



WEATHER AND CROPS

July 8, 2013

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, July 8, 2013

Week Ending, July 7, 2013

No. 977-10-13

WEATHER: It was a hot and humid week with the Bermuda High ridging in from the Western Atlantic by the middle of the week. This allowed temperatures to surge above normal, with many 90 degree readings in parts of Central and Eastern New York. A frontal boundary moved westward of the St. Lawrence River Valley and the Great Lakes region from Monday into Tuesday, with numerous showers and thunderstorms. Some of the showers produced flash flooding across portions of the Mohawk River Valley, the Finger Lakes Region, and Western New York. The worst flash flooding incident continued to be across the Western Mohawk Valley and Central New York from Sunday into Monday. The showers and thunderstorms became more isolated from Independence Day into Saturday. Isolated flash flooding occurred near the Lake George region in Washington County on Friday. Overall, temperatures and precipitation were above normal in many locations, except portions of Western New York.

CROPS: There were 3.0 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 34 percent adequate and 66 percent surplus. Condition of oats was 7 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 61 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Winter wheat was rated 6 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Hay crops were 17 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. The first clover timothy cutting was 85 percent complete compared to 95 percent in 2012. The second clover timothy cutting was 24 percent complete compared to 48 percent in 2012. The first alfalfa cutting was 93 percent complete compared to 99 percent in 2012. The second alfalfa cutting was 18 percent complete compared to 52 percent in 2012. The first cutting of grass silage was 93 percent complete compared to 96 percent last year. Corn was 99 percent planted compared to 100 percent in 2012 and behind the 100 percent five year average. Soybeans were 95 percent planted compared to 100 percent in 2012 and behind the five year average of 99 percent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: There were many rain showers throughout Jefferson County that made haylage harvest difficult, while other areas of the county were dry enough to allow for baled dry hay harvest. In Lewis County, wet conditions continued to hinder hay harvest. Row crops performed well on well drained soils and poorly on inadequately drained soils. In St. Lawrence County, it remained difficult to dry hay even to the hay crop silage stage, due to rain, fog, and excessively humid conditions. This year, the area has experienced one of the worst hay crop harvest conditions in many years. Wet conditions in Essex County allowed for very little hay to be harvested. Field conditions remained saturated in Franklin County. The condition of corn varied, and it was difficult to spray. The corn that looked better was still well behind from where it should have been at the time. There was almost no window of opportunity to bale dry hay. In Niagara County, the risk of quality problems in winter wheat increased due to wet weather conditions. An abundance of over-mature first cut intended for dry hay was not cut. Minimal second cut silage was made as fields were too wet. In addition, corn and soybeans were performing poorly in wet areas. In Ontario County, wheat was turning and nearing harvest, but most wheat was knocked down by rain, which will make harvesting difficult. Corn and soybean fields improved, but the majority of the low spots were drowned out. In Cayuga County, fields had standing water and crops suffered. Torrential rains hit the eastern portion of Cortland County, flooding much of the Tioughnioga River Valley in Cuyler and Truxton. The extent of damage to crops was uncertain, but some corn snapped off. Hay fields that were not harvested were past prime, but there was not enough dry weather to harvest the hay. Some silage was harvested on second cutting fields between rain showers. In Herkimer County, constant rain and flooding prohibited field work. Many crops were under water. Numerous fields in Madison County were too wet to try and make hay. Corn and soybean crops were prevented from being planted, and crops that were planted suffered from wet conditions. Excessively wet conditions persisted in Albany County, some areas received more than two inches of rain on the seventh. Hay quality declined, but some haylage was made with improved conditions at the end of the week. Montgomery and Fulton Counties continued to receive rain on a daily basis, which brought cropping to a standstill. Corn and soybeans in low areas within fields died. Rain continued to saturate cropland in Rensselaer, Schuyler, and Chautauqua Counties. In Delaware County, rains continued, but there were many clear days with high temperatures and humidity. Nights remained warm, with some evening showers in parts of the county. The quality of all crops will be an issue. Corn was especially spotty, and yields expected to be poor for the season.

FRUIT: Apple conditions for the week were 5 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 58 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Peaches were 1 percent harvested and were 3 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. Pears were 2 percent harvested and were 5 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 75 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Sweet cherries were 20 percent harvested and were 23 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Tart cherries were 42 percent harvested and were 45 percent poor, 47 percent fair, and 8 percent good. Grapes were 2 percent fair, 65 percent good, and 33 percent excellent. Strawberries were 18 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: The June 28th flooding in Essex County damaged strawberries on several farms. In Yates County, hot and humid weather took a toll on strawberry and cherry crops. Mold was extremely prevalent. Vineyards on Long Island in Suffolk County progressed rapidly through fruit set due to warm, sunny weather. Chardonnay clusters were close to cluster closing. Growers in the area were leafing the cluster zone and hedging the tops and sides of vines. Apples were sizing well in Albany County. Strawberry harvest was mostly complete, with a lack luster season reported.

VEGETABLE: Sweet corn was 95 percent planted, compared to 99 percent in 2012, and was under the 99 percent five year average. Sweet corn was 9 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. Onions were 8 percent poor, 38 percent fair, and 53 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Snap beans were 78 percent planted, compared to 88 percent in 2012, and well behind the 93 percent five year average. Cabbage was 93 percent planted, compared to 100 percent in 2012, and below the 99 percent five year average. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Essex County, the flood damage from June 28th resulted in a loss of sweet corn. Ontario County continued to receive rain in some parts of the county which made it impossible to continue planting snap beans, cabbage, and other vegetables. In Albany County, producers harvested a variety of greens, summer squash, and the season's first sweet corn.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture was rated 6 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Albany County, pastures remained in good condition with plenty of moisture to keep grasses growing.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 7, 2013

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
Albany County AP	91	66	78	+8	201	1146	+213	1.29	+0.53	18.69	+7.91
Watertown Intl	84	60	74	+7	168	972	+271	1.11	+0.66	12.46	+4.12
Boonville	83	58	71	+6	146	676	+76	1.36	+0.42	19.73	+5.16
Bridgehampton	87	69	75	+6	177	950	+116	0.03	-0.68	12.18	+0.09
Binghamton/Broome	87	66	75	+8	176	960	+179	2.15	+1.31	14.19	+3.26
Buffalo Intl AP	88	59	74	+4	168	1140	+261	0.27	-0.44	15.00	+4.73
Canton	84	57	70	+4	146	875	+169	0.18	-0.57	13.56	+3.70
Cobleskill	87	62	75	+9	174	857	+136	0.31	-0.55	16.71	+4.73
Dansville AP	89	62	76	+7	183	1223	+360	1.73	+0.95	9.60	-0.71
Elmira	89	65	75	+7	178	1075	+266	2.18	+1.34	10.83	+0.34
Franklinville	85	58	71	+7	149	787	+224	1.89	+1.00	14.53	+2.58
Geneva Research	87	60	73	+5	165	1019	+178	1.05	+0.31	13.86	+3.54
Glens Falls AP	91	63	76	+8	182	997	+202	1.61	+0.96	14.11	+3.70
Honeoye	86	59	72	+2	156	999	+127	1.27	+0.55	13.71	+3.51
Hornell Almond	89	57	72	+6	156	832	+133	0.55	-0.26	11.09	+0.92
Jamestown 4NE	86	61	72	+7	154	960	+312	0.99	+0.03	14.06	+0.79
Niagara Falls	85	59	72	+3	159	1053	+160	0.77	+0.11	14.70	+4.55
Ithaca Cornell	87	62	75	+8	174	940	+182	2.01	+1.19	11.46	+0.65
New York LGA	95	73	82	+8	226	1520	+257	1.75	+0.84	16.19	+4.10
Morrisville	87	62	74	+9	173	904	+226	1.91	+1.05	19.78	+8.05
Massena	86	57	72	+5	156	913	+156	0.21	-0.50	13.97	+4.94
Norwich	89	60	75	+9	177	868	+149	2.34	+1.49	19.43	+7.39
Oneonta	88	60	75	+10	175	849	+189	0.72	-0.19	15.98	+3.08
Penn Yan	87	62	75	+6	177	1119	+278	0.50	-0.24	9.62	-0.70
Plattsburgh Intl	90	57	73	+4	161	880	+64	2.00	+1.34	16.77	+7.36
Poughkeepsie AP	92	69	80	+9	209	1205	+220	2.25	+1.35	16.58	+4.05
Rochester NY	87	62	74	+6	173	1175	+308	3.00	+2.37	15.83	+6.87
Syracuse	90	66	77	+9	192	1158	+281	0.77	-0.14	14.99	+3.68
Wales	84	58	71	+5	146	922	+229	0.67	-0.20	14.85	+2.47
Warsaw	83	55	70	+5	139	838	+198	1.35	+0.49	16.26	+4.27

^{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.