



WEATHER AND CROPS

June 1, 2009

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
10B Airline Drive, Albany, New York 12235
(518) 457-5570 · (518) 485-8719 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov

Released, June 1, 2009

Week Ending, May 31, 2009

No. 977-06-09

WEATHER: It was a cool and wet week across the state. Precipitation was well above normal for the last week of May except across Long Island. Temperatures were also below normal. A slow moving cold front produced showers and thunderstorms south of the Capital Region with around 2 inches of rain falling at Poughkeepsie in a few hours. High pressure moved in over the region with fair and dry weather Memorial Day into Tuesday. There was some widespread frost over the Adirondacks and the Lake George region Tuesday morning. A warm front approached from the Ohio Valley and the upper Mid Atlantic region Tuesday night with some heavy rainfall and embedded thunderstorms. Rainfall totals ranged from one to two and a half inches across portions of central and eastern New York with the heaviest totals over the west central Mohawk Valley Tuesday night through Wednesday. The wet and unsettled weather continued Thursday and Friday as the warm front was fairly stationary over western Pennsylvania and western New York. Some slow moving or training thunderstorms produced some heavy rainfall downwind of Lake Erie's and the St. Lawrence Valley ushered an occluded front across the region Thursday night into Friday with another round of showers. The heaviest rain fell just north of the Capital District with one to three inches occurring. Another cold front Saturday morning produced widely scattered, mainly light rain showers.

CROPS: Scattered showers passing through the state hindered planting efforts, but promoted crop growth. There were 3.6 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent very short, 4 percent short, 74 percent adequate, and 21 percent surplus. Condition of winter wheat was rated as 2 percent poor, 8 percent fair, 80 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Oat condition was 12 percent fair, 75 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Corn planting was 89 percent completed ahead of last year's 86 percent, and the five year average of 83 percent. Ninety-nine percent of the oats were planted ahead of both last year's 98 percent, and the five year average of 97 percent. Potatoes were 90 percent planted ahead of last year's 84 percent, and the five year average of 75 percent. Soybeans were 63 percent planted, ahead of the five year average of 56 percent, but behind last year's 66 percent. The following are comments throughout the state: Jefferson County received over 3 inches of rain, and many fields were too wet for planting. The first of the week in Lewis County saw hay harvested and corn planted, but the rain halted most activity for the majority of the week. St Lawrence County had plenty of rain which made for a bad week of field activities, but the corn really came up. Good weather in the early part of the week allowed producers to cut hay in Franklin County. Livingston County received some much needed rain. Haylage harvest was underway in Ontario County. Corn emerged in Cayuga County, and is already several inches high. A welcomed rain passed through Chenango County and a lot of forage was put in storage. Corn planting was almost complete in Cortland County, and the dry hay and haylage harvest was underway. Haylage harvested in Madison County only yielded three quarters of its normal production. Some late frosts in Albany County caused isolated damage to tender plants, but the corn was out of the ground throughout the capital district and stands were excellent. Haylage harvest was in full swing in Montgomery, Fulton, and Herkimer Counties with some reporting that first cutting was already finished. Saratoga County received three to four inches of rain which should help the second cutting of hay and newly planted corn. Rain in Broome County jump started the growth of crops, and triggered a quick re-growth on fields where forage was harvested. Most producers in Dutchess County have their crops in and are starting to harvest hay.

FRUIT: Apples across the state were at 99 percent full bloom and 98 percent petal fall, the same as last year. Peaches reached 90 percent petal fall, compared with 92 percent last year. Pears reached 100 percent petal fall, ahead of 96 percent last year. Sweet cherries were at 100 percent petal fall, compared with 96 percent last year, while tart cherries were at 98 percent petal fall. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, oriental fruit moth trap counts were high and plum curculio activity was strong. The frost that occurred on May 18th damaged some fruit in the Empire variety. Saratoga County had a slight frost on May 26th, but it did not damage the fruit crops. In Yates County, grapes looked good and there were no disease or insect problems yet. A little cold weather damage has occurred. Long Island vineyards experienced cloudy, cool, and occasionally rainy weather which hindered shoot thinning and disbudding.

VEGETABLE: Emergence of newly planted vegetable crops appeared. Sweet corn was at 64 percent planted, up from 52 percent previous week and compared to 68 percent previous year, and 63 percent for the five year average. Cabbage was at 68 percent planted, up from 54 percent previous week, and compared to 50 percent previous year, and 57 percent for the five year average. Snap beans were at 19 percent planted, up from 16 percent previous week, down from 41 percent previous year, and down from 48 percent previous five year average. The windy hot weather has slowed down lettuce growth in most areas. Transplanting of tomatoes continued. Onions were damaged in Madison County due to a wind storm.

LIVESTOCK: Much needed precipitation had pastures growing rapidly. Pasture conditions across most of the state were estimated to be in good condition. Pasture conditions were rated 3 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 15 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, May 31, 2009

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	79	41	59	-4	61	396	+114	1.94	+1.11	5.54	-0.86	
Glens Falls	77	31	56	-5	41	305	+82	1.42	+0.60	4.83	-1.75	
Poughkeepsie	82	44	62	-1	84	432	+109	0.64	-0.34	6.42	-1.40	
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>												
Boonville	73	32	53	-5	26	174	+18	1.22	+0.19	9.62	+0.58	
<u>Champlain Valley</u>												
Plattsburgh	78	36	55	-6	36	258	+33	1.11	+0.41	5.74	+0.07	
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>												
Canton	74	32	54	-5	36	217	+26	1.36	+0.66	8.06	+2.23	
Massena	73	37	56	-3	49	270	+56	1.15	+0.54	6.20	+1.02	
<u>Great Lakes</u>												
Buffalo	79	45	62	+2	85	365	+104	1.09	+0.32	5.04	-0.97	
Wales	77	41	59	+1	63	279	+86	1.93	+1.06	6.24	-1.14	
Niagara Falls	78	44	61	-1	79	358	+80	1.70	+0.99	6.69	+0.58	
Rochester	80	44	61	-1	75	357	+76	2.26	+1.62	5.46	+0.13	
Watertown	73	32	57	-2	50	258	+63	2.34	+1.71	8.65	+3.45	
<u>Central Lakes</u>												
Dansville	79	38	62	+2	86	389	+126	1.52	+0.79	3.76	-1.96	
Geneva	76	38	60	0	71	327	+77	0.94	+0.19	5.07	-0.84	
Honeoye	79	37	60	-1	69	352	+95	1.77	+1.05	6.08	+0.27	
Ithaca	74	32	58	-2	58	297	+79	1.52	+0.71	5.86	-0.36	
Penn Yan	76	33	61	+2	80	396	+146	0.73	-0.02	3.31	-2.60	
Syracuse	76	38	61	0	80	404	+120	1.20	+0.43	5.84	-0.77	
Warsaw	75	40	57	0	50	252	+80	1.54	+0.67	6.01	-0.89	
<u>Western Plateau</u>												
Angelica	75	37	58	+1	59	239	+69	1.95	+1.13	5.03	-0.74	
Elmira	78	32	61	+2	77	353	+115	1.74	+0.95	4.78	-1.11	
Franklinville	77	41	59	+4	66	241	+103	2.26	+1.39	6.29	-0.53	
Jamestown	78	46	61	+4	77	309	+136	2.34	+1.38	6.21	-1.55	
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>												
Binghamton	76	41	59	0	68	366	+138	1.34	+0.57	6.00	-0.49	
Cobleskill	77	33	57	-3	48	279	+75	1.72	+0.82	5.24	-1.70	
Morrisville	71	37	55	-3	39	237	+45	2.36	+1.45	7.86	+1.06	
Norwich	77	34	57	-3	52	264	+56	1.52	+0.62	8.86	+1.74	
Oneonta	77	38	57	0	53	282	+99	1.72	+0.72	7.39	-0.40	
<u>Coastal</u>												
Bridgehamton	77	48	60	-1	68	319	+91	0.75	-0.10	9.75	+1.96	
New York	84	52	65	-1	106	573	+120	0.58	-0.26	8.66	+1.05	

^{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.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.nass.usda.gov/ny AND CLICK ON "SUBSCRIBE TO NY REPORTS" FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON GETTING FREE ELECTRONIC SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THIS REPORT. YOU MAY ALSO VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO ACCESS ALL OUR REPORTS WHICH ARE AVAILABLE FOR FREE ONLINE.