

April 17, 2006

**New York:** Spring fieldwork gained momentum as warm, dry weather permitted easy access to fields. Temperatures averaged up to 10 degrees above normal and rainfall averaged below normal across the state. Growing degree accumulations since April 1 are above normal in all locations. Maple syrup making continued in full swing. Warm days and cold nights resulted in good sap flows. Orange County onion planting advanced at a rapid pace. Planting was underway in the northern growing regions. Moisture would benefit recently planted fields. Grape buds were swelling on Long Island. Other major activities included tending livestock, manure spreading, spring pruning in orchards, mending damaged fencing, and machinery repair and maintenance.