



# WEATHER AND CROPS

## September 10, 2007

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Released, September 10, 2007

Week Ending, September 9, 2007

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**WEATHER:** Temperatures averaged about 5 degrees above normal with precipitation below normal most areas except along the western and eastern plateau and Great Lakes Climatic Divisions where precipitation was at or above normal as a result of thunderstorms which occurred on Friday night and Saturday. The week started out dry and warm on Sunday and Monday with high pressure across the state. A cold front swept through the state late Monday and Monday night which was followed by dry and seasonable temperatures on Tuesday and Wednesday as high pressure built back across the state. The high pressure system moved east off the Atlantic coast on Thursday setting up a return flow of warmer and increasingly more humid air from Thursday through Saturday with temperatures topping 90 degrees in some areas on Friday and Saturday. Thunderstorms developed out ahead of a cold front which moved into the state on Saturday and produced locally heavy rainfall with a few locations receiving several inches of rain mainly across western and southern portions of the state.

**CROPS:** A few regions finally received some needed rain, but most of the week was perfect for harvesting crops. There were 6.4 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated as 17 percent very short, 32 percent short, and 51 percent adequate. Hay condition was rated as 17 percent poor, 42 percent fair, 37 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. Corn condition was rated as 6 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 26 percent excellent. Dry beans were 30 percent harvested. Fifty-eight percent of potatoes were harvested, ahead of last years 49 percent. Oats were 95 percent harvested behind last years 98 percent. Seventeen percent of silage corn was harvested ahead of last years 7 percent. Third cutting alfalfa hay was 74 percent completed, ahead of last years 69 percent. The following are comments from across the state: In Jefferson County, crops have shriveled up, ground is cracked open, pastures and hay fields have "burned up". Producers are chopping silage, but the high expectations of very good to excellent years have dwindled due to lack of rain. Soybeans haven't filled out the pods, and there is a lot of concern for the crop. St. Lawrence County could use some rain and the corn looked ready to harvest. A dry Wyoming County has farmers predicting they will be short of hay and that grain corn and silage yields will be down 25 to 30 percent. Corn was showing signs of stress from the dry weather in Cortland County, and the oat and barley harvest was underway. Onondaga County reported that the crops had used up all the moisture they could extract from the soil and things had deteriorated this past week. Madison County received some much needed rain over the weekend and the corn was dry. Montgomery and Fulton Counties received either no or spotty showers and the lack of rain had stopped crops from growing. Corn silage harvest had begun in Saratoga County, but the yields were lower than expected due to the dry weather in August. In Washington County the corn silage harvest was going well with yields being reported as above average. Ontario County started chopping corn for silage; yields are being reported as lower than last year. Most of western New York continues to be very dry and things are getting worse. Rain is predicted over the weekend, but for most crops it would be too late to do much good-however, it could keep things from completely withering.

**FRUIT:** Apples were judged to be in 3 percent poor condition, 13 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 24 percent excellent. Apples were 32 percent harvested compared to 24 percent last year at this time. Grapes were 4 percent poor condition, 12 percent fair, 66 percent good and 18 percent excellent. Grapes were 18 percent harvested compared to 3 percent last year at this time. Peaches were 10 percent poor condition, 14 percent fair, 38 percent good, and 38 percent excellent. Pears were 4 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 28 percent excellent. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, growers were busy scouting for codling moths on tree fruits. Grape growers were optimistic about the harvest that will begin this week. In the Long Island fruit region, sunny warm weather dominated the last three weeks. An abundant rainfall was received on August 21; only dry areas were being irrigated by growers. Bird pressure was moderate; however, bee activity was heavy in some blocks. This year grape rootstock vines at the research vineyard were loaded with clusters.

**VEGETABLE:** Vegetable harvests remained very active as more late season crops were moving to market. Cabbage and onion harvests should get underway this week in Madison County if weather permits. Weekend rains helped late planted cabbage in Onondaga County. Onions were in 8 percent poor condition, 33 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. The condition of vegetable crops deteriorated from the previous week due to continued dryness. Tomatoes were 65 percent harvested, sweet corn 78 percent, onions 56 percent, snap beans 85 percent, and cabbage 56 percent.

**LIVESTOCK:** Pasture conditions across much of the state were estimated to be in fair condition. Pasture conditions were rated as 12 percent very poor, 21 percent poor, 43 percent fair, 21 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Dry conditions have slowed pasture growth and encouraged supplemental feeding of livestock on pasture. Compared to the previous week conditions declined as a result of dryness.

**Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, September 9, 2007**

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° <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	90	47	71	+7	148	2483	+282	0.21	-0.52	22.41	+4.79
Glens Falls	89	39	67	+6	121	2036	+113	0.03	-0.74	15.84	-1.52
Poughkeepsie	92	53	72	+7	156	2647	+337	0.59	-0.25	23.93	+3.68
<b><u>Mohawk Valley</u></b>											
Boonville	87	44	65	+6	105	1657	+145	0.37	-0.94	17.43	-6.80
<b><u>Champlain Valley</u></b>											
Plattsburgh	91	47	68	+7	129	1935	-14	0.15	-0.66	17.79	+0.82
<b><u>St. Lawrence Valley</u></b>											
Canton	92	39	67	+6	120	1957	+206	0.10	-0.86	16.46	-1.44
Massena	92	38	66	+6	118	1994	+156	0.06	-0.79	15.11	-1.23
<b><u>Great Lakes</u></b>											
Buffalo	92	56	75	+10	173	2507	+393	0.48	-0.41	10.55	-7.41
Wales	90	43	69	+8	136	1906	+185	0.53	-0.59	13.50	-7.14
Niagara Falls	92	54	73	+9	166	2423	+303	0.56	-0.35	10.72	-6.68
Rochester	95	54	73	+9	163	2529	+486	0.93	+0.17	10.01	-5.41
Watertown	95	41	69	+8	134	2035	+251	0.05	-0.77	9.57	-4.60
<b><u>Central Lakes</u></b>											
Dansville	94	42	71	+7	148	2222	+165	0.11	-0.72	12.35	-4.48
Geneva	95	51	72	+8	152	2264	+224	0.08	-0.69	11.77	-4.89
Honeoye	93	46	70	+6	143	2093	-39	0.10	-0.67	15.38	-1.14
Ithaca	92	47	70	+8	141	2045	+197	1.50	+0.66	16.57	-1.39
Penn Yan	94	54	74	+10	167	2454	+414	0.40	-0.37	12.70	-3.96
Syracuse	95	53	73	+10	165	2417	+346	0.11	-0.80	14.37	-4.50
Warsaw	89	45	69	+10	137	1914	+324	0.32	-0.66	16.13	-3.56
<b><u>Western Plateau</u></b>											
Angelica	88	36	68	+8	126	1657	+88	0.38	-0.46	15.27	-3.43
Elmira	92	47	71	+8	150	2175	+223	2.15	+1.43	15.30	-1.69
Franklinville	89	47	68	+9	129	1744	+304	0.37	-0.61	15.08	-4.82
Jamestown	89	41	69	+8	131	1932	+312	0.52	-0.60	19.04	-3.21
<b><u>Eastern Plateau</u></b>											
Binghamton	90	55	72	+10	158	2234	+340	0.91	+0.11	17.85	-0.12
Cobleskill	91		62	+1	96	1881	+118	0.09	-0.81	21.61	+2.33
Morrisville	85	45	67	+7	124	1856	+178	0.50	-0.41	18.11	-1.07
Norwich	89	43	68	+6	124	1929	+164	0.20	-0.69	20.58	+1.47
Oneonta	96	44	71	+12	150	2318	+694	0.26	-0.58	20.76	+0.06
<b><u>Coastal</u></b>											
Bridgehamton	83	51	70	+4	141	2442	+279	0.00	-0.84	18.10	-0.81
New York	90	67	78	+7	197	3384	+504	0.00	-0.84	31.49	+11.41

<sup>1/</sup> Season accumulations are for April 1<sup>st</sup> 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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