



WEATHER AND CROPS

July 19, 2010

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Week Ending, July 18, 2010

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WEATHER: Temperatures were above average but relatively cooler than the previous week, as low pressure systems moved into the region cooling things down and produced much needed precipitation. Much of the rain fell towards the end of the week with showers and strong thunderstorms in the Mohawk Valley, with widespread showers and isolated thunderstorms in northern and southern areas of the state.

CROPS: There were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 2 percent very short, 14 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus. Condition of corn was rated as 2 percent poor, 9 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 32 percent excellent. Soybean condition was 2 percent poor, 11 percent fair, 58 percent good, and 29 percent excellent. Hay condition was 2 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 59 percent good, and 25 percent excellent. Alfalfa second cutting was 66 percent completed. Third cutting alfalfa was 7 percent completed. Forty-nine percent of the clover timothy second cutting was harvested. Third cutting clover-timothy was 6 percent completed. Winter wheat was 64 percent harvested. Five percent of the oats for grain were harvested. Potato harvest started. The following are comments from throughout the state: Third cut alfalfa harvest started on farms in Jefferson County. Haylage harvest has been excellent, with several operations done with third cutting. Farmers can reasonably expect 5 cuttings for alfalfa this year. Adequate rainfall and warm temperatures have been favorable for the growth and development of crops. Rain was very sporadic in Lewis County, with heavy downpours in some areas and very low rainfall totals in other areas. Corn planted in April and early May was tasseling. Another hot, muggy week for St. Lawrence County continued to plague dry hay production. Recent rains helped the corn crop which was getting dry a week ago. Genesee County needs a soaking rain to help with corn pollination, soybean bloom, and forage re-growth. Hay harvest was proceeding rapidly. Wheat harvest went fast with no problems and the oat harvest just started. Ontario County continued with the winter wheat harvest, which was challenging with pop-up thundershowers throughout the region. Warm weather and rain improved the look of soybeans and corn. Soil moisture was adequate for now in Chenango County, but on the cusp of becoming dry. Weekend storms moved through the county with no harmful effects on crops reported yet. Most of the field corn was tasseling in Madison County, and a few farmers will begin third cutting alfalfa this week. Some of the very last first cutting went in last week, but drying was a problem with the sporadic showers over the weekend. Onondaga County received some minor hail damage from Saturday's storm. Otsego County was experiencing great corn weather, with some rain and lots of heat. Some much needed rain fell in Albany County, and the crops looked very good as a result of the adequate moisture and warm weather. Corn looked very good, and was tasseling in many fields. Given the advanced stage of maturity, the chopping of silage should begin in August. Corn, small grains, and soybean crops continue to look really good in Montgomery and Fulton Counties. Hay harvest was well ahead of schedule. Rain fell just in time to help corn that was curling in Washington County, and the humid weather made it difficult for producers to get hay dry enough to bale. Scattered Showers in Steuben County left some areas with over 5 inches of rain, and other areas with little or none. Many corn fields were tasseling and were 6 to 7 feet high. Wheat harvest was well underway, and most crops looked very good. Heavy rains during the week left water standing in the fields of Schuyler County. Dry weather conditions continued in Dutchess County, with many farmers using drip irrigation to facilitate water supply. More rain is needed in order for crops to continue to thrive. Suffolk County had the first precipitation in a month fall last week, giving thirsty crops on long Island a much needed drink.

FRUIT: Apples were 1 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 70 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Grapes were 2 percent poor, 6 percent fair, 46 percent good, and 46 percent excellent. Peaches were 1 percent poor, 10 percent fair, 77 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Pears were 3 percent poor, 11 percent fair, and 86 percent good. Sweet cherries were 1 percent poor, 10 percent fair, 85 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. Tart cherries were 20 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 23 percent excellent. Sweet cherries were 80 percent harvested and tart cherries were 75 percent harvested, ahead of last year. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, growers continued hand thinning apples. Japanese beetles were at pest levels in peaches, sweet cherries, and Honeycrisp apples. Potato leafhoppers were also plentiful. In the Lake Erie grape region, grape berry moth populations were low, but were expected to start increasing. Growers reported a sharp increase of Japanese beetle and grape leafhopper levels in some blocks. Long Island growers were hedging and cluster thinning. The extended period of wetness and warm temperatures started up some downy mildew on the canopy. Potato leafhopper levels were low to moderate, while Japanese beetle populations escalated.

VEGETABLE: Harvest has begun for most fresh market vegetable crops. There were no new reports of Late Blight on the tomato crop. Lettuce had reported conditions of 16 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Onion harvest was 1 percent complete. Onion conditions were 2 percent poor, 3 percent fair, and 95 percent good. Cabbage harvest was 16 percent completed. Cabbage conditions were 24 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 24 percent excellent. Sweet corn harvest was 8 percent complete. Sweet corn conditions were 5 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 32 percent excellent. Tomatoes were 7 percent harvested. Tomato conditions were 1 percent poor, 8 percent fair, 62 percent good, and 29 percent excellent. Snap bean harvest was 2 percent complete. Snap bean conditions were 1 percent poor, 3 percent fair, 81 percent good, and 15 percent excellent.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture was slowing down considerably. Pasture conditions were rated 2 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 9 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 18, 2010

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	91	65	78	+7	199	1549	+374	1.09	+0.39	9.22	-2.66
Glens Falls	88	58	75	+6	176	1308	+293	1.59	+0.96	9.25	-2.15
Poughkeepsie	95	63	79	+8	207	1646	+417	0.27	-0.64	6.28	-7.68
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Boonville	82	58	71	+6	151	1043	+267	1.42	+0.55	14.71	-1.25
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh	90	62	75	+5	176	1257	+219	0.76	+0.11	9.21	-1.21
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	86	58	73	+5	167	1266	+359	1.39	+0.64	12.69	+1.68
Massena	89	55	76	+7	183	1323	+354	1.60	+0.90	11.39	+1.26
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo	88	65	77	+6	190	1456	+346	0.01	-0.63	13.53	+2.24
Wales	86	57	73	+5	160	1189	+303	0.15	-0.62	12.46	-1.17
Niagara Falls	87	61	77	+6	190	1500	+376	0.00	-0.62	10.61	-0.52
Rochester	89	64	76	+6	185	1502	+412	0.13	-0.43	11.38	+1.52
Watertown	89	57	75	+7	179	1291	+385	0.41	+0.01	10.57	+1.59
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville	88	59	73	+4	165	1453	+368	0.80	+0.12	11.74	+0.35
Geneva	88	63	75	+5	179	1452	+387	1.85	+1.21	13.97	+2.61
Honeoye	89	60	74	+4	173	1419	+313	0.57	-0.05	14.47	+3.29
Ithaca	91	59	74	+6	168	1339	+376	0.10	-0.67	9.82	-2.20
Penn Yan	88	63	75	+5	175	1508	+443	0.86	+0.22	11.18	-0.18
Syracuse	91	63	78	+8	199	1564	+463	0.20	-0.64	11.16	-1.51
Warsaw	86	60	72	+6	158	1185	+363	0.08	-0.69	15.78	+2.58
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Angelica	87	58	73	+7	162	1283	+481	0.82	+0.02	13.29	+0.66
Elmira	91	56	74	+4	169	1415	+389	0.09	-0.68	10.73	-0.97
Franklinville	86	56	71	+6	150	1108	+379	0.34	-0.46	13.18	-0.05
Jamestown	88	56	73	+7	162	1258	+426	0.53	-0.38	12.83	-1.87
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton	90	61	75	+6	175	1437	+446	0.20	-0.57	10.39	-1.77
Cobleskill	87	55	75	+8	175	1269	+350	2.30	+1.53	11.65	-1.57
Morrisville	86	58	73	+6	161	1246	+378	1.30	+0.51	14.63	+1.63
Norwich	90	54	73	+6	165	1222	+305	0.91	+0.14	12.61	-0.66
Oneonta	88	58	74	+8	173	1290	+443	1.68	+0.77	13.21	-1.12
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	89	69	79	+8	204	1558	+487	1.70	+1.05	8.45	-4.69
New York	95	73	83	+8	234	2163	+610	1.52	+0.58	8.65	-4.90

^{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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