



WEATHER AND CROPS

May 29, 2012

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

Released, May 29, 2012

Week Ending, May 27, 2012

No. 977-06-12

WEATHER: Temperatures averaged 4 to 14 degrees above normal. Highs were in the upper 80's while lows dropped to the high 40's. Rainfall was below normal in most regions. Totals ranged from none to 2.08 inches. Growing Degree Day accumulations since April 1st were above normal by as much as 225. Totals ranged from 280 to 578.

CROPS: There were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork during the week. Soil moisture was rated 2 percent very short, 35 percent short, 58 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus. Oat seedings were 98 percent complete compared with 54 percent last year and the average of 89 percent. Condition of oats were 1 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 71 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Wheat was rated 2 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 27 percent excellent. Corn was 81 percent planted compared with 38 percent last year and the average of 73 percent. Potatoes were 75 percent planted compared with 58 percent last year and the average of 75 percent. Soybean planting progressed to 43 percent complete compared with 11 percent last year and the average of 42 percent. The first cutting of alfalfa hay was 28 percent complete compared with 5 percent last year. Clover-timothy first cut was 22 percent complete compared with 5 percent a year ago. Grass silage was 43 percent cut versus 8 percent last year. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Extremely dry weather was starting to take its toll on crops in Jefferson County. Corn and soybean planting continued. Weather was ideal for hay harvest. In Lewis County, it was a very productive week in the fields. With hay crops at optimum maturity for harvest, some farms stopped planting corn to harvest hay. Others continued to plant corn and will start hay when corn is done. In Franklin County, many producers started chopping first cut while still trying to finish planting corn. Farmers in Erie County were busy planting crops and chopping haylage during the week. Hay crop silage in Genesee County is nearly done. Quality was good, quantity was poor. Wheat was pollinating. Harvest is expected to be early. Some alfalfa fields had heavy weevil pressure. Some early planted corn suffered stand reduction and may have to be replanted. It was another week of mostly sunshine and warm temperatures throughout Ontario County with only parts of the county receiving a scattered shower. Planting continued with producers having to fit making dry hay and chopping hay for haylage. Poor quality alfalfa forage was reported and some reports of corn being replanted were received. The wheat crop has many spots of winter kill and drowned out areas, so producers are unsure of how it will yield. In Cayuga County, a lot of progress was made on field work during the week. It was very dry and rains would be welcome. In Cortland County, first cutting hay harvest was moving along as corn planting finished and soybeans were going in. In Madison County, first cutting hay was also moving along nicely. Most of the corn is up 2-4 inches, with some fields in the north having plants 3-4 inches. Otsego County saw a good week of progress on several fronts with soybean planting started, hay harvested and more corn planted. In Albany County, rainy weather slowed field activities. Corn planting was continuing and haylage harvest was progressing but slowed by the wet weather. Montgomery and Fulton County corn was being planted along with haylage harvest. Many bigger growers were concerned that if the rainy days keep showing up they may not be able to meet planting dates. Soybeans were also being planted. Haylage harvest in Saratoga County progressed at a rapid pace during the week. Corn planting advanced on drier fields. Some dry baled hay was harvested as well. Washington County farmers made progress over the weekend with corn planting and chopping haylage. Early week rains delayed field work. Farmers reported first cutting yields were light. In Broome County, hot and humid conditions were perfect for corn growth but made it more difficult to dry hay. Corn planting came to a halt as grass and alfalfa silage were harvested. Reports on hay tonnage were varied. Oats were over two feet high. It was an extremely wet week in Delaware County. The rains were needed because there were dry areas but too much rain came down too many days in a row. Sullivan County producers were affected by some flooding on corn fields, preventing some planting and washing out some areas that were planted. The loss of any corn ground or corn seed that was planted would be a huge loss to producers during these high grain cost times. Dutchess County farmers were busy trying to finish planting corn while also harvesting the first cutting of hay. Scattered thundershowers in Sullivan County delayed hay harvest and corn planting for most producers.

FRUIT: Apples were 100 percent petal fall. Peaches were 98 percent petal fall. Pears were 99 percent petal fall. Sweet cherries were 98 percent petal fall. Tart cherries were 98 percent petal fall. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Cayuga County, strawberries were irrigated to carry them through the dry weather. Freeze damage was observed on blueberries, but it is too early to tell if yields will be impacted. In Albany County, damage became more evident with fairly severe losses. Cherry trees were affected most severely with little fruit to be found. In Long Island vineyards, shoots were growing rapidly.

VEGETABLE: Locally grown vegetables appeared over the weekend at farm markets and stands. Sweet corn was at 53 percent planted, up from 43 percent last year, and comparable to the 55 percent average. Onions were at 89 percent planted, up from 80 percent last year, and above the 86 percent average. Snap beans were at 28 percent planted, up from 11 percent last year, and comparable to the 24 percent average. Cabbage was at 47 percent planted, up from 16 percent last year and comparable to the 46 percent average. Tomatoes were at 37 percent compared to 39 percent last year. Lettuce was 68 percent planted compared to 62 percent last year.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture conditions have improved a bit with the recent rains. A few areas experienced punching. Pasture conditions were rated 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 58 percent good, and 18 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 County AP	86	52	70	+10	142	412	+166	0.41	-0.39	7.60	+1.65	
Glens Falls AP	87	49	69	+11	131	338	+146	0.56	-0.28	7.16	+1.02	
Poughkeepsie AP	87	50	69	+8	134	471	+187	1.04	+0.06	5.10	-2.19	
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>												
Boonville	81	50	65	+10	109	235	+101	0.39	-0.61	6.73	-1.71	
<u>Champlain Valley</u>												
Plattsburgh Int AP	83	52	68	+10	128	290	+96	0.31	-0.37	4.36	-0.93	
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>												
Canton	86	50	67	+11	123	280	+116	0.51	-0.19	6.06	+0.61	
Massena	89	50	68	+11	128	305	+120	1.02	+0.44	5.27	+0.44	
<u>Great Lakes</u>												
Buffalo Int AP	89	58	73	+13	159	411	+184	0.00	-0.74	3.94	-1.65	
Wales	84	51	67	+11	124	308	+142	0.15	-0.69	4.03	-2.84	
Niagara Falls	87	56	71	+12	150	373	+130	0.00	-0.70	5.43	-0.27	
Rochester NY	88	54	71	+12	150	401	+153	0.24	-0.39	4.32	-0.65	
Watertown Intl	86	53	70	+14	142	337	+169	0.12	-0.51	3.86	-0.99	
<u>Central Lakes</u>												
Dansville AP	90	56	72	+13	155	455	+225	0.56	-0.13	3.96	-1.35	
Geneva Research	87	54	71	+12	145	370	+153	0.00	-0.72	4.51	-0.99	
Honeoye	87	52	69	+10	134	381	+158	0.54	-0.13	5.40	+0.00	
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	85	52	69	+12	133	344	+156	0.00	-0.78	5.87	+0.10	
Penn Yan	87	56	70	+12	142	407	+190	0.01	-0.71	4.42	-1.08	
Syracuse	88	55	72	+13	159	438	+188	0.03	-0.74	4.89	-1.28	
Warsaw	83	53	67	+11	118	297	+149	0.59	-0.24	4.46	-1.95	
<u>Western Plateau</u>												
Hornell Almond Dam	86	49	66	+10	115	300	+133	1.41	+0.69	5.67	+0.42	
Elmira	86	50	69	+11	136	396	+189	0.00	-0.77	3.96	-1.50	
Franklinville	85	47	66	+12	114	285	+168	1.02	+0.18	5.43	-0.90	
Jamestown 4NE	87	46	68	+12	126	327	+179	0.00	-0.93	5.79	-1.43	
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>												
Binghamton/Broo	82	54	68	+10	124	358	+160	0.11	-0.66	6.47	+0.41	
Cobleskill	83	48	66	+8	112	310	+134	0.37	-0.50	7.14	+0.69	
Morrisville	85	52	68	+12	129	312	+147	0.48	-0.41	7.59	+1.27	
Norwich	88	49	68	+10	126	322	+141	0.63	-0.24	7.00	+0.37	
Oneonta	88	50	69	+13	132	369	+211	0.29	-0.69	6.76	-0.49	
<u>Coastal</u>												
Bridgehamton	79	56	65	+6	107	338	+142	0.74	-0.10	7.80	+0.51	
New York LGA	85	58	68	+4	125	578	+175	2.08	+1.24	7.77	+0.64	

^{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.

Visit our website at 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.

Special Note

Coming soon - NASS's annual June surveys on crops and livestock. In the first two weeks of June, NASS will survey about 140,000 United States producers and will visit 42,000 tracts of farm land to collect information. One of USDA's largest survey efforts, the responses will provide the foundation for estimates in the upcoming growing year. With both data collection and data release taking place over a span of only four weeks, the results will be available beginning on June 29 in the *Acreage* and other reports. **Farmers should watch for their survey and be sure to respond. Your information matters!**

