



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

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Week Ending, September 10, 2006

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WEATHER: The week started out cool and damp as the remnants of Tropical Storm Ernesto lifted northeast through upstate New York on Sunday with lingering light rain and drizzle. Monday and Tuesday were mainly dry as high pressure built in from the Midwest behind Ernesto. With a northwest flow, daytime temperatures remained below average with seasonable overnight lows due to cloud cover. A weak cold front moved through the region on Wednesday bringing only a few showers to some spots. Thursday and Friday featured mainly clear and dry conditions as high pressure drifted across the area. Daytime high temperatures warmed to above average both days as a south to southwest flow developed across the state with high pressure sliding to the Mid Atlantic Coast. On Saturday a cold front moved through the region and brought scattered showers and thunderstorms. Some of the storms were severe and produced hail mainly across eastern portions of the state.

CROPS: Cool, somewhat damp conditions limited farmers to 4.4 days suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture was rated as 5 percent short, 65 percent adequate and 30 percent surplus. Oat harvest finished on schedule. Potato harvest passed the half-way mark. Soybeans harvest was just started. Silage corn harvest was just underway. Following are comments from reporters across the state: Many Jefferson County producers have started chopping corn silage and initial reports are very good. Haying continuing. Some soybean fields have begun to turn. Many have found that the corn is still a little too wet. A lot of farms will begin corn silage harvest next week. Corn chopping is underway in St. Lawrence County. Still dry for this time of year, but this will be good for the producers that are harvesting their corn. Corn silage harvest just getting underway in Clinton County. Most will have to wait at least a week before anything is ready, while some will be waiting for the first frost to squeeze the water out of corn planted over a week later than normal. Rain several days slowed progress on 3rd and 2nd cutting hay in Franklin County. Some producers started to chop corn silage. Hail/sleet late evening storm of September 9, 2006 in Genesee County. Corn and soybeans continue to look plentiful in Ontario County. Some producers started to chop corn. Silage corn harvest will start soon in Cortland County. Some fields started around the outside already. Corn chopping in Albany County began in earnest on the more mature fields. Farmers need to be selective as to where they can harvest. Many fields remain immature. Frost was first seen in the higher elevations of Albany County. Honey producers harvested most of their product by mid September. Honey production was good with a quite a bit of light honey produced. In Montgomery and Fulton Counties, most people waited to begin corn silage harvest. Soybeans look really good. The weather was good in Washington County for field work. Many farmers started chopping corn silage and others continued to work on 3rd cutting hay. Corn silage harvest just began in Cattaraugus County. The heavy rainfall from last week has slowed corn silage harvest in Orange County. Farmers are discouraged about the slow down in their harvest season.

FRUIT: Apple harvest advanced to 26 percent complete, ahead of last years 14 percent. Picking of early varieties was in full swing. In the Lake Ontario region, weather from Ernesto brought between one and a half to two inches of rain across the fruit region. Growers will assess damages. In the Lake Erie fruit region, producers kept watch for downy mildew infections in susceptible varieties. However, powdery mildew in Concord grapes was no longer a concern in vineyards. In the Southern part of the Lake Erie belt, Concord and Niagara berries were at 10.9 brix. Unfortunately, the weather was not favorable for ripening, but better weather is expected. Growers were busy scouting their vineyards for downy mildew which continues to be a threat, especially with vinifera varieties. Plentiful rainfall, high humidity, and cloudy weather were aiding the growth of Botrytis bunch rot in Vignoles and Chardonnay. In the Long Island fruit region, growers were finished with bird netting. Bird pressure has been heavy, but slowed down this past week. Currently growers were waiting for conducive weather. Harvest of early grape varieties such as Aurora and Elvira in the Finger Lakes progressed.

VEGETABLE: Cooler weather caused gardens to start drying off. Vegetable growers continued harvesting crops at a rapid pace. Tomatoes were 69 percent harvested onions 72 percent, sweet corn 83 percent, snap beans 81 percent, and cabbage 48 percent. Progress for all crops was ahead of last year.

LIVESTOCK: Pastures remain good for this time of year. There was no mention of supplemental feeding on managed pastures yet. Conditions were 5 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 50 percent good and 15 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, September 10, 2006

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° ^{1/}			Precipitation (Inches) ^{1/}			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm
<u>Hudson Valley</u>											
Albany	80	52	65	+2	106	2518	+304	0.18	-0.54	26.18	+8.46
Glens Falls	79	41	61	-1	81	2096	+162	0.07	-0.70	25.90	+8.43
Poughkeepsie	82	56	67	+2	119	2632	+308	0.15	-0.69	27.66	+7.29
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Utica	79	46	63	-1	90	2180	+166	0.17	-0.88	26.34	+5.93
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh	82	43	64	+3	98	2215	+255	0.20	-0.60	19.54	+2.46
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	79	40	62	+1	84	2057	+296	0.24	-0.71	14.67	-3.36
Massena	79	42	62	+1	83	2110	+262	0.43	-0.41	18.84	+2.38
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo	77	54	64	-1	99	2510	+383	0.07	-0.81	17.01	-1.07
Wales	75	51	61	-1	79	1906	+175	0.16	-0.96	21.95	+1.15
Niagara Falls	79	52	64	0	101	2404	+271	0.11	-0.80	16.76	-0.77
Rochester	81	58	66	+2	112	2562	+506	0.19	-0.56	20.21	+4.69
Watertown	78	37	61	-2	77	2138	+343	0.18	-0.63	13.88	-0.40
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville	80	53	64	+1	101	2200	+130	0.35	-0.49	22.59	+5.64
Geneva	80	52	63	-2	94	2186	+133	0.79	+0.02	20.82	+4.05
Honeoye	80	51	63	-3	94	2171	+25	0.09	-0.68	17.53	+0.90
Ithaca	79	51	63	+1	89	2033	+174	0.09	-0.75	24.25	+6.17
Penn Yan	81	53	65	+1	104	2339	+286	0.43	-0.34	15.86	-0.91
Syracuse	80	48	64	-1	99	2433	+349	0.05	-0.86	25.64	+6.64
Warsaw	74	49	61	+2	80	1845	+246	0.45	-0.53	25.81	+5.98
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Angelica	76	48	60	-1	70	1690	+112	0.57	-0.27	22.80	+3.98
Elmira	80	50	63	0	92	2089	+125	0.19	-0.54	24.99	+7.89
Franklinville	76	50	61	+3	80	1744	+296	0.17	-0.81	22.17	+2.13
Jamestown	79	49	62	+2	86	1969	+339	0.15	-0.97	19.78	-2.51
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton	75	52	62	-1	82	2078	+173	0.02	-0.79	29.04	+10.95
Cobleskill	79	50	62	+1	86	1993	+220	0.36	-0.55	26.96	+7.55
Morrisville	78	49	60	-2	70	1839	+151	0.43	-0.49	34.52	+15.20
Norwich	79	52	62	0	83	1991	+216	0.43	-0.47	30.59	+11.35
Oneonta	78	50	63	+3	91	2270	+637	0.33	-0.51	29.99	+9.17
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	80	55	67	+1	123	2514	+335	0.56	-0.28	31.04	+12.01
New York	85	63	73	+2	159	3453	+553	0.29	-0.55	29.63	+9.43

^{1/} Season accumulations are for April 1st to date. Weekly accumulations are through 7:00 AM Sunday Morning. R36Sept417

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.

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