



WEATHER AND CROPS

September 17, 2007

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Released, September 17, 2007

Week Ending, September 16, 2007

No. 977-21-07

WEATHER: Temperatures averaged near normal with precipitation above normal in most areas. The week started out wet and cool in most areas on Sunday into early Monday as low pressure tracked east along a stationary front draped across southeast New York State. Another low pressure system moved east from the eastern Great Lakes dragging a cold front through the state late Tuesday bringing more rain to the state. High pressure built into the region on Wednesday and Thursday with dry weather lasting into Friday and temperatures moderating each day. A strong cold front swept through the state late Friday night and early Saturday bringing more rain and very cool air to the state.

CROPS: Harvesting was slowed by scattered showers in the early part of the week. Corn silage harvest continued through out the state with varying yields. There were 5.4 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated as 11 percent very short, 26 percent short, 61 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Corn condition was rated as 6 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 49 percent good, and 28 percent excellent. Hay condition was rated as 16 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. Oats were 99 percent harvested behind last years 100 percent. Potatoes were 62 percent completed ahead of last years 50 percent. Thirty-five percent of the dry beans were harvested ahead of last years 4 percent. Corn for silage was 25 percent completed ahead of last years 16 percent. Third cutting of alfalfa hay was 83 percent completed compared to 84 percent from last year. The following are comments from across the state: Some rainfall finally occurred in Wyoming County which could help with hay crop re-growth, but for the most part it was too late to help with the crops. Crops are looking good in Madison County especially the grain corn. Small grain harvest is about done in Cortland County and the corn silage harvest is just starting. Ontario County saw some wheat being planted for the 2008 crop year. Corn silage harvest was in full swing with very little grain harvested to date. In Clinton County the crop condition looks excellent with very little corn foliar disease being seen. A light frost was seen in St. Lawrence County and a lot of corn was chopped. Jefferson County received its first frost of the season and the corn silage harvested is not weighing up very well due to lighter than normal ears. Harvest continued at a hectic pace. Also in Jefferson County the soybeans yields are expected to be low because the soybean pods did not fill out due to the lack of rain. Silage yields are good for Albany County and some high quality hay was cut last week. Albany County is also experiencing the best growing season they have had for several years.

FRUIT: Apples were judged to be in 6 percent poor condition, 12 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 29 percent excellent. Apples were 35 percent harvested compared to the average of 43 percent. Grapes were 2 percent poor condition, 15 percent fair, 76 percent good and 7 percent excellent. Grapes were 23 percent harvested compared to 11 percent last year at this time. Peaches were 8 percent poor condition, 15 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 30 percent excellent. Pears were 6 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Harvest activity picked up in the Finger Lakes grape region. Early red hybrids such as Baco Noir and Marechal Foch were being harvested. The first significant rainfall came in on Sunday and continued through Tuesday, making the fruit look clean and of good quality. In the Long Island grape region, rainfall perked up thirsty vines. The fall ripening season was beautiful thus far with harvest of Pinot Noir beginning. In the Lake Erie and Niagara region rainfall is well below the average amounts for the growing season, rain couldn't have come at a better time. Area juice processors started harvest operations for Niagara grapes earlier and some of the early wine varieties such as Marechal Foch were also being harvested. Early season "green" Concord and Elvira were harvested. In the Hudson Valley region, many vineyards already picked early white hybrids. Chardonnay and Pinot Noir were picked, more than two weeks earlier than last year. Cold nights have brought excellent color to grapes with later reds such as Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Merlot on track to mature early.

VEGETABLE: Welcome rains were received. Pumpkins were looking good, though there were reports of viruses affecting the crop. Cucumber condition was fair to good. Harvesting of tomatoes was 82 percent complete, and the condition of tomatoes was mostly good to excellent. Lettuce was in fair to good condition throughout the state. Condition of onions was reported to be fair to good. Harvest of onions was 70 percent complete throughout the state. Sweet corn harvest continued and was 90 percent complete. Sweet corn condition was fair to good. Snap bean harvest was 91 percent complete, ahead of the five year average of 81 percent. Snap bean condition was fair to good, with some poor yields reported in Ontario County. Cabbage harvest was 64 percent complete, ahead of the five year average of 62 percent, and condition was fair to good. The cabbage crop was looking good in Ontario and Madison Counties.

LIVESTOCK: Cooler weather has slowed pasture growth and encouraged supplemental feeding of livestock. Pasture conditions across much of the state were estimated to be in fair condition. Pasture conditions were rated as 13 percent very poor, 20 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 24 percent good, and 5 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, September 16, 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 | 73 | 42 | 61 | -2 | 77 | 2560 | +275 | 2.25 | +1.55 | 24.66 | +6.34 | |
| Glens Falls | 73 | 34 | 58 | -3 | 58 | 2094 | +102 | 1.50 | +0.78 | 17.34 | -0.74 | |
| Poughkeepsie | 84 | 41 | 64 | +2 | 106 | 2753 | +350 | 1.44 | +0.63 | 25.37 | +4.31 | |
| <u>Mohawk Valley</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Boonville | 68 | 35 | 56 | -2 | 42 | 1699 | +137 | 3.21 | +1.89 | 20.64 | -4.91 | |
| <u>Champlain Valley</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Plattsburgh | 73 | 36 | 57 | -3 | 56 | 1991 | -27 | 1.20 | +0.46 | 18.99 | +1.28 | |
| <u>St. Lawrence Valley</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Canton | 76 | 34 | 57 | -2 | 57 | 2014 | +200 | 1.66 | +0.75 | 18.12 | -0.69 | |
| Massena | 78 | 35 | 58 | -2 | 58 | 2052 | +152 | 1.17 | +0.33 | 16.28 | -0.90 | |
| <u>Great Lakes</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Buffalo | 83 | 41 | 62 | -2 | 86 | 2593 | +391 | 1.13 | +0.29 | 11.68 | -7.12 | |
| Wales | 80 | 36 | 58 | -3 | 64 | 1970 | +182 | 1.05 | -0.07 | 14.55 | -7.21 | |
| Niagara Falls | 81 | 40 | 62 | -2 | 83 | 2506 | +299 | 1.63 | +0.73 | 12.35 | -5.95 | |
| Rochester | 82 | 40 | 61 | -2 | 81 | 2610 | +479 | 0.85 | +0.15 | 10.86 | -5.26 | |
| Watertown | 80 | 38 | 60 | 0 | 72 | 2107 | +254 | 0.73 | -0.04 | 10.30 | -4.64 | |
| <u>Central Lakes</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dansville | 79 | 37 | 61 | -2 | 78 | 2300 | +158 | 1.51 | +0.69 | 13.86 | -3.79 | |
| Geneva | 76 | 45 | 61 | -3 | 76 | 2340 | +216 | 2.07 | +1.30 | 13.84 | -3.59 | |
| Honeoye | 79 | 38 | 60 | -4 | 76 | 2169 | -56 | 1.21 | +0.44 | 16.59 | -0.70 | |
| Ithaca | 73 | 39 | 59 | -2 | 68 | 2113 | +191 | 1.67 | +0.83 | 18.24 | -0.56 | |
| Penn Yan | 74 | 45 | 61 | -2 | 79 | 2533 | +409 | 1.28 | +0.51 | 13.98 | -3.45 | |
| Syracuse | 77 | 44 | 63 | +1 | 92 | 2509 | +353 | 1.78 | +0.87 | 16.15 | -3.63 | |
| Warsaw | 78 | 35 | 57 | -3 | 55 | 1968 | +319 | 1.09 | +0.11 | 17.22 | -3.45 | |
| <u>Western Plateau</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Angelica | 78 | 34 | 57 | -2 | 56 | 1711 | +84 | 1.94 | +1.10 | 17.21 | -2.33 | |
| Elmira | 74 | 37 | 60 | -2 | 74 | 2249 | +219 | 1.23 | +0.47 | 16.53 | -1.22 | |
| Franklinville | 78 | 39 | 58 | +1 | 62 | 1803 | +310 | 1.85 | +0.89 | 16.93 | -3.93 | |
| Jamestown | 80 | 39 | 59 | 0 | 68 | 2000 | +316 | 0.92 | -0.20 | 19.96 | -3.41 | |
| <u>Eastern Plateau</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Binghamton | 74 | 39 | 60 | -2 | 70 | 2304 | +337 | 1.06 | +0.27 | 18.91 | +0.15 | |
| Cobleskill | 72 | 39 | 58 | -2 | 59 | 1958 | +128 | 1.98 | +1.07 | 23.59 | +3.40 | |
| Morrisville | 71 | 41 | 58 | -2 | 58 | 1914 | +172 | 2.11 | +1.13 | 20.22 | +0.06 | |
| Norwich | 76 | 42 | 60 | +1 | 75 | 2004 | +172 | 1.23 | +0.32 | 21.81 | +1.79 | |
| Oneonta | 84 | 42 | 64 | +6 | 97 | 2415 | +732 | 1.40 | +0.56 | 22.16 | +0.62 | |
| <u>Coastal</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bridgehamton | 82 | 48 | 66 | +2 | 114 | 2556 | +289 | 1.35 | +0.51 | 19.45 | -0.30 | |
| New York | 86 | 55 | 72 | +3 | 156 | 3540 | +526 | 0.90 | +0.09 | 32.39 | +11.50 | |

^{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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