

October 30, 2006

NEW YORK: Days suitable for fieldwork: 3.0. Topsoil moisture was rated 31% adequate and 69% surplus. Pasture condition 10% very poor, 15% poor, 35% fair, 26% good, 14% excellent. Corn condition was reported as 17% poor, 29% fair, 36% good, and 18% excellent. Grain corn harvest was 37% complete compared to 40% last year. Corn silage harvest was 92% complete compared with 97% last year. Potato harvest was 92% complete above last years 87%. Soybeans were 58% harvested compared to last years 40%. Dry beans were 67% harvested, behind last years 87%. Steady rains made it a tough week for fieldwork. Excellent weekend in October for agritourism activities in the Hudson Valley. Cabbage harvest was nearing 90% completion with condition of cabbage ranging from poor to good. This season, vegetable condition and harvest were hampered by rains and lack of workers to harvest the fields. Apples were judged to be in 16% poor condition, 33% fair, 27% good, and 24% excellent. Apple harvest reached 95% finished compared to 75% last year and 88% average. Grapes were 23% poor condition, 40% fair, 17% good and 20% excellent. Grape harvest reached 97% finished compared to 95% last year and 94% average. Across New York, concord harvest is virtually complete. All processors should be finished by next week.