



# WEATHER AND CROPS

## October 1, 2012

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Released, October 1, 2012

Week Ending, September 30, 2012

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**WEATHER:** High pressure was in control to start the first week of fall with cool and dry weather. The surface high moved off the Mid-Atlantic Coast on Tuesday with temperatures moderating above normal. A slow moving frontal boundary with waves of low pressure moving along it brought some rain to the region on Wednesday. The frontal boundary dipped south of New York and New England on Thursday. A wave of low pressure moved north or northeast along the boundary on Thursday night bringing rain back into the region Friday into early Saturday. Precipitation was normal to above normal from the Mohawk Valley, Lake George Region, Capital Region, and parts of the Finger Lakes Region south and east to Long Island and New York City. Precipitation was well below normal over western and northern New York. Temperatures were near normal to slightly below normal.

**CROPS:** There were 4.9 days suitable for fieldwork during the week. Soil moisture was rated 5 percent very short, 18 percent short, 71 percent adequate and 6 percent surplus. Hay crops were rated 9 percent poor, 44 percent fair, 41 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. Potatoes were 72 percent harvested, ahead of the 56 percent harvested last year and the 71 percent average. Dry beans were 25 percent harvested compared to 36 percent last year and the average of 44 percent. Corn was rated 10 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. Grain corn was 9 percent harvested. Corn for silage was 71 percent harvested compared with 43 percent last year and the average of 56 percent. Soybeans were rated 3 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. Soybean harvest was 12 percent complete compared with 1 percent last year and the average of 8 percent. The third cutting of alfalfa hay was 88 percent complete compared with 84 percent last year and the average of 92 percent. Clover-timothy third cut was 83 percent complete compared with 72 percent a year ago and the average of 84 percent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Jefferson County field conditions deteriorated as some growers were dealing with wet conditions, making silage harvest challenging. Corn silage harvest was winding down in Genesee County. Grain harvest was well underway – yields are down. Soybean harvest continued slowly, mostly on fields intended for winter wheat planting. Hay crop silage continued sporadically. Winter wheat planting was in full swing. In Ontario County, rain showers slowed soybean and grain corn harvest but silage continued to be chopped. In Cortland County, silage chopping continued in full swing. Soybeans were turning. In Madison County, the end of corn silage harvest has already arrived for some dairy producers, while others haven't even started. Hay stands, mostly newer alfalfa, look good. Shelled corn harvest has just started. Most of the corn has been chopped in Albany County. Farmers are waiting for corn to dry down so they can begin combining. Montgomery and Fulton County corn for grain harvest began during the week and corn silage harvest was moving into full swing. Hay continued to be harvested. In Delaware County, corn harvesting may be delayed due to the recent rains.

**FRUIT:** Apple harvest was 78 percent complete, ahead of the 50 percent last year and the 53 percent five year average. Apple conditions were 64 percent poor, 27 percent fair, and 9 percent good. Pear harvest was 97 percent complete, above the 93 percent last year and the 92 percent five year average. Grape harvest was 66 percent complete, ahead of the 38 percent last year and above the 46 percent five year average. Grape conditions were 20 percent poor, 46 percent fair, and 34 percent good. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Ontario County, the grape harvest continues with average to below average yields being reported. Chardonnay harvest proceeded in Long Island vineyards. Fruit was clean and required minimal sorting. Growers and winemakers are pleased with fruit flavors.

**VEGETABLE:** Frosts have narrowed the harvests of sweet corn, tomatoes and other tender crops. Sweet corn was 99 percent harvested compared to 97 percent last year and the 94 percent average. Onions were 95 percent harvested compared to 79 percent last year and the 85 percent average. Snap Beans were 90 percent harvested compared to 88 percent last year but below the 94 percent average. Cabbage was at 91 percent harvested compared to 90 percent last year and the 84 percent average. Tomatoes were 93 percent harvested compared to 80 percent last year and 88 percent average. Lettuce was 99 percent harvested.

**LIVESTOCK:** Pastures were slowing down and supplemental feeding has started. Pasture was rated 5 percent very poor, 24 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 30 percent good, and 4 percent excellent.

**Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, September 30, 2012**

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 County AP	71	39	57	0	53	2951	+535	1.04	+0.41	23.80	+4.18
Glens Falls AP	69	33	53	-2	26	2515	+422	0.51	-0.17	21.71	+2.25
Poughkeepsie AP	73	39	60	+3	70	3167	+619	1.05	+0.32	22.10	-0.46
<b><u>Mohawk Valley</u></b>											
Boonville	66	36	50	-3	9	1933	+301	0.90	-0.25	22.80	-5.18
<b><u>Champlain Valley</u></b>											
Plattsburgh Int AP	71	36	53	-2	26	2442	+322	0.54	-0.09	16.07	-2.96
<b><u>St. Lawrence Valley</u></b>											
Canton	69	37	53	-2	19	2359	+453	0.25	-0.56	20.11	-0.43
Massena	71	33	53	-1	28	2492	+503	0.04	-0.69	17.80	-0.94
<b><u>Great Lakes</u></b>											
Buffalo Int AP	71	41	56	-3	45	2994	+650	0.06	-0.66	13.04	-7.27
Wales	69	38	51	-4	18	2310	+415	0.49	-0.50	18.50	-5.37
Niagara Falls	71	38	56	-3	43	2896	+548	0.03	-0.71	14.95	-4.93
Rochester NY	73	39	55	-4	34	2896	+621	0.33	-0.28	18.25	+0.84
Watertown Intl	71	37	55	0	36	2630	+671	0.29	-0.39	16.97	+0.59
<b><u>Central Lakes</u></b>											
Dansville AP	74	40	55	-3	37	3002	+723	0.45	-0.26	15.61	-3.55
Geneva Research	72	39	54	-4	28	2740	+483	0.19	-0.51	15.35	-3.56
Honeoye	71	37	53	-6	23	2578	+202	0.40	-0.30	17.52	-1.18
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	69	39	53	-3	23	2510	+473	0.36	-0.41	17.92	-2.51
Penn Yan	72	41	55	-2	38	2876	+619	0.55	-0.15	15.70	-3.21
Syracuse	74	39	57	0	55	3150	+856	0.40	-0.42	14.56	-6.95
Warsaw	67	39	50	-4	10	2231	+493	1.00	+0.15	23.88	+1.42
<b><u>Western Plateau</u></b>											
Hornell Almond Dam	71	36	51	-5	14	2244	+357	0.19	-0.51	19.26	+0.99
Elmira	70	34	54	-2	35	2691	+541	0.14	-0.56	17.15	-2.02
Franklinville	68	35	49	-4	9	2091	+517	0.58	-0.31	22.16	-0.53
Jamestown 4NE	69	38	52	-4	13	2336	+554	0.28	-0.74	20.42	-5.09
<b><u>Eastern Plateau</u></b>											
Binghamton/Broo	65	38	53	-3	28	2519	+441	0.56	-0.17	23.33	+3.06
Cobleskill	69	36	53	-3	22	2404	+471	1.89	+1.09	20.18	-1.69
Morrisville	66	38	52	-3	17	1499	-339	0.60	-0.28	20.91	-1.09
Norwich	69	35	53	-2	26	2379	+445	0.72	-0.09	21.92	+0.19
Oneonta	74	38	57	+4	46	2600	+830	1.23	+0.45	19.98	-3.20
<b><u>Coastal</u></b>											
Bridgehamton	70	40	59	-2	63	2883	+442	1.11	+0.34	18.03	-3.24
New York LGA	77	56	66	+3	115	3910	+664	1.35	+0.63	23.72	+1.35

<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.

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