



# WEATHER AND CROPS

## July 11, 2011

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](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

Released, July 11, 2011

Week Ending, July 10, 2011

No. 977-12-11

**WEATHER:** The week started out with showers and thunderstorms moving across the region ahead of a warm front followed by a cold front which passed through the region during the following night. Rainfall was highly variable as is typical with convection with some sites getting over two inches while others had little or no rainfall. High pressure then moved into the region resulting in dry weather for most of the region for the Independence Day holiday along with Tuesday and much of Wednesday. Another frontal system moved across the region Wednesday afternoon resulting in some more showers and thunderstorms, followed by another mostly dry day on Thursday. A surface low moving along the frontal boundary just south of the region set off more convection mostly from the Mohawk Valley south. High pressure then moved into the region as the low moved east out to sea bringing a beautiful summer day to the region Saturday with mostly clear skies and seasonable temperatures. The week was fairly warm over most of the region with the temperature at Albany and Poughkeepsie averaging 3.5 degrees above normal. It was a bit cooler north with Glens Falls only 1.5 degrees above normal due to cooler nighttime lows. Rainfall varied a great deal with nearly four inches for the week at Cobleskill in Schoharie County with no rain for the entire week at several sites in western New York including Niagara Falls, Geneva and Honeoye.

**CROPS:** Topsoil moisture was rated as 9 percent very short, 25 percent short, 56 percent adequate, and 10 percent surplus. There were 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork. Corn was rated as 8 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Hay was rated as 6 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Oats were rated as 6 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 62 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. Soybeans were rated as 4 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Winter wheat was rated 5 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 23 percent excellent. The first cutting of alfalfa was 97 percent complete, ahead of the average of 95 percent, while the second cutting of alfalfa was 30 percent complete. The first cutting of clover timothy was 88 percent complete, ahead of the average of 83 percent, while the second cutting of clover timothy was 23 percent complete. The first cutting of grass silage was 97 percent complete, ahead of the 92 percent average. Corn planting was finished. Oats were 98 percent planted, behind the 100 percent planted a year ago and the 100 percent average. Potato planting was finished. Dry beans were 82 percent planted, behind last year's 95 percent and average of 91 percent. Soybeans were 99 percent planted, in line with the 99 percent planted a year ago, and the 100 percent average. The following are comments from throughout the state: Continued dry weather in Jefferson County favored forage harvest, but corn and other spring planted crops were in dire need of rain. The planting season finally finished in St Lawrence County. Height of corn ranged from 3 inches to 3 feet. There was a severe thunderstorm on Wednesday that brought heavy downpours, but otherwise it was very dry. Genesee County was very dry and needed rain. In Ontario County, dry hay harvest continued with lower than normal yields due to lack of rain. Winter wheat harvest also started with reports of uneven ripening of the grain due to the wet, cool spring. Straw was low yielding. Dry weather in Cayuga County allowed for lots of dry hay to be harvested. Chenango County producers were catching up on fieldwork during the current dry spell. Second cutting was underway and corn was coming along nicely. Producers in Cortland County finished first cutting and second cutting had started. Several claims of prevented planting had been filed for corn and small grains. Rain was spotty in Madison County where some areas received heavy rainfall and other areas remained dry. Crops were progressing very well. Isolated areas of Otsego County were hit by heavy rain. Hay harvest and corn spraying activities continued. Corn height varied greatly. Farmers in Albany County were chopping second cutting. Quality and yields were good. Corn planting was completed and corn stands were spotty and up and down in fields with variable drainage. New potatoes were harvested and of good quality. Montgomery and Fulton Counties were still planting corn. Second cutting was underway for those done with first. Farmers in Rensselaer County were working on second cutting of dry hay. Washington County had a series of thunderstorms move through on Friday. Parts of the county received 2 inches of rain. Corn in Schuyler County was curling due to dry conditions. All crops needed some moisture. Heavy rainfall in Delaware and Sullivan Counties hindered efforts to harvest the remainder of the first cutting of hay. Areas that missed the storms were able to harvest small amounts of second cutting. Hay cutting continued in Dutchess County. Corn was anywhere from shoulder high to two feet high.

**FRUIT:** Apple condition was 7 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 67 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Grape condition was 5 percent fair, 80 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. Peach condition was 17 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Pear condition was 29 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Sweet cherry condition was 4 percent poor, 8 percent fair, 70 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. Tart cherry condition was 2 percent poor, 2 percent fair, 72 percent good, and 24 percent excellent. Sweet cherry and tart cherry were 55 and 35 percent harvested, respectively. In Long Island vineyards, growers were working on canopy management including leafing of the cluster zone to improve airflow and hedging excess growth from the tops and sides of vine. In Albany County, apples were sizing well due to extra rainfall. Concord grapes reached 30 days post bloom, at which point they are about 50 percent of their final berry weight.

**VEGETABLE:** The first of the season sweet corn was at local farm stands. Lettuce was 97 percent planted compared to the previous year and five-year average of 92 percent with reported conditions of 5 percent fair and 95 percent good. Onions had reported conditions of 3 percent poor, 6 percent fair, and 91 percent good. Sweet corn was 99 percent planted, up from 97 percent previous week, with conditions of 5 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 71 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. Cabbage was 85 percent planted, up from 80 percent last week but below the 98 percent previous year and 96 percent five-year average. Snap beans were 86 percent planted compared to the previous year and five-year average of 89 percent. Tomatoes were at 99 percent planted.

**LIVESTOCK:** Pastures remain good with lots of soil moisture. Pasture was rated 1 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 59 percent good, and 12 percent excellent.

**Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 10, 2011**

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° <sup>1/</sup>			Precipitation (Inches) <sup>1/</sup>			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm
<b><u>Hudson Valley</u></b>											
Albany	89	59	73	+3	163	1266	+267	0.84	+0.11	15.01	+3.93
Glens Falls	88	56	71	+2	146	1072	+217	0.58	-0.05	14.26	+3.58
Poughkeepsie	91	58	74	+3	167	1341	+290	1.05	+0.14	16.51	+3.59
<b><u>Mohawk Valley</u></b>											
Boonville	82	54	67	+2	117	777	+129	0.30	-0.61	22.08	+7.12
<b><u>Champlain Valley</u></b>											
Plattsburgh	89	53	71	+2	148	963	+87	0.11	-0.52	17.24	+7.56
<b><u>St. Lawrence Valley</u></b>											
Canton	83	54	69	+2	133	979	+219	0.49	-0.23	15.91	+5.75
Massena	89	54	71	+4	154	1078	+264	0.80	+0.10	13.22	+3.89
<b><u>Great Lakes</u></b>											
Buffalo	83	58	72	+2	156	1136	+194	1.03	+0.34	18.33	+7.77
Wales	83	53	68	+2	127	915	+171	0.00	-0.84	16.01	+3.27
Niagara Falls	85	57	72	+2	155	1084	+126	0.00	-0.63	14.17	+3.75
Rochester	87	56	72	+3	155	1155	+228	0.05	-0.57	12.00	+2.78
Watertown	86	54	70	+3	141	992	+237	0.15	-0.27	13.51	+4.99
<b><u>Central Lakes</u></b>											
Dansville	90	57	73	+4	165	1328	+405	0.09	-0.65	11.71	+1.10
Geneva	87	58	72	+3	158	1126	+225	0.00	-0.71	12.25	+1.63
Honeoye	85	53	69	-2	135	1092	+157	0.00	-0.67	14.18	+3.71
Ithaca	88	50	69	+2	136	1049	+237	0.46	-0.33	16.63	+5.49
Penn Yan	90	57	73	+4	161	1206	+305	0.01	-0.70	11.00	+0.38
Syracuse	92	59	74	+5	166	1360	+423	1.53	+0.62	17.31	+5.61
Warsaw	81	55	68	+3	128	880	+192	0.02	-0.79	17.75	+5.43
<b><u>Western Plateau</u></b>											
Hornell Almond Dam	86	50	68	+1	127	963	+212	0.20	-0.58	16.78	+6.28
Elmira	91	47	71	+2	145	1139	+273	0.41	-0.40	13.90	+3.08
Franklinville	84	47	67	+3	118	897	+289	0.20	-0.66	19.85	+7.54
Jamestown	83	51	68	+2	129	1013	+317	0.26	-0.67	19.41	+5.75
<b><u>Eastern Plateau</u></b>											
Binghamton	86	56	70	+3	143	1075	+237	0.09	-0.74	19.46	+8.18
Cobleskill	84	51	68	+2	130	958	+183	3.91	+3.07	17.63	+5.29
Morrisville	85	54	69	+4	138	920	+191	0.31	-0.53	15.69	+3.60
Norwich	87	51	69	+2	131	995	+222	2.00	+1.17	22.41	+10.02
Oneonta	87	50	68	+2	126	983	+272	1.63	+0.72	21.04	+7.75
<b><u>Coastal</u></b>											
Bridgehamton	87	59	75	+6	180	1163	+266	1.92	+1.22	13.83	+1.44
New York	90	68	79	+4	205	1542	+201	0.74	-0.17	13.69	+1.21

<sup>1/</sup> Season accumulations are for April 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ny) and click on "Subscribe to NY Reports" for instructions on subscribing electronically. You may also visit our website to access all our reports which are available for free online.