



WEATHER AND CROPS

September 13, 2010

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Week Ending, September 12, 2010

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WEATHER: High pressure dominated the weather across the state during much of the week. A cold front moved from west to east across the state late Tuesday into early Wednesday preceded and accompanied by isolated to scattered showers and thunderstorms mainly across central and western portions of the state. High pressure built across the state in the wake of this front from late Wednesday into Saturday. Temperatures generally averaged below normal during the period. However, a brief period of above normal temperatures occurred ahead of the cold front on Tuesday and lingered into Wednesday across southeast portions of the state. Precipitation was generally below normal across the state for the week. However, isolated rainfall amounts of one half inch to one inch occurred with isolated thunderstorms along and ahead of the cold front across western New York. In addition, lake effect rain showers affected portions of northern and western New York late Wednesday through Friday as the cooler air crossed the relatively warmer waters of Lake Erie and Lake Ontario.

CROPS: Corn silage was chopped across the state as weather allowed. There were 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent very short, 10 percent short, 81 percent adequate, and 8 percent surplus. Condition of corn was rated as 2 percent poor, 10 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 43 percent excellent. Soybean condition was 2 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 43 percent good, and 42 percent excellent. Hay condition was 4 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 23 percent excellent. Third cutting alfalfa was 88 percent completed, ahead of both last year's 74 percent and the five year average of 77 percent. Third cutting clover-timothy was 84 percent completed. Ninety-nine percent of the oats for grain were harvested, ahead of last year's 97 percent and the five year average of 98 percent. Potatoes were 47 percent harvested, behind both last year's 51 percent, and the five year average of 52 percent. Thirty-two percent of silage corn was harvested. The following are comments from throughout the state: Another rainy week in St. Lawrence County. Wheat planting was underway in Genesee County, and the forage seedings sown in August were showing excellent stands and growth. Corn silage harvest was moving rapidly with good yields and excellent quality reported, and the grain corn harvest will start in September. Due to the wet weather, the remaining third cutting of alfalfa/grass in Cayuga County was being chopped or put up as baleage. Chenango County's silage was coming off fast, and the yield and quality looked very good in most cases. Third and fourth cutting hay and haylage harvest continued in Cortland and Tompkins Counties. Corn was drying down rapidly in Madison County and the soybeans will be ready earlier also. Quality hay was still being harvested in Fulton and Montgomery Counties. Rainfall is needed to improve condition of third and fourth cutting hay in Saratoga County. Dry grass hay was still being made in Broome County. Dry weather in Dutchess County seems to have severely affected the hay crop, with some producers only getting 80 bales on 12 acres for a second cutting. Third and fourth cuttings were not much better.

FRUIT: Apples were 1 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 74 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Grapes were 3 percent poor, 4 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 39 percent excellent. Peaches were 10 percent fair, 81 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Pears were 1 percent poor, 11 percent fair, 80 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. Apples were 41 percent harvested, compared to 25 percent last year. Grapes were 24 percent harvested, compared to 8 percent last year. Peaches were 98 percent harvested, compared to 96 percent last year. Pears were 92 percent harvested, compared to 75 percent last year. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, apple harvest was well underway with harvest of Gala, McIntosh, and some Honeycrisp. The Cayuga County apple harvest was in full swing. Apple harvest in Albany County was also in full swing, and quality was very good. The Lake Erie grape region saw clouds and rain, but sugar accumulation continued at a rapid rate and fruit quality continued to be excellent. Finger Lakes vineyards ramped up harvesting, and lots of varieties were starting to come off the vines. Some grape producers reported that production was lower than originally anticipated. The April frost did more damage than was thought, and the heavy foliage made it difficult to get an accurate assessment until picking started. Hudson Valley ripening conditions were quite good. In Long Island vineyards, growers were harvesting white varieties such as Pinot Gris, Sauvignon Blanc, and Chardonnay. Due to a season of sunny, warm weather and little rain, growers were very pleased with fruit quality.

VEGETABLE: Late Blight was found in Long Island on tomatoes. Tomato loss was reported in Herkimer County due to excessive rain that caused spotting. Squash and pumpkins are still plentiful at farmer's markets. Lettuce had reported conditions of 9 percent good and 91 percent excellent. Onion harvest was 61 percent complete, behind the 74 percent five-year average. Onion conditions were 1 percent poor, 11 percent fair, 49 percent good and 39 percent excellent. Cabbage harvest was 78 percent completed, up from 74 percent last year, compared to 62 percent five-year average. Cabbage conditions were 18 percent fair, 70 percent good and 12 percent excellent. Sweet corn harvest was 81 percent complete, up from 66 percent last year, and even with five-year average. Sweet corn conditions were 1 percent poor, 4 percent fair, 61 percent good, and 34 percent excellent. Tomatoes were 91 percent harvested, up from 76 percent five-year average. Tomato conditions were 7 percent poor, 7 percent fair, 72 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. Snap bean harvest was 78 percent complete, down from the 80 percent five-year average. Snap bean conditions were 2 percent poor, 4 percent fair, 76 percent good, and 18 percent excellent.

LIVESTOCK: No livestock problems reported. Rain improved pasture conditions in Cayuga County. Pasture conditions were rated 1 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 51 percent good, and 7 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, September 12, 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	87	44	65	+2	103	2791	+552	0.09	-0.61	12.49	-5.43
Glens Falls	84	39	61	0	80	2364	+410	0.14	-0.62	13.79	-3.89
Poughkeepsie	87	44	66	+1	110	2933	+581	0.02	-0.82	13.81	-6.80
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Boonville	80	45	57	-2	49	1877	+342	0.88	-0.45	25.03	+0.23
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh	80	44	61	-1	78	2306	+326	0.19	-0.59	17.29	-0.01
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	82	42	59	-2	67	2278	+498	0.81	-0.12	19.64	+1.35
Massena	83	43	62	+3	87	2391	+525	1.45	+0.61	19.21	+2.51
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo	89	47	64	-1	98	2651	+498	1.05	+0.19	19.17	+0.85
Wales	85	43	58	-3	59	2183	+432	0.97	-0.15	18.57	-2.55
Niagara Falls	88	45	64	0	96	2725	+566	0.34	-0.57	15.85	-1.94
Rochester	89	45	63	-2	91	2673	+591	0.39	-0.34	18.93	+3.21
Watertown	86	40	63	+2	90	2391	+576	0.31	-0.48	16.04	+1.54
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville	86	43	59	-5	66	2552	+457	0.60	-0.24	20.63	+3.44
Geneva	80	50	61	-3	81	2553	+475	0.44	-0.33	21.19	+4.20
Honeoye	88	42	61	-4	82	2511	+337	1.00	+0.23	22.33	+5.48
Ithaca	87	43	61	-2	76	2391	+510	0.34	-0.50	16.11	-2.21
Penn Yan	87	47	63	-1	91	2670	+592	0.31	-0.46	17.90	+0.91
Syracuse	88	47	64	0	97	2773	+664	0.44	-0.47	21.45	+2.19
Warsaw	82	44	58	-3	54	2136	+519	0.62	-0.36	22.96	+2.85
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Angelica	86	43	59	-2	64	2309	+714	0.61	-0.23	21.44	+2.38
Elmira	90	38	62	-2	84	2535	+548	0.16	-0.59	16.61	-0.71
Franklinville	83	41	57	-3	47	2017	+553	1.2/	+0.30	21.34	+1.02
Jamestown	85	43	59	-2	65	2298	+649	0.74	-0.38	21.51	-1.22
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton	83	47	62	0	82	2520	+593	0.07	-0.75	16.82	-1.50
Cobleskill	83	45	60	-2	74	2269	+476	0.08	-0.83	19.36	-0.31
Morrisville	80	44	58	-3	59	2186	+479	1.09	+0.15	23.46	+3.86
Norwich	85	44	60	-2	71	2204	+409	0.22	-0.69	19.30	-0.20
Oneonta	85	44	60	+2	75	2318	+667	0.30	-0.54	21.38	+0.32
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehampton	82	50	68	+2	125	2892	+683	0.19	-0.65	11.63	-7.64
New York	90	62	73	+3	161	3826	+887	0.00	-0.84	12.00	-8.44

^{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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