



WEATHER AND CROPS

July 28, 2008

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WEATHER: Wet and stormy with a nearly stationary boundary across area much of the week providing focus for convection. Many storms produce very heavy rainfall. Widespread torrential heavy rains occurred mid week and the boundary finally moved off to the east. Another cold front gradually approached the region from the west Saturday triggering another round of convection.

CROPS: Another week of scattered showers dominated the region, with parts of New York receiving up to five inches of rain. A severe storm moved through mid-week affecting several counties across New York bringing high wind and hail. There were 2.5 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil Moisture was rated 2 percent short, 57 percent adequate, and 41 percent surplus. Condition of soybeans was 9 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 31 percent excellent. Corn condition was rated as 10 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 34 percent excellent. Hay condition was 16 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 41 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. Winter wheat was 34 percent harvested compared with last year's 58 percent. Thirteen percent of the oats were harvested, behind last year's 20 percent. The second cutting of alfalfa was 55 percent harvested, behind last year's 73 percent. Six percent of the third cutting of alfalfa was completed, compared with 24 percent last year. Second cutting of timothy hay was 37 percent completed, compared with last year's 57 percent. Third cutting of timothy hay was 3 percent harvested, behind last year's 10 percent. Eight percent of the potatoes were harvested, compared to 4 percent from last year. The following are comments from across the state: Heavy storms that hit parts of New York missed Chenango County leaving it with sufficient rain to benefit crops. Hay was rained on in Sullivan County, but most crops were doing well with some soil erosion in flash flood areas. Dutchess County was still assessing crop damage from the wind and hail. Steuben County's dry condition was relieved, but a lot of hay laid in the field unable to be baled. With nearly five inches of rain last week Saratoga and Washington Counties were not able to put up any dry hay. Corn and soybeans continued to look good in Montgomery and Fulton Counties. Quality of hay was deteriorating in Albany County due to continued wet weather hindering haying. Hail hit Oneida and Onondaga Counties causing damage to corn, oats, and other crops. Wheat yields were high in Madison County, and early planted corn was looking good. Cayuga County wheat harvest was hindered by the rain, and the unharvested wheat was at risk of sprouting. Northern parts of Cayuga County had the leaves stripped off the corn and soybeans by hail. A majority of the corn has tasseled in Jefferson County, and the corn and soybeans continued to look good.

FRUIT: Apple condition was 25 percent poor, 23 fair, 33 good, and 19 excellent. Grapes were in 4 percent poor, 9 fair, 51 good, and 36 percent excellent condition. Peach condition was 15 percent poor, 17 fair, 44 good, and 24 excellent. Sweet cherries were 36 percent poor, 9 fair, 22 good, and 33 excellent. Tart cherries were 27 percent poor, 21 fair, 30 good, and 22 excellent. Sweet cherries were 76 percent harvested and tart cherries reached 52 percent harvested, both behind last years progress. Growers in Wayne County awoke on Wednesday to see destruction from yet another high wind hail storm. This one cut a path across the central portion of the county. The storm wrecked crops on farms that had missed earlier storms and added to problems on some farms that had been hit earlier. Rainstorms with hail also hit areas of Ontario County. Long Island grape producers were finishing up with cluster thinning. Bird nets will go on soon. Veraison will be starting in the next week or two.

VEGETABLE: Rain and hail storms in central and eastern parts of the state had adverse effects on vegetable crops. Harvesting of tomatoes began and was 8 percent complete. Tomato conditions were 5 percent poor, 12 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 23 percent excellent. Lettuce conditions were 28 percent fair, 59 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Onion conditions were 5 percent poor, 12 percent fair, 75 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. Onion harvest was 10 percent complete. Sweet corn harvest began a few weeks ago and was at 11 percent complete. Sweet corn conditions were 2 percent poor, 11 percent fair, 59 percent good, and 28 percent excellent. Snap bean harvest was 22 percent complete. Snap bean conditions were 9 percent fair, 65 percent good, and 26 percent excellent. Cabbage harvest was 10 percent completed. Cabbage conditions were 11 percent fair, 76 percent good, and 13 percent excellent.

LIVESTOCK: Pastures remained in good shape due to the weather conditions. Pasture conditions across most of the state were estimated to be in good condition. Pasture conditions were rated 1 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 56 percent good and 15 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 27, 2008

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	87	58	73	+2	162	1645	+249	5.06	+4.36	16.42	+3.63
Glens Falls	83	54	69	-2	134	1292	+77	4.57	+3.87	14.42	+2.12
Poughkeepsie	94	57	75	+3	177	1707	+248	2.46	+1.60	16.96	+1.86
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Boonville	77	53	65	-2	110	1019	+74	3.11	+2.20	17.82	+0.72
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh	83	55	68	-3	130	1214	-30	1.99	+1.25	15.09	+3.71
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	79	56	69	0	131	1265	+168	2.51	+1.73	15.00	+2.96
Massena	80	55	69	-1	136	1219	+51	2.35	+1.62	14.06	+2.98
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo	80	59	71	-1	146	1463	+135	0.92	+0.20	11.76	-0.46
Wales	79	55	68	0	128	1160	+94	4.38	+3.61	15.64	+1.03
Niagara Falls	81	58	70	-3	140	1426	+87	1.51	+0.87	11.90	-0.04
Rochester	84	58	72	+2	155	1601	+303	2.69	+2.06	9.59	-1.08
Watertown	80	55	68	-2	129	1267	+171	2.47	+2.02	13.18	+3.65
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville	86	55	72	+2	153	1425	+130	3.50	+2.87	12.63	+0.42
Geneva	85	58	71	0	146	1405	+130	2.23	+1.60	12.06	-0.12
Honeoye	85	54	70	-2	142	1350	+24	3.29	+2.68	13.66	+1.72
Ithaca	88	55	71	+2	146	1300	+147	2.40	+1.64	13.76	+0.74
Penn Yan	90	61	74	+4	169	1663	+388	1.15	+0.52	10.23	-1.95
Syracuse	86	61	72	+2	158	1529	+218	2.62	+1.78	13.07	-0.69
Warsaw	79	54	67	+1	122	1141	+149	3.53	+2.79	16.32	+2.18
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Angelica	81	46	65	-2	109	1003	+31	2.48	+1.71	13.25	-0.40
Elmira	89	51	70	+1	144	1397	+171	0.83	+0.13	11.04	-1.60
Franklinville	82	52	68	+3	125	1055	+166	2.25	+1.48	15.12	+0.89
Jamestown	82	51	69	+2	132	1193	+191	2.33	+1.44	14.88	-0.95
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton	85	57	70	0	139	1378	+187	2.98	+2.21	12.70	-0.46
Cobleskill	84	56	70	+2	139	1254	+154	6.46	+5.69	19.37	+5.15
Morrisville	82	52	68	-1	125	1159	+111	2.11	+1.34	14.85	+0.84
Norwich	90	53	69	+1	138	1207	+104	4.22	+3.51	12.76	-1.45
Oneonta	90	54	72	+6	155	1429	+412	3.09	+2.25	12.95	-2.49
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	86	60	75	+3	177	1530	+238	1.37	+0.70	10.15	-3.80
New York	94	70	80	+3	213	2119	+297	1.57	+0.66	12.15	-2.59

^{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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