



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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Week Ending October 17, 2010

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Fair Week for Field Work: There were a few scattered showers throughout the state this week, but farmers managed to get a few days in the fields when weather permitted. The rain managed to keep some counties less active, than the ones who only received rain in the early or middle part of the week. Pennsylvania had an average of 4 days suitable for field work. Primary field activities were limited; but included some hay cutting, harvesting of corn, soybeans, and some late varieties of apples. Fall plowing continued, and is 55% complete, a little behind last year's 58%, and behind the five year average of 66%.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending October 17, 2010

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1	12	66	21

Crop Progress: Corn is 95% mature, ahead of 77% from a year ago, and ahead of the 91% average. Corn is 53% harvested, ahead of 24% from a year ago and the 43% average. Barley is 87% planted a little ahead of last year's 86%, and the average of 86%. Barley is 60% emerged, ahead of last year's 54% and the average of 59%. Winter wheat is 61% planted, about the same as last year's 61%, but a little behind the average of 67%. Winter wheat has begun to emerge, and is 36% emerged. This is behind last year's 37%, and the average of 39%. Soybeans are 40% harvested ahead of the previous year's 24% and the average of 32%. Potatoes are at 92% harvested, ahead of last year's 91%, but a little behind the 96% average. The alfalfa fourth cutting is at 92% completed, ahead of 87% a year ago, and the 88% average. Apples are 91% harvested, above last year's 89%, and the average of 82%. The grape harvest continued strongly, and is 82% completed, ahead of last year's 48%, and the average of 64%.

Crop Condition: State-wide soybean conditions are; 3% very poor, 11% poor, 25% fair, 44% good, and 17% excellent. The quality of hay made is 8% very poor, 3% poor, 26% fair, 44% good, and 19% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 13% very poor, 16% poor, 37% fair, 31% good and 3% excellent.

Nationwide as of October 10, 2010: Warm weather, sunshine, and minimal precipitation provided near-ideal harvest conditions for corn and soybean producers across the Corn Belt, Great Lakes States, and the Northern and Central Great Plains. In these areas, significant harvest advancement occurred during the week, pushing harvest to an even more

rapid pace. Nationally, this is a record corn and soybean harvest pace for October 10. Conversely, cooler than normal temperatures prevailed in the Southeast, Delta, and the Southern Great Plains. Rainfall was received in much of the western third of the country and along the northern Atlantic Coast, helping to replenish soil moisture levels in those areas. The precipitation received in the western States slowed winter wheat seeding in some areas but should aide emergence of existing wheat stands. **Corn:** Nationally, nearly the entire corn crop had reached the mature stage of development by October 10, twenty-six percentage points ahead of last year and 9 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Producers harvested 14 percent of the crop during the week leaving progress at 51 percent, 38 percentage points ahead of last year and 21 points ahead of the 5-year average. In Indiana and Illinois, corn harvest ended the week at record high levels, while Iowa is currently at the most advanced harvest for October 10 since 2000. Overall, 68 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up 2 percentage points from ratings last week but 2 percentage points below the same time last year. **Soybeans:** Leaf drop on the Nation's soybean crop reached 95 percent by October 10, seven percentage points ahead of last year and 2 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. With mostly sunny and dry weather providing excellent conditions for fieldwork, harvest advanced 30 points during the week to reach 67 percent complete by week's end. This is a record high harvest percentage for October 10, forty-five percentage points ahead of last year and 19 points ahead of the 5-year average. Producers accomplished double-digit harvest progress during the week in all 18 major soybean-producing States, with the exception of North Carolina. Overall, 64 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, unchanged from ratings last week but slightly below the same time last year. **Winter Wheat:** Wheat producers in many areas of the country took full advantage of warm and sunny weather during the week to make good planting progress. Nationally, 70 percent of the 2011 winter wheat crop was seeded by week's end, a 17 percentage point increase from last week and 2 points ahead of the 5-year average. In Illinois and Michigan, excellent weather conditions allowed 36 and 34 percent of the crop, respectively, to be planted during the week. Thirty-eight percent of the crop was emerged by October 10, slightly behind both last year and the 5-year average. Recent precipitation and warm weather has aided crop germination in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, where emergence is 12 points or more above of 5-year average.

Weather Data For Week Ending October 17, 2010

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - October 17, 2010					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	71	37	54	0	1.26	3	25.49	0.75	78	3,175	589	5,065
Franklin_AG	79	35	53	2	0.24	3	26.17	-0.34	84	2,912	540	4,791
Meadville-Port	75	34	54	4	0.52	4	26.13	-0.53	90	2,840	668	4,711
Mercer	80	36	54	4	0.39	4	25.39	0.16	94	2,946	596	4,844
Springboro	76	31	52	-2	0.80	4	30.35	6.46	89	2,620	84	4,449
Warren	77	34	51	1	0.33	2	21.29	-5.51	78	2,732	441	4,586
North Central												
Bradford Region	73	24	48	2	0.09	2	24.35	-2.30	82	2,101	457	3,859
Oswayo	75	27	47	-2	0.31	3	27.50	2.14	86	2,119	301	3,881
Kane	75	27	47	2	0.17	1	24.20	-3.04	76	2,097	493	3,853
Laporte	71	34	48	-4	0.88	3	28.55	3.90	91	2,482	140	4,299
Lock Haven	78	36	53	2	0.65	3	25.15	0.96	70	3,158	665	5,087
Port Allegany	75	32	49	1	0.31	3	24.08	-1.28	84	2,355	537	4,159
Renovo	76	34	52	1	0.30	2	24.00	-0.19	79	3,035	542	4,960
Ridgway	76	30	50	2	0.51	4	22.96	-3.31	86	2,362	491	4,183
Stevenson Dam	79	36	52	5	0.13	2	23.15	-3.12	70	2,877	1,006	4,778
Towanda	75	30	49	-3	0.70	3	22.28	1.79	71	2,731	370	4,608
Wellsboro	75	30	48	1	0.51	3	25.29	4.64	75	2,254	494	4,070
Williamsport	77	34	54	2	0.46	2	25.51	1.59	70	3,484	735	5,446
Northeast												
Hawley	69	29	47	-3	1.25	3	29.78	6.56	72	2,467	452	4,301
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	74	34	52	0	1.14	2	19.50	-3.06	65	3,264	658	5,177
Susquehanna	70	33	48	0	1.40	3	26.97	2.06	83	2,651	747	4,519
West Central												
Butler	83	35	54	4	0.30	3	28.02	3.08	82	2,907	444	4,805
New Castle	87	36	57	7	0.57	3	25.85	2.91	73	3,301	833	5,217
Slippery Rock	88	33	56	7	0.39	3	23.93	-0.51	83	3,077	867	4,992
Central												
Altoona/Blair	81	36	56	4	0.36	4	24.68	2.76	78	3,172	553	5,096
DuBois	76	31	53	4	0.21	3	21.12	-3.97	84	2,795	542	4,683
Lewistown	78	39	55	2	0.49	2	24.57	1.12	66	3,398	520	5,355
Middletown	80	41	57	3	0.64	2	25.55	2.19	60	3,973	714	5,952
Prince Gallitzi	77	36	53	4	0.40	3	25.38	-2.72	72	2,548	444	4,434
Selinsgrove	79	36	52	0	0.63	2	20.34	-4.12	61	3,241	562	5,180
State College	77	38	54	3	0.34	2	21.68	-0.45	66	3,187	614	5,120
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	77	37	55	2	0.92	3	32.00	6.58	61	3,517	544	5,466
Lehighton	73	36	52	-2	0.63	2	27.53	2.12	67	3,076	213	5,013
Matamoras	72	31	50	-3	1.38	3	25.96	0.36	68	2,784	210	4,678
MT_Pocono	71	35	50	4	0.97	3	28.23	0.77	81	2,693	959	4,553
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	82	41	58	6	0.19	4	21.38	-1.80	78	3,611	969	5,547
Indiana_PA	79	37	54	2	0.34	3	25.91	-1.23	89	2,926	368	4,832
Myersdale	76	31	51	0	0.28	3	20.74	-5.65	76	2,284	-175	4,114
Mount Pleasant	82	34	54	5	0.52	3	22.90	-4.61	65	3,070	845	4,972
Pittsburgh Intl	83	39	58	6	0.15	2	20.85	-0.83	73	3,518	752	5,450
Connellsville	80	37	56	3	0.23	3	24.98	-0.54	85	3,417	596	5,350
Waynesburg	83	34	55	5	0.06	2	22.21	-1.36	61	3,172	616	5,080
South Central												
Biglerville	76	39	54	-2	0.71	2	21.93	-0.35	54	3,637	451	5,595
Everett	80	36	55	3	0.55	3	22.75	1.31	70	2,969	354	4,890
Hanover	83	39	55	1	0.67	2	23.29	1.01	61	3,596	410	5,551
Harrisburg_AP	79	40	57	2	0.49	2	28.95	5.59	64	3,840	571	5,812
South Mountain	78	38	54	2	0.82	3	22.20	0.28	62	2,918	308	4,821
York	82	37	56	1	0.74	2	25.33	1.75	64	3,551	370	5,501
Southeast												
Green Lane	78	38	55	2	1.54	3	26.86	2.26	65	3,648	808	5,618
Hamburg	78	36	54	4	1.11	2	29.01	0.49	68	3,553	979	5,512
West_Chester	82	34	55	1	1.40	3	30.95	4.10	57	3,560	389	5,518
Lancaster	79	38	56	2	0.96	2	25.03	0.16	62	3,734	725	5,693
Neshaminy Falls	80	36	55	2	0.97	2	19.93	-8.48	59	3,769	802	5,745
New Holland	83	40	57	3	0.97	2	27.13	2.26	65	3,727	718	5,685
Philadelphia	81	44	60	3	0.77	2	23.60	-0.45	60	4,522	1,039	6,519
Philadelphia NE	79	41	58	2	0.85	2	20.26	-3.79	69	4,191	708	6,179
Reading	81	39	57	4	0.98	2	23.92	-2.53	64	3,969	1,022	5,947
Sellersville	78	32	52	-2	1.55	2	27.39	2.79	62	3,368	528	5,300
Willow Grove	78	41	59	6	1.07	2	24.94	-3.47	58	3,972	1,005	5,951

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 had nice weather to start the week in the 80's and sunny. Tuesday early-morning thunderstorm with 1/4 inch of rainfall and some pretty good thunder and lightning; in the 60's then later that day, sunny. Wednesday was 48 morning temperature and sunny and warmed to 60's. Thursday morning 39 cloudy and rainy. County got 1/2 inch of rainfall Thursday into Friday morning. Friday morning 40 degrees, sunny, blue sky and windy. Corn and soybeans continue to be harvested in the county when weather permits. There are still a lot of corn/soybeans to be harvested yet in the county. Wheat, rye and barley seeded earlier are now emerged and getting pretty green. Some additional wheat will be seeded when the crops are harvested. Apple harvest is about complete. Producers should be finishing harvesting within the next week. Stink bugs are still apparent. Other vegetable crops are pretty well finished being harvested in the county. Overall the producers in the county are being kept busy with harvesting crops when the conditions permit.

ADAMS COUNTY, Lee Showalter

Fresh apple harvest will now shift to an emphasis on Fujis. We continue to be 10 days early. Sunburn is evident on Fujis but cooler temps are helping to finish this crop.

BUCKS COUNTY, Michael Fournier

Harvesting was put on hold again last week because of the weather. Yields continue to be highly variable. Wheat planting has been delayed because of wet soils.

CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker

It was a good week for field work in the area.

CENTRE COUNTY, Tim Craul

The corn for this year has smaller ears than normal, but appears to be fully filled out. I would expect slightly less yield, but good quality.

CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS)

Weekends have been the best weather to get field work done. Many producers have started harvesting soybeans with good success. Cover crop plantings on fields taken off for corn silage has been very impressive this year. Field days sponsored by participating agencies to encourage keeping soil covered and reaping the benefits of cover crops has started to pay off. It's always nice to see green.

CLARION COUNTY, Tom Tanner

Frost 2 days this week. Many farmers are spreading manure. Soybean harvesting is moving along. Reports of yields around 50 bushels/acre and moisture around 13%. Shelled corn starting to be harvested.

DAUPHIN COUNTY, Eugene Sweigard

The ground was too wet to make any hay this week.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr

Rain again this week slowed field work, but early week did have a few days to finish fall seeding of wheat and barley. Some hay chopped but yield hardly made it worth the effort. Apples winding down, mostly only York and Romes to harvest. Corn is mature and only waiting to have fields firm up to harvest. Beans are small, and dry enough not to need any additional drying.

INDIANA COUNTY, David B. Overdorff

Well, Saturday we started on the soybeans and they are looking pretty good. Also, at the beginning of the week we started to pick some ear corn. Picked about 2300-2500 bu so far. Hope for nice weather this week to get more beans and corn harvested. Everyone have a safe farming week!

MERCER COUNTY, James P. Rust

Early in the week some of the best quality of the season 4th-5th cutting of alfalfa-grass hay was baled. Corn pre-harvest samples for moisture are running 18-23% in the field. A lot of winter wheat was planted this week as the season is near to the end. Reported corn yields are very good.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Andrew Frankenfield

Rain and wet field conditions continue to hamper harvest. Thursday brought another 3/4 of an inch of rain. Corn harvest is moving along well but the majority of the soybeans remain in the field. Planting wheat has been difficult due to wet soil conditions. The notill fields have been able to be harvested without too much rutting, but tilled fields are very soft.

PERRY COUNTY, David L. Swartz

Soaking rains have brought field work to a stop. Much of the soybean crop is still in the field.

SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer

The recent rains have limited the field activities; some of the winter grain in poorly drained areas is showing signs of discoloration. Chichweed is showing up in some alfalfa fields and some corn fields. The activities for the week were limited to harvesting and hay making at the early part of the week.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending October 17, 2010

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fall plowing	55	58	66
Corn, mature	95	77	91
Corn, harvested	53	24	43
Barley, planted	87	86	86
Barley, emerged	60	54	59
Wheat, planted	61	61	67
Wheat, emerged	36	37	39
Soybeans, harvested	40	24	32
Potatoes, harvested	92	91	96
Alfalfa, 4th cutting	92	87	88
Apples, harvested	91	89	82
Grapes, harvested	82	48	64

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending October 17, 2010

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Soybeans	3	11	25	44	17
Quality of hay made	8	3	26	44	19
Pasture	13	16	37	31	3

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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