



## WEATHER AND CROPS

---

USDA, Agricultural Statistics Service, NY Field Office, N.Y. Dept. of Agriculture and Markets, Division of Statistics  
Cooperating with  
U.S. Dept. of Commerce, NOAA National Weather Service and Cornell Cooperative Extension

---

Released, July 3, 2006

Week Ending, July 2, 2006

No. 977-11-06

**WEATHER:** It was a very wet week for much of the state as a three day widespread heavy rain event took place from Monday through Wednesday. A quasi stationary frontal boundary was draped across the state, at first moving westward on Monday, then only very slowly eastward Tuesday and Wednesday. At the same time, deep tropical moisture poured into the region from the south and interacted with the frontal boundary to produce torrential rainfall. Flooding was common in many areas of central New York, with areas around the swath of rainfall occurred from near Utica southward to Binghamton. While the widespread heavy rain subsided by late Wednesday, strong to severe thunderstorms moved across the state on Thursday associated with a cold front, with some areas picking up additional heavy rainfall. Only isolated to scattered showers and thunderstorms occurred Friday into Saturday. Temperatures were generally close to average for this time of year, with relatively minor fluctuations from day to day.

**CROPS:** Wet weather was abundant, allowing only 2.5 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent short, 39 percent adequate and 60 percent surplus. Hay was rated 9 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 43 percent good, and 17 percent excellent. Oats were rated 12 percent fair and 68 percent good, and 20 percent excellent. Winter wheat was rated 13 fair, 69 percent good and 18 percent excellent. Alfalfa first cutting was 74 percent harvested compared to 96 percent last year. Clover Timothy was 60 percent harvested compared to 82 percent a year ago. Corn for grain was 97 percent planted compared to 96 percent last year and average 97. Dry beans were 69 percent planted compared to 98 percent last year. Soybeans were 96 percent planted compared to 99 percent a year ago and average of 92. Grass silage was 71 percent harvested compared to 73 percent last year. Following are comments from reporters across the state: In Jefferson County, saturated fields and additional rain brought fieldwork to a halt. Corn, soybeans and small grains continued to look good. Hay quality continued to decline. In St. Lawrence County, excess rain made fields soggy. Corn and all other crops were looking very good. Some early planted corn was shoulder high according to some farmers. Lots of first cutting grass was still standing. Some second cut was taken. Not all planned corn and soybean acres got planted. In Franklin County, more rain continued to make first cutting hay/haylage harvest difficult. Some producers were replanting corn. Corn planted the first part of May looked reasonably good, except in the low wet areas. Later planted corn was quite variable. In Wayne County, heavy rains with hail were reported in two of the storms. Wet fields prevented soybeans from being sprayed. Haying stopped. In Yates County, producers were unable to get back in to plant with all the rain. In Cortland County, rain swept through. Water was still high making it hard to get an estimate of the damage. Corn and hay fields along both rivers were flooded. Debris from the flood was left unreachable due to height of the corn (already knee high). Concerns emerged regarding hidden debris resulting in damage to machinery. Second cutting hay crop was believed to be heavily silted and unusable. It was getting late to replant corn or soybeans. In Herkimer County, flooding facts were still not certain. Higher ground limited erosion. Not much fieldwork was completed. In Otsego County, there was devastation. Annual crops and alfalfa were wiped out. Very little fieldwork was accomplished. In Albany County, there was excessive rain. Significant damage to crops attributed to storm that brought along hail. Four inches of rain were reported in Saratoga County on Monday, June 26<sup>th</sup>. This made conditions difficult for alfalfa hay harvest and continuation of planting corn. In Steuben County, several rainy days halted all fieldwork. Corn was losing its yellow color. Some oat and wheat had gone down due to heavy rain and wind. In Schuyler County, excessive rain fell almost every day. Heaver rains, but no major crop damages were reported. In Delaware County, major flooding took out a majority of valley crops for dairy farmers. All types of farms sustained major damage. In Orange County, there were major storms and flooding. Damage to late planted corn in wet fields was being evaluated.

**FRUIT:** Statewide, apples were 8 percent poor condition, 14 percent fair, 68 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Grapes were 8 percent poor, 8 percent fair, 76 percent good and 8 percent excellent. Peaches were at 100 percent at good condition. Pears were 7 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 60 percent good and 13 percent excellent. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, fire blight was observed in young orchards and old orchards, some due to a hail event in the orchards and some expanding from blossom blights and old cankers to shoots. Farmers were also keeping watch and trying to protect the sweet cherries from brown rot infection. Unfortunately, sweet cherries were cracking, due to the excessive rains. In the Lake Erie fruit region, downy mildew and black rot was showing up in many vineyards. However, insect levels have been low in the majority of vineyards. Due to the plentiful rains and warm temperatures, the lack of crop in heavily frost-damaged blocks has been causing shoot growth to develop. In the Southern Part of the Lake Erie Grape Belt, currently Concord berries were approximately 5 mm in diameter. In Albany County, a fierce hailstorm occurred last week causing significant crop damage. The apple trees were still trying to fight off scab. The quality and quantity of the strawberry crop has been on a continual decline, due to the abundant rains. In the Long Island fruit region, berries were sizing up. The rapid growth and weather conditions were keeping farmers busy. Long Island vineyards received periodic showers, and avoided the worst of this week's rains. Disease and insect pressure in local vineyards has been moderate.

**VEGETABLE:** Tomato planting was 89 percent complete. Planting of lettuce was 95 percent complete, and lettuce condition was mostly good. Condition of onions was mostly good. Sweet corn planting for fresh market was 85 percent complete, behind the 5-year average of 94 percent, and sweet corn condition was mostly fair to good. Some early-planted sweet corn was ready to be harvested. Planting of snap beans was 78 percent complete, lagging behind the 5-year average of 92 percent; while cabbage planting was 85 percent complete across the state, also lagging behind the 5-year average of 92 percent. Retail cabbage harvest began last week. Green peas for processing were being harvested. Harvesting of early varieties was completed. Other processing crops are doing well.

**LIVESTOCK:** Pastures were waterlogged across part of the state during the past week due to the tremendous amounts of rain seen in many areas. Rain prevented hay from being harvested and damaged fields in some areas of the state. Pasture condition estimates are 3 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 45 percent good and 24 percent excellent.

**Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 2, 2006**

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50 <sup>0</sup> <sup>1/</sup>			Precipitation (Inches) <sup>1/</sup>			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm
<b><u>Hudson Valley</u></b>											
Albany	85	54	73	+3	161	983	+155	4.09	+3.29	18.78	+8.54
Glens Falls	84	48	71	+4	148	798	+98	4.09	+3.39	16.36	+6.40
Poughkeepsie	87	59	74	+5	173	1020	+140	3.11	+2.22	18.25	+6.37
<b><u>Mohawk Valley</u></b>											
Utica	82	55	70	+3	143	840	+108	6.03	+5.10	15.21	+3.62
<b><u>Champlain Valley</u></b>											
Plattsburgh	85	52	71	+3	147	843	+124	2.05	+1.35	12.55	+3.60
<b><u>St. Lawrence Valley</u></b>											
Canton	82	56	70	+5	143	779	+159	1.38	+0.61	10.95	+1.62
Massena	84	55	71	+4	149	819	+153	2.37	+1.63	12.08	+3.55
<b><u>Great Lakes</u></b>											
Buffalo	83	58	71	+3	151	1033	+255	1.82	+1.06	7.43	-2.34
Wales	79	54	66	+1	116	727	+118	1.98	+1.06	9.01	-2.76
Niagara Falls	84	56	73	+4	160	935	+142	0.74	+0.02	5.44	-4.25
Rochester	84	59	73	+6	165	1007	+236	1.51	+0.83	7.77	-0.74
Watertown	84	54	71	+5	147	805	+192	1.03	+0.51	9.76	+1.73
<b><u>Central Lakes</u></b>											
Dansville	83	55	70	+2	140	848	+82	1.44	+0.60	8.45	-1.31
Geneva	86	59	71	+3	149	825	+81	2.31	+1.51	9.50	-0.30
Honeoye	82	54	70	+2	144	833	+62	1.92	+1.13	7.41	-2.29
Ithaca	83	55	70	+4	141	737	+68	3.17	+2.33	11.93	+1.70
Penn Yan	83	60	72	+4	154	895	+151	1.50	+0.70	7.71	-2.09
Syracuse	84	61	73	+6	165	951	+171	2.68	+1.77	11.30	+0.64
Warsaw	78	54	67	+2	117	662	+101	2.37	+1.44	11.01	-0.38
<b><u>Western Plateau</u></b>											
Angelica	79	49	66	+2	111	605	+57	2.12	+1.08	9.00	-1.67
Elmira	83	49	70	+3	141	748	+34	3.08	+2.24	11.49	+1.60
Franklinville	79	48	65	+3	110	610	+119	1.70	+0.76	8.67	-2.65
Jamestown	82	50	66	+2	115	711	+143	1.20	+0.18	8.28	-1.19
<b><u>Eastern Plateau</u></b>											
Binghamton	80	53	69	+3	136	777	+87	7.45	+6.61	16.38	+6.05
Cobleskill	81	56	70	+5	141	713	+77	3.01	+2.07	18.72	+7.34
Morrisville	81	52	67	+2	121	657	+60	6.63	+5.72	19.63	+8.50
Norwich	84	52	69	+3	134	716	+82	6.83	+5.93	17.09	+5.65
Oneonta	86	56	72	+8	153	841	+261	8.62	+7.66	20.50	+8.25
<b><u>Coastal</u></b>											
Bridgehamton	80	62	72	+3	152	900	+167	0.22	-0.54	20.24	+8.65
New York	88	67	78	+4	194	1434	+298	1.46	+0.60	17.90	+6.46

<sup>1/</sup> Season accumulations are for April 1<sup>st</sup> to date. Weekly accumulations are through 7:00 AM Sunday Morning. RJuly416

The information contained in this weekly release is obtained from reports from Cornell Cooperative Extension agents, IUSDA 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.

FIRST CLASS MAIL  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. G-38  
RALEIGH, NC 27601

NEW YORK AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS  
SERVICE  
Dept. of Agriculture & Markets  
108 Airline Drive, Albany, N.Y. 12235-0001  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
Penalty for Private Use \$300  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED