



WEATHER AND CROPS

August 27, 2007

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Week Ending, August 26, 2007

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WEATHER: Most of the beginning of this period was dominated by high pressure with cooler than normal temperatures and little in the way of precipitation. In fact, temperatures were generally in the 60's-70 near New York City for high temperatures. This changed rather abruptly by the end of the week with a strong warm front lifting northward. This brought back the heat and humidity to the state with scattered thunderstorms and some accompanied by locally heavy rainfall. Temperatures quickly climbed back toward the 90 degree and above with high humidity values.

CROPS: Scattered thunderstorms slowed harvesting. There were 4.8 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated as 10 percent very short, 26 percent short, 63 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Soybean condition was rated as 3 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 62 percent good, and 21 percent excellent. Corn condition was rated as 4 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 35 percent excellent. Hay condition was rated as 17 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 46 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Oats were 89 percent harvested, the same as last year. Winter wheat harvest was completed. Potatoes were 42 percent harvested ahead, of last years 40 percent. Second cutting of alfalfa was 96 percent completed compared to 100 percent last year. Fifty-six percent of the third cutting of alfalfa was harvested, behind last years 69 percent. Second cutting of timothy was 90 percent completed compared to 89 percent from last year. Third cutting of timothy was 38 percent harvested, same as last years 38 percent. The following are comments from across the state: In Cortland County severe storms plagued the region but no crop damage was reported. Some rain fell in Ontario County but not sure if it will be enough or soon enough to assist the crops that have been stressed by lack of rainfall. A devastating hail and wind storm cut through Clinton County damaging corn fields. Some of the ponds, creeks, and streams in St. Lawrence County are low, but a nice rain fell Sunday evening. In Herkimer County very little harvest progress was made due to the humidity and showers. Barns in Albany County are reported to be full due to the good year for making dry hay. Showers also fell in Fulton County which slowed the hay progress. Jefferson County dairy farmers are talking about beginning corn silage harvest if the dry weather continues.

FRUIT: Apples were judged to be in 4 percent poor condition, 13 percent fair, 51 percent good, and 32 percent excellent. Apples were 22 percent harvested compared to 11 percent harvested last year at this time. Grapes were 6 percent poor condition, 6 percent fair, 75 percent good and 13 percent excellent. Peaches were 8 percent poor condition, 8 percent fair, 47 percent good and 37 percent excellent. Peaches were 65 percent harvested compared to 34 percent last year. Pears were 6 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Pears were 45 percent harvested compared to 18 percent last year. In Albany County, apples needed some moisture to help increase sizes. In the Finger Lakes fruit region, the long term average date for reaching 1898 degree days in 2006 was August 19th. This was reached 6 days earlier in 2007. In the Long Island fruit region, growers were busy hedging vines before setting up netting protection from the birds. So far, growers were optimistic about harvest since both the quality and quantity of the grapes appeared in good conditions.

VEGETABLE: Pumpkins made their first appearance on farmstands. Harvesting of tomatoes was 40 percent complete, and the condition of tomatoes was mostly good to excellent. Lettuce was in fair to good condition. Condition of onions was reported to be mostly fair to good. Harvest of onions was 15 percent complete throughout the state. Harvesting in Orange County was just underway. Onion harvest is lagging behind average due to the dry conditions. Five-year average is 44 percent harvested. Sweet corn harvest continued and was 65 percent complete, ahead of the five-year average. Sweet corn condition was good to excellent. Snap bean harvest was 65 percent complete with varying yields reported. Snap bean condition was fair to good. Cabbage harvest was 50 percent complete, and condition was good. Processing of cabbage began in western New York.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture conditions were rated as 6 percent very poor, 16 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 34 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. Cattle were stressed by the hot, humid conditions that moved into the state near the end of the week.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, August 26, 2007

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	93	51	69	+1	133	2192	+205	0.10	-0.68	21.58	+5.46	
Glens Falls	91	39	66	-1	113	1806	+65	0.63	-0.21	15.38	-0.39	
Poughkeepsie	93	56	68	-2	130	2342	+264	1.06	+0.29	23.34	+4.76	
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>												
Boonville	85	43	62	-2	83	1453	+81	0.77	-0.41	17.01	-4.66	
<u>Champlain Valley</u>												
Plattsburgh	94	39	65	-1	109	1702	-65	0.43	-0.53	17.44	+2.17	
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>												
Canton	85	38	66	+1	111	1743	+159	0.59	-0.39	16.32	+0.36	
Massena	85	38	64	-2	103	1786	+116	0.48	-0.38	14.99	+0.41	
<u>Great Lakes</u>												
Buffalo	86	59	71	+4	148	2197	+300	0.91	-0.07	10.07	-6.05	
Wales	87	52	68	+4	126	1670	+124	1.34	+0.35	12.96	-5.50	
Niagara Falls	89	54	70	+3	141	2124	+218	0.22	-0.69	10.16	-5.39	
Rochester	93	59	71	+5	150	2237	+402	0.36	-0.45	9.08	-4.81	
Watertown	86	42	69	+4	132	1797	+193	0.38	-0.43	9.48	-3.03	
<u>Central Lakes</u>												
Dansville	92	52	69	+3	137	1953	+106	0.96	-0.19	12.21	-3.02	
Geneva	91	53	68	0	126	1993	+161	0.71	-0.03	11.67	-3.45	
Honeoye	91	52	68	-1	126	1845	-63	1.91	+1.14	15.23	-0.25	
Ithaca	93	48	67	+2	120	1798	+137	1.07	+0.30	15.07	-1.23	
Penn Yan	92	54	70	+3	139	2161	+329	0.99	+0.25	12.27	-2.85	
Syracuse	92	51	69	+3	137	2126	+264	0.84	+0.03	14.25	-2.87	
Warsaw	88	51	66	+4	117	1665	+229	1.09	+0.18	15.75	-2.01	
<u>Western Plateau</u>												
Angelica	87	49	64	+2	103	1449	+33	1.24	+0.40	14.86	-2.16	
Elmira	93	51	68	+2	127	1914	+157	1.03	+0.33	13.14	-2.43	
Franklinville	87	53	65	+4	110	1524	+227	1.59	+0.68	14.71	-3.26	
Jamestown	88	55	67	+3	118	1696	+240	1.93	+0.88	18.52	-1.51	
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>												
Binghamton	91	52	67	+2	118	1950	+243	0.88	+0.11	16.94	+0.54	
Cobleskill	87	36	62	-4	83	1676	+88	0.28	-0.53	21.51	+3.97	
Morrisville	87	47	64	-2	98	1629	+115	0.53	-0.31	17.53	+0.15	
Norwich	91	44	65	0	107	1687	+97	0.74	-0.04	20.38	+3.00	
Oneonta	92	46	68	+5	127	2032	+564	0.43	-0.41	20.50	+1.48	
<u>Coastal</u>												
Bridgehamton	83	54	69	-3	132	2155	+240	0.76	-0.06	18.10	-0.87	
New York	91	58	71	-4	150	3000	+428	1.31	+0.47	31.49	+13.09	

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

The information contained in this weekly release is obtained in cooperation with Cornell Cooperative Extension, USDA Farm Service Agency, 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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