

# Weekly Pa. field report is outlined

Statewide, 3 days were rated suitable for fieldwork. In the northern region of the state 2 days were rated suitable, in the central region 4 days were rated suitable and in the southern region of the state 5 days were rated suitable for fieldwork. Activities for the week included: plowing; spraying; harvesting hay, haylage and ryelage; and planting oats, potatoes, corn, and soybeans.

### SOIL MOISTURE

Topsoil moisture was rated surplus by 69 percent of our reporters and adequate by 31 percent. In the northern region of the state 87 percent of our reporters rated it surplus while 13 percent rated it adequate. In the central region of the state 65 percent rated the soil moisture surplus and 35 percent rated it adequate. The reporters in the southern region were evenly split, 50-50 in rating soil moisture surplus or adequate.

### PLOWING

By the end of the week spring plowing was 78 percent complete across the state. At this time last year 82 percent of the plowing was complete, with the five year average being 92 percent complete. In the northern region of the state 65 percent was complete, in the central region 86 percent was complete, and in the southern region 82 percent of the plowing was complete.

### OAT SEEDING

Statewide, 87 percent of the oat crop was seeded, compared to last year's level of 92 percent. In the northern region of the state 70 percent was seeded, in the central region 98 percent was seeded, and in the southern region, 92 percent of the oat crop was seeded.

### SOYBEAN PLANTING

By the end of the week 20 percent of the soybean crop was planted, which is very close to last year's plantings of 19 percent. The northern region had the smallest amount planted with 3 percent, while the central region reported plantings of 11 percent, and the southern region had 33 percent of the soybean crop planted.

### POTATO PLANTING

Across the state, 75 percent of the potato crop was planted, ahead of last year's level of 71 percent. In the northern region 57 percent was planted, in the central region 79 percent was planted, and in the

southern region of the state, 94 percent of the potato crop was planted.

### BARLEY AND WHEAT

Statewide, 31 percent of the barley crop was in the boot stage and 44 percent was headed, compared with 34 percent in the boot stage and 47 percent headed at this time last year. In the northern region 25 percent was in the boot stage and 46 percent was headed. In the central region, 35 percent was in boot and 35 percent was headed, while in the southern region 31 percent was in boot and

58 percent was headed. By the end of the week 32 percent of the wheat crop was in boot and 7 percent headed, compared with last year's figures of 50 percent in boot and 8 percent headed. The northern region reported 35 percent of the crop in the boot stage, with 2 percent headed. In the central region 36 percent was in boot with 3 percent headed, and in the southern region 24 percent of the wheat crop was in the boot stage with 19 percent headed. Some producers in the southern region reported problems with mildew.

### CORN PLANTING

By the end of the week 52 percent of the corn crop was planted, which was equal to last year. The five-year average for this date was 71 percent planted. In the northern region of the state 27 percent was planted, in the central region 60 percent was planted, and in the southern region 73 percent of the corn was planted.

### HAY AND PASTURE

Both alfalfa and clo-tim stands were rated good to fair. Statewide, 85 percent of our reporters rated alfalfa stands good and 15 percent

rated them fair. Clo-tim stands were rated good by 81 percent of our reporters and fair by 19 percent. The amount of feed obtained from pastures was rated above average by 33 percent of our reporters, average by 64 percent, and below average by 3 percent.

### FRUIT

By the end of the week cherries, apples and peaches were virtually all in full bloom or past, which was the same as last year for this date. In the central and southern regions many growers are reporting winter damage to peaches.

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