

Released, July 11, 2005

Week Ending, July 10, 2005

No. 977-12-05

**WEATHER:** Temperatures were generally below normal for the first week of July. Precipitation was well above average. Some of the heaviest amounts were highly localized. For instance on Tuesday, Albany received 2.18 inches of rain in less than one hour while surrounding areas received much less. The week started with high pressure over the state. A slow moving front crossed the area on Tuesday. The remains of Hurricane Cindy moved up the coast and by Friday morning was centered over eastern Maryland. It then moved out to sea to a position east of Cape Cod by Saturday morning. An upper level low was also a factor in the weather on Friday and Saturday.

**CROPS:** There were 4.9 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 6 percent very short, 34 percent short, 53 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus. Winter Wheat was 15 percent fair, 65 percent good and 20 percent excellent. Oats were rated 4 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 57 percent good 15 percent excellent. Hay was rated 5 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Soybeans were 100 percent planted compared to 98 percent last year. Dry beans were 98 percent planted compared to 70 percent a year ago. First cutting Clover Timothy was 87 percent harvested compared to 84 percent last year. First cutting grass silage was 96 percent harvested compared to 91 percent a year ago. Following are comments from reporters across the state: In Jefferson County, rain arrived at the end of a week dominated by typical but not oppressive heat. Corn continued to show great progress, with many producers reporting corn over their heads in Jefferson County. Conditions in northwestern areas of the county were extremely dry with less than 2 inches of rain this season. Dry conditions have negatively impacted hay yields; however corn continued to grow despite lack of rain and looked very good. In Lewis County, spotty rain showers made some farmers happy and others dismayed. Corn leaves were curling throughout the county. In St Lawrence County, there was lots of heat and some rain. Some areas had a poor first cut, some producers still worked on their first cut with lots of hay still to be harvested. For the most part, corn in the area looked great. In Clinton County, there was another wet week, as over 3 inches of rain fell in two large storms, hampering haying efforts. Corn was making very good progress. In Franklin County things were looking good as the eastern half received enough rain to have an excellent first cutting. The western part of the county was starting to get dry, yet most corn has been side dressed and was growing very quickly. Ontario County operators enjoyed dry days for dry hay to be harvested from the fields. Some much needed rain also occurred to help the field crops. Rain on July 5, was spotty ranging from 0 to 2.5 inches. In Cortland County, the sun was shining with occasional showers with field corn beyond knee high. Only low poorly drained areas had corn that turned yellow from too much moisture. Some early reports that planted seed rotted in the ground gave way to replanting corn fields. First cutting was half of normal, but second cut was coming on nicely. Fields missed last year were now being used for bedding. In Herkimer County, showers hit more of everybody and corn was looking good. In Albany County wet weather put a halt to hay making. Corn looked great for the most part. In Montgomery and Fulton Counties, not much hay was harvested, but much needed rain fell. In Delaware County, rain and humid weather made crops take a jump; however, much second cutting was thin due to dry weather earlier. Corn looked very good in most areas of the county.

**FRUIT:** Statewide, apples were 18 percent poor condition, 26 percent fair, 51 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Grapes were 25 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 35 percent good and 10 percent excellent. Peaches were 18 percent poor, 41 percent fair, 36 percent good and 5 percent excellent. Pears were 15 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 46 percent good and 23 percent excellent. In the Lake Erie fruit region, resistance to diseases and infections such as downy mildew and black rot was being accelerated by the warm temperatures. Conditions for infection and development of these diseases were most favorable June 15-17, when over 1.41 inches of rain was received and also June 9-10, when 0.31 inches of rain was recorded. Fredonia Vineyard Lab continued berry weighing. Berry weight has increased from last week's average of approximately 0.39 grams to 0.71 grams. Berry weights at this time last year were actually smaller than the current weights this year. Concord berries were up to approximately 5 to 6 millimeters in size. In Ontario County, shoot thinning by growers was needed to improve peach ripening. Raspberries were ripening. In the Long Island fruit region, the East End has suffered from a major drought. Rain on July 9 helped alleviate that. This past week leaves began to fold and wilt in rootstock rows without irrigation. Cluster number and set were good in most varieties. Chardonnay set looked good. Set on Sauvignon Blanc were good though clusters were small. Cabernet varieties had small clusters and poor set.

**VEGETABLE:** Rain allowed producers to turn off irrigation pumps although localized thunderstorms flooded fields and were not welcomed. Harvest of sweet corn that was planted under plastic began in Ontario County. Most corn was well above the knee high mark. Reports indicate that lettuce, onions and sweet corn were mostly in good condition. Strawberry conditions ranged from poor to good. Farm stands were selling early summer crops including squash, beets, lettuce, tomatoes, and sweet corn.

**LIVESTOCK:** Hot weather seen in some areas allowed producers to continue their second cutting hay while others were kept out of the fields by rain showers. Pasture re-growth has been slow due to the dry weather, however scattered rain showers improved pasture conditions in some areas. No livestock problems were reported. Pasture conditions were 1 percent very poor, 12 percent poor, 45 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 2 percent excellent.

**Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 3, 2005**

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50°			Precipitation (Inches)			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season 1/	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season 1/	Dep. from Norm
<b><u>Hudson Valley</u></b>											
Albany	83	59	70	-2	143	1197	+198	3.28	+2.55	12.61	+1.53
Glens Falls	82	56	68	-2	129	962	+107	1.84	+1.21	13.19	+2.51
Poughkeepsie	83	56	70	-3	141	1159	+108	1.75	+0.84	14.20	+1.28
<b><u>Mohawk Valley</u></b>											
Utica	87	61	72	+3	153	1067	+180	1.31	+0.40	11.19	-1.44
<b><u>Champlain Valley</u></b>											
Plattsburgh	86	53	68	-2	127	922	+46	1.80	+1.17	14.38	+4.70
<b><u>St. Lawrence Valley</u></b>											
Canton	88	54	71	+4	148	947	+187	3.51	+2.79	9.30	-0.86
Massena	88	54	70	+2	144	951	+137	0.77	+0.07	9.33	+0.00
<b><u>Great Lakes</u></b>											
Buffalo	89	61	74	+5	172	1131	+189	0.42	-0.27	8.72	-1.84
Colden	86	55	69	+3	137	922	+178	1.52	+0.68	11.70	-1.04
Niagara Falls	92	59	75	+6	179	1186	+230	0.04	-0.59	7.34	-3.08
Rochester	88	59	72	+3	153	1031	+104	0.35	-0.27	8.17	-1.05
Watertown	89	57	72	+5	154	941	+186	1.60	+1.18	9.79	+1.27
<b><u>Central Lakes</u></b>											
Dansville	88	53	70	0	138	988	+65	1.91	+1.17	11.48	+0.87
Geneva	87	60	71	+2	148	1043	+142	0.78	+0.07	12.20	+1.58
Honeoye	89	53	70	-1	142	988	+53	1.44	+0.77	12.28	+1.81
Ithaca	85	56	70	+2	141	955	+143	0.91	+0.12	12.45	+1.31
Penn Yan	86	59	71	+2	149	1096	+195	1.46	+0.75	10.79	+0.17
Syracuse	91	63	75	+6	173	1199	+262	0.53	-0.38	8.89	-2.81
Warsaw	84	55	68	+3	128	845	+157	0.75	-0.06	11.86	-0.46
<b><u>Western Plateau</u></b>											
Alfred	86	52	69	+3	132	899	+151	1.78	+0.85	11.93	-0.40
Elmira	86	56	70	+2	141	965	+99	1.56	+0.75	11.47	+0.65
Franklinville	84	48	67	+3	120	773	+165	1.35	+0.49	11.25	-1.06
Sinclairville	86	55	69	+3	135	914	+218	1.35	+0.42	11.20	-2.46
<b><u>Eastern Plateau</u></b>											
Binghamton	83	59	69	0	134	993	+155	0.92	+0.09	9.34	-1.94
Cobleskill	82	56	68	+1	126	936	+161	1.93	+1.09	10.60	-1.74
Morrisville	83	54	68	+2	126	884	+155	1.17	+0.33	11.59	-0.50
Norwich	84	49	69	+2	136	936	+163	2.08	+1.25	14.48	+2.09
Oneonta	86	59	71	+6	147	1037	+326	2.09	+1.18	15.13	+1.84
<b><u>Coastal</u></b>											
Bridgehamton	80	57	68	-3	130	916	+19	1.02	+0.32	10.49	-1.90
New York	83	62	73	-4	159	1416	+75	1.89	+0.98	9.91	-2.57

1/ Season accumulations are for April 1<sup>st</sup> to date.

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The information contained in this weekly release is obtained from reports from Cornell Cooperative Extension agents, USDA Farm Service Agency agents, the National Weather Service, Agricultural Weather Information Service and other knowledgeable persons associated with New York agriculture. Their cooperation is greatly appreciated.

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