	70	2	5.08	6	23.25	12.95	37	808	166	1,491

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. Copyright 2004: Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc. All rights reserved.

Internet 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 (FSA) - Not much field work was completed last week. Corn and soybeans are still being planted, with a lot more to go. Producers are talking about prevented planting for corn. This is because the wet soil caused farmers to not finish planting before the June 10th crop insurance deadline. Some of the acreage that was going to be corn will be switched to soybeans if the weather conditions change. Some of the early corn has been replanted due to poor pollination. Wheat and barley are maturing. Barley will probably be harvested in the next week, with the wheat harvest occurring towards the end of June. Hay making is very slow this year. Strawberries are being harvested. The rainfall is affecting the strawberry crop. Apples are looking pretty good and getting some size to them. Peaches are looking ok for now.

ADAMS COUNTY, Lee Showalter - The fruit crops continue to grow normally. Growers are looking forward to the return of bright, sunny days. Peach growers are actively thinning their crops. Many growers report that thinning is progressing rapidly. Most say that they have an adequate set for a full, commercial crop of peaches. The speed of the thinning process would indicate that the peaches weren't extremely heavy in their initial set. This should be helpful in growing a crop with good fruit size.

BERKS COUNTY, Melissa Reidenhour (FSA) - This past week in Berks County was hazy, hot and humid, with rain showers just about every day. Little to no fieldwork was completed, with the exception of small amounts of hay. So far this month, we have received over 4.5" of rain. We should hope this doesn't keep up.

BRADFORD COUNTY, Kelly E. Sundy (FSA) - Frequent showers are slowing down the progression of field work.

BUCKS COUNTY, Michael Fournier - There was heavy rains over the weekend again. Some corn has been re-planted twice. It's going to be a very bad year for quality hay. Many grass fields have yet to be cut. Very few beans are in the ground compared to other years. This has been a very stressful, wet spring!

CLEARFIELD COUNTY, William R. Clouser - The rain has significantly improved hay and pasture growth. Unfortunately, hay quality has suffered from the limited amount of days available for making dry hay. Much of the corn is yellow, and slug damage has been significant. Some of the corn may need to be replanted. The weather conditions have also delayed soybean planting in the region. **CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS)** - It was a great ending of the week for field work. Lots of hay was mowed down. Crops are looking good.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr - Storms with pea size hail affected several fruit growing areas. An insignificant portion of the area was affected. A few barley fields are being harvested, but no reports of yield or quality.

INDIANA COUNTY, DAVID B. OVERDORFF - The first planting of oats have headed. All of the corn is looking good. The soybeans that have been planted are also looking good also. The weather has not been cooperating.

LACKAWANNA John Esslinger - The mid-May freeze damaged the apple crop more extensively than first thought. Some orchards are a total loss, with some losing only 50%. Apple scab and fire blight are more severe than normal. Vegetable planting is proceeding at a slow rate due to the rainy weather.

LANCASTER COUNTY, Burell Whitworth (NRCS) - The wet weather has made planting pumpkins and tobacco very challenging. Some parts of the county are getting severe lodging of small grain, while other parts are not affected. Crops that are planted are really growing. Pastures are doing well.

LEHIGH COUNTY, Bob Leiby - Frequent rains are making it extremely difficult to complete soybean planting.

MERCER COUNTY, JAMES P. RUST - Tuesday and Wednesday were excellent hay drying days. Some of the field and sweet corn is yellow and slow to grow because we had three nights in the 40's. We are behind in rainfall.

SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer - The weather improved at the end of the week. The corn has a pale color. Soybeans are slow growing, and the oats are yellow in the poorly drained areas. Slugs and flea beetles have done a lot of damage in many areas. Some farmers have begun replanting. Barley is turning color and is near ready to be harvested. The second cutting of alfalfa is looking good; however, there are a few leafhoppers showing up.

SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, Kelly E. Sundy - Last week was very wet. We received approximately 2" of rain. The showers are making it very difficult to make dry hay.

Сгор	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	
Corn, planted	93	95	97	
Corn, emerged	80	77	87	
Corn average height, inches	12	11	14	
Barley, turning yellow	80	86	88	
Barley, ripe	7	29	30	
Wheat, turning yellow	47	49	39	
Oats, heading or headed	30	41	33	
Soybeans, planted	74	84	88	
Soybeans, emerged	58	62	66	
Tobacco, transplanted	78	83	84	
Alfalfa, 1st cutting	79	80	79	
Timothy clover, 1st cutting	46	55	49	

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending June 14, 2009

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending June	e 14, 2009	
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Сгор	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Corn	0	3	23	58	16
Wheat	0	3	17	55	25
Oats	0	2	23	58	17
Soybeans	0	1	34	51	14
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand	1	2	16	52	29
Timothy clover stand	0	1	20	65	14
Quality of hay made	4	6	22	59	9
Pasture	2	2	17	60	19
Peaches	0	4	5	68	23
Apples	0	0	4	75	21

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Vational Agricultural Statistics Service Pernsylvania Field Office 2301 N Cameron St Room G-19 Harrisburg PA 17110-9405

> United States Department of Agriculture

