



# WEATHER AND CROPS

## May 13, 2013

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**WEATHER:** The weather pattern for the first half of the week included virtually the same synoptic setup as the week before. A semi-permanent area of high pressure anchored over the region which brought more warm dry weather with sunny days. Finally, an upper air, low system lifted from the southeast and brought an end to this regime with a round of light to moderate showers mainly on Wednesday. Then this system exited and was followed by a strong cold front which brought showers and thunderstorms to western New York on Friday while the remainder of the region received showers on Saturday. Rainfall amounts were highly variable, but for the most part this too was a beneficial rain. Much heavier rain fell in the New York City metro area with nearly 4 inches of rain noted at LaGuardia Airport. Cooler weather followed on Sunday with a few light showers. However, temperatures during the week averaged above normal.

**CROPS:** There were 5.2 days suitable for fieldwork during the week. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent very short, 23 percent short, 73 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus. Oat seedings were 77 percent complete compared with 67 percent last year and slightly above the five year average of 75 percent. Condition of oats was 22 percent fair, 71 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. Winter wheat was rated 1 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 67 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. Corn was 42 percent planted, ahead of the 27 percent last year and 34 percent five year average. Potatoes were 43 percent planted compared to 47 percent in 2012 and below the five year average of 50 percent. Soybeans were 7 percent planted compared to 6 percent in 2012 and slightly below the five year average of 8 percent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: It was a great week for planting corn in Jefferson County. Rain showers at the end of the week were welcome. Most new seedings look good. A stretch of dry, warm weather allowed for a great deal of field work and planting in Lewis County. Friday night brought some much needed rain for the young crops and activation of pre-emergence herbicides on corn. St. Lawrence County experienced the first significant rain of the month at 0.3 inches at the time of report. This rain slowed field work, which was just getting rolling. Still not much corn planted in this region, though many spring seedings are in. Grass grew quickly. Ontario County producers were busy planting through mid-week before much needed rain showers were received at the end of the week. Much needed rain arrived in Cortland County. Hay and pastures jumped up with the moisture and small grains emerged. Corn planting continued and small grain planting was near finished. Soybean planting will begin soon. More crops were planted last week in Madison County. Hay came slowly, alfalfa was ahead. A significant amount of corn and new hay crop were planted this week. It's dry and spotty showers Wednesday weren't nearly enough to cover what was needed. Rye plantings put in last fall to cover forage shortages may not yield up to expectations. Otsego County received some much needed rain. Field work continued. In Albany County, a fine week of field work pushed corn planting to a very high percentage for so early in the year. Many farmers are complete or nearly complete with corn planting. Corn emerged from the ground. Hay started to be chopped as the alfalfa was ready for harvest. Potatoes were about to emerge as well. In Montgomery and Fulton Counties, all field work was well under way and there were farmers reporting over 400 acres of corn planted. Seedings also went in. Saratoga and Washington Counties had around 0.3 inches of rain during the week. Progress was made with seedings and corn being planted. Farmers enjoyed the good weather to plant, but hoped for some rain to help with the first cutting hay yields. A few farmers chopped triticale forage that was seeded last fall. Both Delaware and Sullivan Counties received much needed rain and warm weather. Things started to pop and improve. Frost was predicted for both counties for the next couple of nights, but most crops should be fine. In Dutchess County, farmers planted field corn and soybeans in between much needed hit or miss rain showers.

**FRUIT:** Apples were 100 percent green tip, 95 percent half-inch green to pink, 79 percent full bloom or later, and 26 percent petal fall or later. Peaches were 100 percent green tip, 75 percent half-inch green to pink, 55 percent full bloom or later, and 24 percent petal fall or later. Pears were 100 percent green tip, 80 percent half-inch green to pink, 59 percent full bloom or later, and 27 percent petal fall or later. Sweet cherries were 100 percent green tip, 85 percent half-inch green to pink, 56 percent full bloom or later, and 42 percent petal fall or later. Tart cherries were 100 percent green tip, 95 percent half-inch green to pink, 70 percent full bloom or later, and 50 percent petal fall or later. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Madison County, this week's cold temperatures could impact the apples. In Albany County, apples were in full bloom with a good crop in the making at this point. A freeze predicted for Washington County may have a dramatic impact on some tree fruit and berry crops as many locations were in full bloom. In Dutchess County, fruit trees looked good. Warm weather pushed shoot growth in Long Island vineyards with Chardonnay ranging from 2-6 inches. Much needed rain fell May 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.

**VEGETABLE:** Sweet corn was 33 percent planted, compared to 22 percent in 2012, and was above the 27 percent five year average. Onions were 90 percent planted, compared to 63 percent in 2012, and was well above the 68 percent five year average. Snap beans were 4 percent planted, 7 percent in 2012, and slightly lower than the 8 percent five year average. Cabbage was 5 percent planted compared to 16 percent in 2012, and was below the 16 percent five year average. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Vegetable producers in the capital area were harvesting asparagus. Sweet corn under row covers was up 8 inches. High tunnels were planted to a variety of vegetable crops including tomatoes, greens and summer squash.

**LIVESTOCK:** Pasture was rated 7 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In the capital area, pastures were growing and livestock was out, however they could use some rain at this point. In Montgomery and Fulton Counties, animals began to be released to pasture.

# Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, May 12, 2013

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
Albany County AP	80	42	63	+8	91	206	+109	0.87	+0.11	3.51	-0.74
Watertown Intl	77	43	60	+8	68	193	+130	0.43	-0.13	4.37	+0.88
Boonville	76	38	57	+8	56	98	+50	1.20	+0.22	6.64	+0.31
Bridgehampton	73	38	56	+3	44	88	+17	0.98	+0.10	3.29	-2.21
Binghamton/Broome	75	42	59	+6	67	152	+77	1.58	+0.84	5.23	+0.83
Buffalo Intl AP	79	36	61	+7	82	251	+161	1.14	+0.44	5.14	+1.10
Canton	79	43	61	+9	75	145	+85	0.75	+0.11	3.02	-0.97
Cobleskill	76	34	58	+6	58	106	+41	0.31	-0.46	3.86	-0.75
Dansville AP	80	41	62	+8	85	253	+160	0.98	+0.35	2.96	-0.93
Elmira	78	33	60	+7	73	182	+102	0.45	-0.25	3.59	-0.27
Franklinville	76	30	54	+6	37	105	+67	1.52	+0.75	5.94	+1.34
Geneva Research	77	41	60	+7	73	178	+92	0.94	+0.31	4.08	+0.06
Glens Falls AP	81	41	62	+9	85	182	+112	0.48	-0.31	3.41	-0.91
Honeoye	80	37	59	+6	64	188	+100	1.08	+0.46	4.32	+0.30
Hornell Almond	76	35	56	+5	42	104	+43	1.16	+0.53	4.25	+0.51
Jamestown 4NE	78	35	57	+7	57	167	+113	1.31	+0.47	5.00	-0.28
Niagara Falls	77	36	59	+5	71	205	+105	0.30	-0.34	3.66	-0.63
Ithaca Cornell	76	39	59	+7	64	150	+79	0.53	-0.17	3.54	-0.57
New York LGA	80	47	62	+3	88	259	+69	3.31	+2.42	4.60	-0.73
Morrisville	78	39	59	+7	66	131	+71	1.02	+0.22	5.56	+1.12
Massena	82	40	61	+9	79	184	+115	1.31	+0.75	3.15	-0.46
Norwich	78	36	58	+6	57	105	+37	1.28	+0.44	4.98	+0.20
Oneonta	82	36	60	+10	71	127	+70	1.10	+0.12	3.94	-1.17
Penn Yan	77	42	60	+7	72	208	+122	0.97	+0.34	2.99	-1.03
Plattsburgh Intl	80	38	61	+9	81	156	+85	0.32	-0.31	1.97	-1.91
Poughkeepsie AP	78	37	61	+5	77	197	+75	1.53	+0.55	3.01	-2.15
Rochester NY	77	41	61	+7	81	250	+145	1.36	+0.80	3.96	+0.34
Syracuse	80	44	62	+7	85	222	+119	0.63	-0.08	4.56	-0.03
Wales	76	36	58	+6	62	184	+123	1.10	+0.33	5.65	+0.51
Warsaw	73	33	57	+7	58	146	+95	1.11	+0.34	5.41	+0.72

<sup>1/</sup> Season accumulations are for April 1<sup>st</sup> to date. Weekly accumulations are through 7:00 AM Sunday Morning

## Alert! The window to respond to the Census of Agriculture is almost closed!

There are only a few weeks left to complete and return the 2012 Census of Agriculture. Because time is running out, NASS may contact you or farmers in your area by phone or in person to collect information for the Census. ***Help ensure you and your industry have the most complete set of agricultural statistics available for your country and county.*** For more information or for help filling out your Census form, visit [www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov) or call (888) 424-7828.

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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