



WEATHER AND CROPS

August 17, 2009

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Week Ending, August 16, 2009

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WEATHER: Temperatures averaged above normal across the state. Departures ranged from plus 3 to plus 8 degrees. High temperature for the week was 94 degrees in New York City. Growing Degree Day accumulations were mixed, ranging from 155 below normal in Honeoye to 128 above normal in Oneonta. Precipitation varied from 0.68 inches below normal in Albany to 2.53 inches above normal in Jamestown. Departures from normal since April 1st were above normal in nearly every area of the state. Poughkeepsie has the largest departure at plus 8.18 inches.

CROPS: Warmer weather was a boon for corn development, soybean flowering, and soybean pod fill. There were 5.3 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil Moisture was rated 1 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 23 percent surplus. Condition of soybeans was 7 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Hay condition was 18 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 39 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. Winter wheat was 97 percent harvested, compared with last year's 80 percent. Forty-nine percent of the oats were harvested, behind last year's 52 percent. Potatoes were 20 percent harvested, slightly ahead of last year's 19 percent. The second cutting of alfalfa was 81 percent harvested, ahead of last year's 78 percent. Twenty-nine percent of the third cutting of alfalfa was completed, compared with 35 percent from last year. Second cutting of timothy hay was 58 percent completed, compared with last year's 61 percent. Third cutting of timothy hay was 25 percent harvested, slightly ahead of last year's 24 percent. The following are comments from across the state: Wheat yields were excellent in Niagara County, but the grain quality was poor except in the earliest harvested fields. Ontario County finally received a few days of sunshine in a row to make some dry hay. Even with some spotty thundershowers, Cortland County was able to make hay and haylage last week. Farmers in Albany County were able to make some dry hay, but the quality was less than desirable for first cutting. Herkimer, Fulton, and Montgomery Counties had a lot of dry hay put up towards the end of the week. Washington County had a week of hot weather which allowed farmers to bale hay and chop 3rd cutting. Heavy rains and flooding in Cattaraugus County slowed field work to a stand still. Some areas experienced heavy erosion and loss of crops. Third cutting alfalfa and oat harvest was underway in Steuben County. Most crops looked decent, although some poorer drained areas were showing the effect of earlier heavy rains. Delaware County had a great week for crop maturing, hay and small grain harvesting. Hay will be in short supply in Dutchess County due to the wet conditions the last couple of months. Frequent rain showers hindered hay harvest in Jefferson County, but the small grain harvest continued. Most fields had at least some lodging due to heavy rains. A lot of bales went up in St. Lawrence County, and if the normal weather continues then the corn should reach silage maturity without difficulty.

FRUIT: Apples were 1 percent poor, 2 percent fair, 16 percent good, and 81 percent excellent. Grapes were 17 percent poor, 35 percent fair, 36 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Peaches were 2 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 33 percent excellent. Pears were 7 percent poor, 12 percent fair, 28 percent good, and 53 percent excellent. Sweet cherries were 66 percent poor, 11 percent fair, 14 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Tart cherries were 50 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 8 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. Apples were 12 percent harvested, compared with 10 percent last year and the average of 14 percent. Peaches were 61 percent harvested, compared with 37 percent last year. Pears were 27 percent harvested, compared with 27 percent last year. Sweet cherries were 100 percent harvested, compared with 93 percent last year. Tart cherries were 100 percent harvested, compared with 93 percent last year. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, spraying efforts continued to combat late blight.

VEGETABLE: Reports of late blight were received in Western New York in vegetable plants. Processing sweet corn harvest began the week of August 10th, about a week behind normal. Reports of cucumber mosaic virus were reported in snap beans in Western New York. Onion harvest was behind schedule in Central New York. Lettuce conditions were 1 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 37 percent good, and 45 percent excellent. Tomatoes were 34 percent harvested, down from 36 percent harvested last year. Tomato conditions were 37 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 27 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. Onion harvest was 34 percent complete, behind the 36 percent harvested last year. Onion conditions were 1 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 49 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. Sweet corn harvest was 20 percent complete, down from 39 percent harvested last year. Sweet corn conditions were 2 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 66 percent good, and 16 percent excellent. Snap bean harvest was 35 percent complete, behind the 47 percent harvested last year. Snap bean conditions were 6 percent poor, 46 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. Cabbage harvest was 43 percent completed, ahead of the 35 percent harvested last year. Cabbage conditions were 17 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 6 percent excellent.

LIVESTOCK: It has been a great year for operations that use rotational pasturing. Pastures continue to hold up well. Pasture conditions across most of the state were estimated to be in good condition. Pasture conditions were rated 2 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 53 percent good and 17 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, August 16, 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	89	62	74	+4	170	1815	+16	0.11	-0.68	20.76	+5.78	
Glens Falls	87	57	72	+4	155	1539	-38	0.32	-0.52	16.78	+2.21	
Poughkeepsie	89	62	75	+4	176	1918	+39	2.92	+2.09	25.66	+8.18	
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>												
Boonville	84	59	69	+5	136	1093	-147	0.81	-0.27	21.58	+1.57	
<u>Champlain Valley</u>												
Plattsburgh	88	59	72	+4	153	1473	-132	1.15	+0.19	16.15	+2.26	
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>												
Canton	85	58	70	+4	145	1383	-49	0.59	-0.35	17.45	+2.89	
Massena	87	57	72	+5	157	1519	+4	0.21	-0.63	15.72	+2.36	
<u>Great Lakes</u>												
Buffalo	87	64	75	+6	177	1696	-20	2.48	+1.52	15.40	+0.68	
Wales	83	59	71	+5	150	1322	-72	2.08	+1.17	17.97	+0.90	
Niagara Falls	86	61	74	+5	169	1693	-32	2.57	+1.69	18.64	+4.39	
Rochester	86	61	73	+6	165	1614	-49	0.60	-0.17	16.86	+4.11	
Watertown	87	56	72	+5	157	1468	+24	0.44	-0.29	14.50	+3.13	
<u>Central Lakes</u>												
Dansville	86	59	72	+4	157	1577	-93	1.51	+0.81	15.68	+1.54	
Geneva	86	57	72	+4	158	1590	-65	1.39	+0.69	15.57	+1.49	
Honeoye	87	57	72	+3	157	1566	-155	0.88	+0.17	19.77	+5.89	
Ithaca	87	56	72	+5	156	1431	-69	1.53	+0.76	16.12	+0.92	
Penn Yan	88	60	74	+5	168	1713	+58	1.00	+0.30	13.58	-0.50	
Syracuse	88	62	75	+7	177	1806	+119	1.27	+0.50	15.64	-0.34	
Warsaw	82	57	70	+6	144	1257	-40	1.76	+0.91	20.65	+4.19	
<u>Western Plateau</u>												
Angelica	84	55	70	+6	145	1138	-139	1.73	+0.96	17.59	+1.77	
Elmira	90	58	73	+6	164	1601	+12	0.43	-0.22	11.71	-2.86	
Franklinville	85	56	72	+8	155	1218	+49	3.40	+2.50	22.92	+6.25	
Jamestown	87	60	73	+8	161	1420	+107	3.51	+2.53	22.46	+3.93	
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>												
Binghamton	85	62	72	+5	157	1565	+21	1.25	+0.51	16.78	+1.48	
Cobleskill	87	57	71	+5	149	1437	+3	0.30	-0.47	18.13	+1.73	
Morrisville	83	61	71	+5	146	1315	-53	0.90	+0.13	19.92	+3.73	
Norwich	89	58	72	+6	156	1405	-31	1.81	+1.05	22.91	+6.64	
Oneonta	86	60	72	+7	154	1455	+128	0.74	-0.10	18.56	+0.74	
<u>Coastal</u>												
Bridgehamton	89	59	74	+3	166	1779	+69	0.16	-0.61	22.30	+6.22	
New York	94	69	79	+4	201	2361	+35	0.37	-0.47	24.74	+7.54	

^{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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