



WEATHER AND CROPS

July 5, 2011

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WEATHER: The first full week of summer 2011 provided temperatures at or slightly below seasonable normals with rainfall amounts offering a variety of results. Portions of western New York were drier than normal with portions of eastern New York averaging near normal. Severe weather reports were notable on Tuesday, June 28th across upstate New York.

We began the period rather cool and unsettled with an upper level low in our region. This was replaced with a region of high pressure for the early part of the week as a storm system was developing over the center of the nation. This storm approached on Tuesday with showers and thunderstorms. By Wednesday a slightly cooler and more stable airmass filtered across the Great Lakes region and into portions of New England. This region of high pressure remained dominant for the remainder of the week with little additional rainfall.

CROPS: Topsoil moisture was rated as 13 percent short, 71 percent adequate, and 16 percent surplus. There were 5.2 days suitable for fieldwork. Corn was rated as 9 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Hay was rated as 6 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 61 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Oats were rated as 5 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 58 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. Winter wheat was rated 5 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 51 percent good, and 25 percent excellent. The first cutting of alfalfa was 94 percent complete, ahead of the average of 88 percent, while the second cutting of alfalfa was 10 percent complete. The first cutting of clover timothy was 82 percent complete, ahead of the average of 77 percent, while the second cutting of clover timothy was 10 percent complete. The first cutting of grass silage was 95 percent complete, ahead of the 88 percent average. Corn planting was virtually complete, but has been behind last year and average planting progress. Oats were 97 percent planted, behind the 100 percent planted a year ago and the 100 percent average. Potatoes were 99 percent planted, behind last year's 100 percent and the average of 100 percent. Dry beans were 81 percent planted, slightly behind last year's 85 percent and average of 83 percent. Soybeans were 98 percent planted, in line with the 98 percent planted a year ago, and the 98 percent average. The following are comments from throughout the state: Second cutting of hay had started in Lewis County. Sunny weather in St Lawrence County allowed farmers to catch up on fieldwork. Corn shot up about a foot and soybeans were also doing quite well. Hot weather in Genesee County sped up wheat maturation. Dry hay harvest made rapid progress, and second cutting of haylage was well underway. Ontario County farmers were done planting, but faced challenges in baling dry hay of satisfactory quality. First cutting had short length and was tough to bale without getting wet. Hay silage was of decent quality, but short on quantity due to excessive rains and cooler weather. Adequate heat and timely rain helped crops in Cayuga County overcome problems from delayed planting and a wet spring. Crops in the northern parts of Chenango County looked great and were coming along nicely, except soybeans were questionable. First cutting hay was removed and second cutting had begun. Southern portions of the county were repeatedly hit with heavy rain storms and had some unplanted and very wet fields. Cortland County experienced several hard rain storms, and fields were wet enough to suffer damage from hay equipment. Corn remained scattered in maturity, but early corn was anywhere from knee to hip high. Weed control was challenging. Second cutting alfalfa yields were light. Rye, oats, and wheat were starting to mature, while soybeans were in early vegetative stages and looked good. Dry hay production accelerated into high gear in Albany County, and yields were good. Haylage harvest continued, but quality was suffering due to lateness. Field corn heights were all over the board. In Montgomery and Fulton Counties, field corn planting continued. Early planted corn was uneven in growth. Second cutting of hay was also underway. Farmers in Rensselaer County took advantage of good weather to start hay. In Washington County, it was a challenge for farmers to get hay dry enough to bale. Corn was extremely variable. Some farmers were still trying to plant corn for silage. Three consecutive days without rain spurred an attempt to make dry hay from the last of the first cutting of grass in Broome County. Second cutting began for those with gravelly fields. Farmers made decisions about planting the last of their corn or planting a sorghum/sudan grass mixture instead. Heavy rain in Delaware County stopped dry hay harvest on Sunday. Corn was starting to shoot up in Dutchess County, and hay was baled.

FRUIT: Apple condition was 8 percent poor, 12 percent fair, 64 percent good, and 16 percent excellent. Grape condition was 5 percent fair, 80 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. Peach condition was 12 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. Pear condition was 19 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Sweet cherry condition was 3 percent poor, 10 percent fair, 68 percent good, and 19 percent excellent. Tart cherry condition was 2 percent poor, 2 percent fair, 72 percent good, and 24 percent excellent. Strawberry condition was 26 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 37 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. In Long Island vineyards, grapes were sizing up with Merlot having some variability. Strawberry harvest was almost complete in parts of central and eastern New York. In Albany County, apples continued to size with plenty of moisture and warm temperatures.

VEGETABLE: Farm stands were selling summer squash, broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, and beets. Lettuce was 95 percent planted, compared to 90 percent last year and 87 percent five-year average, with reported conditions of 5 percent fair, 87 percent good and 8 percent excellent. Onions were 100 percent planted with reported conditions of 5 percent poor, 10 percent fair, and 85 percent good. Sweet corn was 97 percent planted with reported conditions of 6 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 68 percent good and 9 percent excellent. Sweet Corn planting last year at this time was at 97 percent and 93 percent five-year average. Cabbage was 80 percent planted, down from 95 percent last year and 90 percent five-year average. Snap beans were 74 percent planted, compared to 83 percent last year and 82 percent five-year average. Tomatoes were 93 percent planted, compared to 99 percent last year and 96 percent five-year average.

LIVESTOCK: Pastures were holding up well. Pastures were still above normal production even though many are wet. Pasture was rated 1 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 62 percent good, and 15 percent excellent.

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	86	54	70	+0	144	1103	+254	0.36	-0.43	14.17	+3.82
Glens Falls	83	53	69	+2	133	926	+207	1.02	+0.33	13.68	+3.63
Poughkeepsie	85	51	71	+1	148	1174	+273	0.55	-0.35	15.46	+3.45
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Boonville	77	51	63	-2	91	660	+120	0.46	-0.53	21.78	+7.73
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh	84	53	68	+0	129	815	+77	0.30	-0.40	17.13	+8.08
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	83	55	67	+0	118	846	+209	0.58	-0.19	15.42	+5.98
Massena	86	55	70	+3	141	924	+240	0.09	-0.64	12.42	+3.79
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo	84	54	69	-2	132	980	+182	0.02	-0.73	17.30	+7.43
Wales	84	49	65	-2	104	788	+163	0.10	-0.81	16.01	+4.11
Niagara Falls	83	50	68	-2	129	927	+114	0.00	-0.71	14.17	+4.38
Rochester	87	51	69	+2	137	1000	+210	0.00	-0.67	11.95	+3.35
Watertown	85	52	68	+2	126	851	+221	0.06	-0.45	13.36	+5.26
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville	90	52	71	+2	146	1163	+378	0.05	-0.77	11.62	+1.75
Geneva	86	55	69	+0	132	968	+205	0.37	-0.42	12.25	+2.34
Honeoye	87	49	67	-3	119	957	+166	0.39	-0.38	14.18	+4.38
Ithaca	85	46	66	-2	111	912	+266	1.38	+0.54	16.31	+5.96
Penn Yan	87	54	70	+2	139	1045	+282	0.42	-0.37	10.99	+1.08
Syracuse	88	56	71	+3	148	1194	+395	0.25	-0.66	15.78	+4.99
Warsaw	82	52	64	-2	99	752	+176	0.35	-0.56	17.73	+6.22
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Hornell Almond Dam	86	45	65	-2	106	836	+205	0.18	-0.66	16.58	+6.86
Elmira	87	43	67	-1	123	994	+261	0.01	-0.83	13.49	+3.48
Franklinville	83	44	63	-1	93	779	+274	0.07	-0.86	19.66	+8.21
Jamestown	84	48	66	+2	112	888	+304	0.02	-0.99	18.56	+5.83
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton	82	51	67	-2	118	932	+224	0.86	+0.02	19.37	+8.92
Cobleskill	82	52	66	+0	114	828	+175	0.12	-0.80	13.72	+2.22
Morrisville	82	50	65	-1	109	782	+169	0.09	-0.81	15.38	+4.13
Norwich	84	46	65	-2	109	864	+213	1.36	+0.47	20.41	+8.85
Oneonta	83	46	66	+1	112	857	+261	0.91	-0.04	19.41	+7.03
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	83	55	72	+3	153	983	+230	0.05	-0.70	11.91	+0.22
New York	84	66	76	+2	184	1337	+176	0.03	-0.84	12.95	+1.38

^{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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