



WEATHER AND CROPS

October 9, 2007

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Week Ending, October 7, 2007

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WEATHER: High pressure produced warm and dry weather across New York State for much of the week. The high pumped warm and humid air into the region from the southeast and mid-Atlantic region by the middle of the week. A backdoor cold front produced scattered showers and thunderstorms on Saturday. This was the only appreciable rainfall for the week. Temperatures were well above normal for the week. Precipitation was generally below normal, with a few sites especially in western New York getting close to normal values for the week.

CROPS: Warm, dry weather last week allowed farmers to continue harvesting their crops. There were 6.0 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated as 13 percent very short, 29 percent short and 58 percent adequate. Corn condition was rated as 7 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 21 percent excellent. Hay condition was rated as 22 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 41 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. Corn for silage was 79 percent harvested ahead of last year's 69 percent, and ahead of the five year average of 70 percent. Thirteen percent of the corn for grain was completed ahead of last year's 5 percent and the five year average of 9 percent. Dry beans were 46 percent harvested ahead of the 23 percent from last year and 39 percent for the five year average. Soybeans were 19 percent completed compared to 7 percent from last year and a five year average of 17 percent. Ninety-one percent of potatoes were harvested compared to 68 percent from last year and a five year average of 79 percent. Third cutting of alfalfa hay was 98 percent completed ahead of last year's 95 percent and ahead of the five year average of 94 percent. The following are comments from across the state: In Delaware County the dry weather has contributed to a great corn crop going into storage. Corn for grain was being harvested in Washington County. Corn silage was reported as having a good year in Montgomery County. In Albany County the silage harvest was nearly complete with good quality and yields being reported. This year was also reported as being good for hay and crop growth as well. Some greatly needed rain fell in Herkimer County to relieve springs and shallow wells. Some much needed rain has hay re-growing in Cortland County. The fall harvest was in full swing in Ontario County. The harvesting of all crops was pretty much completed for St. Lawrence County with 85 percent of the corn chopped.

FRUIT: Apples were judged to be in 4 percent poor condition, 8 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 33 percent excellent. Apples were 67 percent harvested compared to 58 percent last week and 63 percent last year. Grapes were 8 percent fair and 92 percent good. Grapes were 65 percent harvested compared to 55 percent last week and 40 percent last year. Peaches were 12 percent poor condition, 13 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 25 percent excellent. Pears were 6 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Peach and pear harvest were complete. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, grape harvest was in full swing throughout the county. Growers reported apple sizes smaller than normal due to the dry weather. In the Lake Erie fruit region, sugar levels were increasing in Concords. The warm temperatures and sunshine forecast for next week will definitely assist sugar accumulation in vineyards. Apple harvest was going well in the Hudson Valley fruit region; many apple orchards were extremely busy. Warm, dry days and cool evenings through the first week in October kept grape harvest on schedule. Some botrytis was discovered in tight clustered varieties that caused some growers to pick Riesling early. Brix levels have been high. In the Finger Lakes fruit region, grape harvest proceeded on schedule with little disease pressure to date. Most of the Pinot Gris and Chardonnay were harvested by now, while Pinot Noir was still picked this week. Mid-season varieties were also harvested this week such as Traminette, Noiret, Gewurztraminer and Riesling. Juice produced from a couple of vineyards seemed very flavorful. A few growers started to harvest some later season red varieties. In the Long Island fruit region, Chardonnay harvest was in full swing. Growers were optimistic about white wine grapes.

VEGETABLE: Dry conditions allowed harvesting to progress rapidly, and farmers markets are still going strong. Pumpkins are plentiful. Condition of cucumbers was poor to fair, while lettuce condition improved to fair to good. Tomato condition was reported as fair to good, while harvesting of tomatoes was 97 percent complete, slightly ahead of the five year average of 96 percent. Condition of onions was good, and onion harvest was virtually complete. Sweet corn harvest was 97 percent complete, and condition was fair to good. Snap bean harvest was virtually complete, ahead of the five year average of 97 percent. Condition of snap beans was fair to good. Cabbage harvest was 95 percent complete, ahead of the five year average of 83 percent, and condition was reported as good to excellent.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture conditions across much of the state were estimated to be in fair condition. Pasture conditions were rated as 12 percent very poor, 26 percent poor, 39 percent fair, 21 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Pasture conditions have improved due to above average temperatures and increased rainfall.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, October 7, 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	85	50	66	+12	114	2873	+424	0.51	-0.12	25.45	+5.20
Glens Falls	80	38	60	+9	72	2321	+204	0.34	-0.30	18.93	-1.17
Poughkeepsie	86	48	67	+13	120	3069	+483	0.20	-0.50	26.06	+2.79
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Boonville	79	47	62	+12	81	1909	+260	0.30	-0.74	22.06	-6.95
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh	79	42	59	+8	66	2217	+73	0.49	-0.09	20.22	+0.62
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	80	45	62	+12	86	2274	+346	0.23	-0.54	20.93	-0.35
Massena	80	42	61	+10	74	2295	+284	0.45	-0.21	18.61	-0.77
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo	86	57	70	+15	139	2953	+570	0.68	-0.02	14.30	-6.70
Wales	83	46	65	+13	107	2237	+314	1.01	+0.13	16.75	-7.99
Niagara Falls	85	54	68	+13	129	2832	+445	0.84	+0.18	14.22	-6.32
Rochester	85	50	68	+13	126	2940	+626	0.79	+0.23	12.37	-5.60
Watertown	82	45	66	+15	116	2408	+422	0.04	-0.59	11.31	-5.69
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville	87	46	67	+12	119	2612	+295	0.18	-0.47	14.93	-4.86
Geneva	86	49	65	+11	108	2636	+344	0.24	-0.45	14.96	-4.62
Honeoye	86	48	66	+11	111	2462	+45	0.50	-0.18	18.56	-0.81
Ithaca	84	46	65	+13	109	2394	+327	0.11	-0.66	19.40	-1.78
Penn Yan	84	51	67	+13	117	2874	+582	0.28	-0.41	14.96	-4.62
Syracuse	85	51	67	+13	124	2839	+507	0.43	-0.34	17.89	-4.39
Warsaw	83	51	64	+14	101	2242	+482	0.77	-0.22	18.95	-4.28
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Angelica	84	39	62	+12	87	1913	+176	0.37	-0.35	18.60	-3.27
Elmira	86	42	65	+12	106	2523	+341	0.08	-0.56	16.98	-2.81
Franklinville	83	43	63	+13	92	2015	+421	0.47	-0.37	18.70	-4.81
Jamestown	85	42	65	+14	106	2258	+451	1.10	+0.16	22.40	-4.03
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton	82	52	67	+14	118	2618	+512	0.35	-0.33	20.56	-0.39
Cobleskill	82	43	62	+10	85	2178	+219	0.56	-0.17	25.39	+2.80
Morrisville	83	44	63	+12	95	2157	+296	0.63	-0.18	22.42	-0.36
Norwich	84	43	63	+12	96	2242	+284	0.79	+0.02	24.20	+1.71
Oneonta	84	44	67	+16	119	2717	+925	0.15	-0.62	23.96	+0.02
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	82	49	68	+10	126	2895	+405	0.00	-0.72	19.56	+2.45
New York	85	60	73	+12	162	4017	+701	0.00	-0.69	32.67	+9.59

^{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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