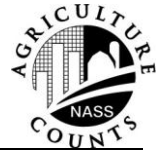




Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203 · Harrisburg, PA 17112
(717) 787-3904 · (717) 782-4011 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov

Week Ending October 2, 2011

Issued weekly, April-November

Released October 3, 2011, 4 pm

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

Poor Week for Field Work: Pennsylvania had an average of 2 days suitable for field work. The state had another rain soaked week. Heavy rains during the week caused some residents to see flash flooding along creeks. Reports for the month of September have the rain totals ranging from 20 to almost 30 inches depending on the area our crop progress and weather reporters live in. Primary field activities for the week were manure hauling and fruit harvesting as weather permitted. Fall plowing is 30% complete behind the 39% this time last year, and behind the 5-year average of 46%.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending October 02, 2011

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
0	0	24	76

Crop Progress: Corn is 91% at the dent stage, behind the 95% last year, and the average of 93%. The corn crop is 47% mature, behind the 81% at this time last year, and behind the 5-year average of 71%. The year's corn crop is 7% harvested, well behind the 35% at this time last year and the 5-year average of 25%. Corn for Silage harvest is 54% complete, behind the previous year's 91% and the 5-year average of 83%. Barley planting is 23% complete far behind the 57% at this time last year and the 5-year average of 52%. Barley is 14% emerged behind the 38% at this time last year and the 5-year average of 29%. Winter wheat planting is 10% complete compared to the 32% at this time last year and the 5-year average of 30%. Winter wheat is 5% emerged compared to the 16% at this time last year and the average of 12%. The tobacco harvest is 95% complete, compared to the 98% last year and the average of 95%. The potato harvest is 51% complete, compared to 72% at this time last year and the 5-year average of 74%. The fourth cutting of alfalfa is 66% complete, behind the previous year's 88% and the 5-year average of 72%. Apple harvesting is 73% complete, behind the 81% last year, but ahead of the average of 68%. The grape harvest is 50% complete, compared to the 40% at this time last year, and is ahead of the 5-year average of 30%.

Crop Condition: State-wide corn conditions are; 6% very poor, 14% poor, 39% fair, 33% good, and 8% excellent. Soybean conditions are; 0% very poor, 4% poor, 30% fair, 50% good, and 16% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 5% very poor, 10% poor, 27% fair, 49% good and 9% excellent.

Nationwide as of September 25, 2011: Cooler-than-normal conditions were centered over the Corn Belt during the week, with late-week frosts reported in portions of the upper Mississippi Valley. Most notably, temperatures averaged as much as 8°F below normal in western Iowa. Elsewhere, warm, dry weather in the West promoted rapid fieldwork as many producers wrapped up small grain harvest and began seeding next year's winter

wheat crop. Increased rainfall in the South helped to improve soil moisture conditions, which aided the peanut harvest and left many producers scrambling to seed winter grazing crops.

Corn: By week's end, 96 percent of this year's corn crop was at or beyond the dent stage, 3 percentage points behind last year but on par with the 5-year average. Despite cool weather over much of the Corn Belt and late-week frost in the upper Mississippi Valley, crop maturity continued at a rapid pace across most of the major corn producing region. By September 25, sixty-three percent of the corn was at or beyond the mature stage, 20 percentage points behind last year and slightly behind the 5-year average. Producers had harvested 15 percent of the nation's crop by week's end, 11 percentage points behind last year and slightly behind the 5-year average. The most significant delay was evident in Pennsylvania, where above-average rainfall limited fieldwork to 3 days during the week. Overall, 52 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up slightly from last week but 14 percentage points below the same time last year.

Soybeans: By September 25, leaves were dropping on 58 percent of the soybean crop. This was 16 percentage points behind last year and 10 points behind the 5-year average. Despite mostly favorable weather promoting double-digit progress during the week, significant delays remained in several estimating states. By week's end, harvest was underway across much of the major producing region, with 5 percent of the crop out of the field. This was 10 percentage points behind last year and 6 points behind the 5-year average. Harvest was most advanced in the Delta, but had yet to begin in the Ohio Valley and Great Lakes region. Overall, 53 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, unchanged from last week but 10 percentage points below the same time last year.

Winter Wheat: With seeding just beginning in some areas and progress advancing rapidly in others, 26 percent of the 2012 winter wheat crop was in the ground by week's end. This was 6 percentage points behind last year and 9 points behind the 5-year average. The most significant delays were evident in Oklahoma and Texas; however, recent rainfall in portions of Oklahoma and the Northern High Plains of Texas prompted limited seeding during the week. Overall, 6 percent of the nation's winter wheat crop was emerged by September 25, four percentage points behind both last year and the 5-year average.

Small Grains: Aided by warm, dry weather, fieldwork in the West continued without much delay during the week. By September 25, barley producers had harvested 97 percent of this year's crop, 9 percentage points ahead of last year and 2 points ahead of the 5-year average.

Weather Data For Week Ending October 2, 2011

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - October 2, 2011					
	Temperature			Precipitation			Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	82	43	62	3	2.16	5	29.37	6.46	87	2,950	463	4,643
Franklin_AG	81	39	60	4	1.15	6	32.61	7.61	105	2,860	561	4,559
Meadville-Port	78	41	59	3	1.42	5	29.53	4.57	103	2,883	776	4,579
Mercer	80	40	59	3	1.38	5	31.48	7.64	118	2,823	544	4,544
Springboro	79	42	59	1	2.88	6	33.60	11.36	104	2,523	76	4,189
Warren	81	39	61	5	0.51	5	28.62	3.47	95	2,660	436	4,346
North Central												
Bradford Region	78	33	57	5	1.40	6	31.10	5.99	108	2,256	650	3,873
Oswayo	81	38	58	5	3.14	6	30.59	6.79	97	2,235	462	3,877
Kane	79	33	57	6	2.33	6	36.01	10.44	94	2,150	579	3,775
Laporte	76	36	59	3	3.72	4	58.00	34.86	103	2,333	59	3,979
Lock Haven	80	40	63	6	2.85	5	34.28	11.51	88	3,068	650	4,799
Port Allegany	79	37	60	7	1.62	6	30.92	7.12	103	2,413	640	4,063
Renovo	82	38	63	6	4.45	6	34.53	11.76	100	3,018	600	4,744
Ridgway	79	35	59	5	2.48	6	30.22	5.42	101	2,412	587	4,082
Stevenson Dam	82	38	61	8	4.02	5	34.28	9.48	84	2,881	1,056	4,587
Towanda	81	40	63	7	2.67	4	43.76	24.50	84	2,714	423	4,414
Wellsboro	78	36	58	6	3.55	6	33.98	14.62	97	2,315	601	3,946
Williamsport	82	42	65	7	4.02	6	46.52	24.13	91	3,278	612	5,036
Northeast												
Hawley	79	43	63	9	3.67	5	47.99	26.15	88	2,447	485	4,135
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	81	43	64	7	3.48	4	40.33	19.11	90	3,002	474	4,742
Susquehanna	80	41	62	9	3.39	4	44.96	21.66	92	2,571	713	4,263
West Central												
Butler	80	42	59	3	1.38	5	29.39	5.81	98	2,880	494	4,619
New Castle	83	40	60	3	1.41	5	32.47	10.83	95	3,195	805	4,937
Slippery Rock	84	41	60	5	2.70	6	32.51	9.48	98	2,933	789	4,667
Central												
Altoona/Blair	77	38	62	5	3.74	3	32.53	11.96	82	3,203	668	4,951
DuBois	77	33	59	3	1.55	6	32.53	8.81	99	2,717	527	4,410
Lewistown	83	40	64	5	3.27	5	40.68	18.64	88	3,301	515	5,066
Middletown	81	41	66	5	2.50	5	51.53	29.57	81	3,631	484	5,433
Prince Gallitzi	77	35	59	4	3.31	6	32.85	6.33	90	2,709	668	4,393
Selinsgrove	82	40	64	6	5.86	4	47.80	24.83	93	3,074	473	4,820
State College	78	36	61	5	2.87	5	34.18	13.40	86	3,075	577	4,804
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	82	47	67	8	3.62	4	45.90	21.87	82	3,424	550	5,205
Lehighton	78	45	65	7	1.23	5	40.06	16.17	90	2,945	177	4,705
Matamoras	81	44	65	8	3.86	5	52.21	28.05	93	2,643	146	4,365
Mt_Pocono	75	42	63	12	2.49	4	51.56	25.81	96	2,568	870	4,261
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	82	41	61	3	1.12	5	24.80	2.93	93	3,363	808	5,140
Indiana_PA	81	37	61	3	2.10	6	33.60	7.91	114	2,968	495	4,707
Myersdale	76	36	58	0	0.67	5	29.47	4.58	94	2,317	-64	3,997
Chalk_Hill	77	37	57	-4	2.30	6	40.84	16.65	101	2,373	-352	4,061
Pittsburgh Intl	82	41	60	2	1.63	5	21.40	0.85	85	3,330	655	5,104
Connellsville	83	43	61	2	1.50	6	32.73	8.54	111	3,214	489	4,982
Waynesburg	84	42	60	3	1.39	5	41.39	19.02	92	2,987	509	4,755
South Central												
Biglerville	79	40	66	5	2.76	4	37.34	16.55	73	3,470	394	5,258
Everett	78	39	62	4	2.02	4	34.46	14.44	84	2,887	356	4,636
Hanover	80	42	65	5	2.21	6	34.76	13.97	84	3,421	345	5,201
Harrisburg_AP	81	42	66	5	3.36	5	49.67	27.71	74	3,640	486	5,440
South Mountain	76	37	61	4	2.86	5	33.35	12.78	85	2,833	305	4,569
York	81	42	66	5	2.19	5	39.74	17.60	85	3,439	374	5,236
Southeast												
Green Lane	80	47	67	9	2.74	4	39.38	16.12	82	3,430	681	5,218
Hamburg	80	44	66	9	1.54	4	42.67	15.87	88	3,352	850	5,128
West_Chester	82	45	68	7	2.87	5	40.29	14.97	71	3,463	403	5,254
Lancaster	80	44	66	7	0.70	4	37.85	14.43	85	3,532	624	5,324
Neshaminy Falls	83	48	67	7	2.18	6	46.13	19.22	71	3,591	720	5,382
New Holland	81	44	67	8	1.08	2	38.70	15.28	81	3,494	586	5,277
Philadelphia	84	51	71	8	1.39	5	42.61	19.81	66	4,119	771	5,937
Philadelphia NE	80	50	70	7	2.49	5	42.99	20.19	73	3,844	496	5,655
Reading	83	47	68	9	1.03	3	35.64	10.63	84	3,726	872	5,532
Sellersville	81	47	66	8	1.47	5	40.44	17.18	77	3,212	463	4,980
Doylestown_AG	80	50	69	10	2.03	5	46.31	19.40	83	3,580	709	5,380

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.

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 another rainy week. Various amounts on Tuesday, Hunterstown/Gettysburg got 3.1" each, York Springs received 2.25". The county is extremely wet and producers cannot do any harvesting of their crops except apples. Corn where green is still growing while others is turning brown. Not much silage harvested or corn for grain in the county due to wet conditions. Early soybeans are starting to lose their leaves but other later soybeans still pretty green and the producers are hoping no frost will come for a little while. No hay has been made for awhile. Not much barley, wheat or rye has been seeded either. Apples continue to be harvested but quality has been affected by rust, scab and stink bugs. The rust and scab diseases are results of wet weather. Producers are having trouble getting full bins of apples from orchard to truck loading areas and are rutting up their orchards pretty good. Other vegetables are about done in the county. Overall the producers are awaiting some dry weather conditions to help with drying up the soil so they can get some of their crops harvested. Upper Adams area is busy preparing to host 25,000 people a day at the 47th annual National Apple Harvest Festival to celebrate the apples grown in the county.

CAMBRIA COUNTY, Dolly Little

It's been a challenge trying to harvest the potatoes. Monday was the only day that harvesting was possible. The rainy conditions the rest of the week kept the producers out of the field. Snow and 32 degree temperatures add to the problem of harvesting a good crop. This year's yields are not only lower than normal, but the potatoes that are in the field are now rotting and what gets harvested may have storage problems.

CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker

Wet conditions prevented field work, some dry days needed to catch up on fall field work. I measured 6.5 inches of rainfall in my gauge.

CLARION COUNTY, Tom Tanner

Many farmers were harvesting corn silage. Many acres of hay yet to be harvested. Soybeans are getting real close for harvesting.

DAUPHIN COUNTY, Eugene Sweigard

Heavy rains and flash flooding.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr

Showers again this week have hindered the late hay making. Silage is mostly all done and high moisture corn is being harvested where ground conditions permit. Very few soybeans were harvested yet, Manure hauling is necessary as rains have filled the storage areas. Apple harvest is progressing through the mud. Fresh fruit quality and storage life has been affected by the rains.

INDIANA COUNTY, David B. Overdorff

It just does not seem to want to stop raining now - had over 2" of rain this past week. It does not look like we will be making anymore hay this year if the weather is going to be like this. All of the corn is dented. Tested some corn and it is below 30% moisture. Well, everyone have a safe farming week and pray for some warmer, dryer weather this week.

JUNIATA COUNTY, Greg Hostetter

Corn continues to dry down while the forage harvesters set due to wet field conditions. By the time the corn gets chopped, it will be of much lower quality. Also seeing quite a bit of kernel sprouting on ear tips.

LANCASTER COUNTY, Jeffrey Graybill

Molds and mycotoxins need to be watched for- especially in corn that is not standing well.

LEBANON COUNTY, Charlene Ziegler

Another week of rainy weather. On Tuesday evening a storm dumped 5 inches of rain on the northern part of the county within a span of 2 hours. This caused flash floods along streams. Other areas of the county had 1-2 inches. The ground remains saturated. Field work including chopping silage and planting cover crop is on hold.

MERCER COUNTY, James P. Rust

We have received over 2.7 inches of rainfall since Monday of this week. No hay was mowed, baled or chopped. Peach harvesting of late varieties was completed last week. Apple harvest is slow and apple quality is poor due to apple scab and other diseases that are weather related. Many farmers still have not harvested corn silage. Pumpkins are still being harvested thru the rains and muddy conditions. Some growers are still harvesting sweet corn and the rains have limited the spraying of the crops that need fall insect and disease control. According to our local weather station - September 2011 is the wettest September in history.

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Viola K Pflieger

Ground very saturated. The county had another deluge of rain with over 5.5 inches of rain this past week. Harvesting is out of the question.

PERRY COUNTY, David L. Swartz

High humidity, rainfall each day, torrential rains on some days combined to continue the delay in fall harvest. Corn acres designated for silage are drying down past optimum moisture for silage. Western and Northern Perry County received 20-21 inches of rain in most locations during the month of September. White mold on the top third of the ear became a severe problem this week, and some corn fields seemed to turn gray within a day or two as leaf diseases spread throughout the fields.

SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer

Another week of heavy rainfall and very few field activities. The corn and soybeans are maturing. Plenty of forage to be made, if only the weather was favorable. Very little barley and wheat have been sown. Hopefully, next week will be drier.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending October 2, 2011

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, dent	91	95	93
Corn, mature	47	81	71
Corn, harvested	7	35	25
Corn silage, harvested	54	91	83
Barley, planted	23	57	52
Barley, emerged	14	38	29
Wheat, planted	10	32	30
Wheat, emerged	5	16	12
Tobacco, harvested	95	98	95
Potatoes, harvested	51	72	74
Alfalfa, 4th cutting	66	88	72
Apples, harvested	73	81	68
Grapes, harvested	50	40	30

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending October 2, 2011

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	6	14	39	33	8
Soybeans	0	4	30	50	16
Pasture	5	10	27	49	9

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

United States
 Department of Agriculture
 National Agricultural Statistics Service
 Pennsylvania Field Office
 4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203
 Harrisburg PA 17112

FIRST-CLASS MAIL POSTAGE & FEES PAID USDA PERMIT NO. G-38
--