



WEATHER AND CROPS

July 22, 2013

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WEATHER: It was a hot and humid week in the region as high pressure dominated at the surface and aloft most of the week. The most oppressive day was Friday, July 19th. Shower and thunderstorms, some strong to severe, occurred Friday and Friday night across portions of Western, Central, and Northern New York, with storms on Saturday mainly across Southeastern New York as frontal boundaries moved southward across the region to end the week.

CROPS: There were 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 4 percent short, 62 percent adequate and 34 percent surplus. Oats for grain were 8 percent harvested. Condition of oats was 2 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 64 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Winter wheat was 37 percent harvested compared to 86 percent in 2012. Winter wheat condition was rated 4 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. Hay crops were 11 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 46 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. The first clover timothy cutting was 93 percent complete compared to 98 percent in 2012 and behind the 95 percent five year average. The second clover timothy cutting was 40 percent complete compared to 66 percent in 2012. The first alfalfa cutting was 97 percent complete compared to 100 percent in 2012 and behind the 99 percent five year average. The second alfalfa cutting was 54 percent complete compared to 79 percent in 2012, and well below the 62 percent five year average. The first cutting of grass silage was 98 percent complete compared to 100 percent last year and behind the 99 percent five year average. Condition of corn was 10 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 17 percent excellent. Soybeans were 99 percent planted compared to 100 percent in 2012 and behind the five year average of 100 percent. Soybeans were rated 8 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 51 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Jefferson County, dry weather provided excellent hay and haylage harvest conditions. Wheat harvest began and reported yields were very good. High winds caused some field corn stalks to bend and lodge. Over three inches of rain was reported in St. Lawrence County on Friday and Saturday, which halted field activity and left fields with sizable areas of standing water. Weather and field conditions improved in Franklin County. Corn in the area saw improvements as producers were able to spray, but there was a lot of late planted corn. Producers who make dry hay were finally able to do so. In Livingston County, wheat yields and quality were good. Many producers started third cutting. Niagara County received over two inches of rain on July 19th, which resulted in ruts in many hay crop and hay crop silage fields. A large amount of winter wheat was harvested before the rain, and yields varied from fair to excellent, but test weights were exceptional. In addition, parts of the county were hit with high winds and rain which lifted barn roofs, laid over corn, and knocked over trees, power lines, and barns. Wheat and hay harvest continued throughout Ontario County. In Cortland County, corn started to reach tassel stage across the county with the exception of late planted fields. Oats in the area have turned gold. Wheat harvest began in Tompkins County. In Madison County, an abundance of second cutting occurred during the week. Farmers opted to chop or wrap it as opposed to waiting for it to dry down for baled hay. Many farmers went back to clean and harvest the remnants of first cutting. Late blight was confirmed in a commercial potato field in the area. Corn height varied across the county, and within the fields. Rain showers over the weekend were needed on certain soils. Improved weather allowed for dry hay production to progress in Albany County; however the heat made handling the hay a chore. Corn on well drained sites improved greatly, with many fields reaching tassel stage. In Montgomery and Fulton Counties, first cutting was still not complete, but a fair amount of second cutting has taken place. Some producers stopped cutting hay over concern for the heat and humidity. By the end of the week, most of the ground could be sprayed. Producers in the area finished planting crops with the exception of sorghum. Rensselaer County finally had a good week to complete field work. In Washington County, corn was curling in some fields since the root systems were shallow due to wet conditions from mid-May to early July. With a shallow root system, the corn crop was more susceptible to heat stress. Farmers in the county took advantage of the dry weather by bailing and chopping both first and second cut hay. Producers in Seneca and Schuyler Counties began harvesting wheat. It was a hot and humid week in Delaware County. A lot of hay was harvested and corn took off, with some corn being excellent and some being poor. Corn in Sullivan County that tasseled was the best corn some producers have seen in years. Other producers in the county have reported spotty corn. Both Delaware and Sullivan Counties have reported issues with insects and wildlife. Farmers in Dutchess County finally put up dry hay due to warm weather conditions. Corn grew, with some early planted corn hitting the tassel stage.

FRUIT: Apple conditions for the week were 5 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 59 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. Peaches were 9 percent harvested compared to the 33 percent average. Peaches were 5 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. Pears were 7 percent harvested compared to a 12 percent average and were 8 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. Sweet cherries were 75 percent harvested, 71 percent in 2012, and below the five year average of 90 percent. Sweet cherries were 29 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 41 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Tart cherries were 77 percent harvested compared to 44 percent in 2012, and above the average of 74 percent. Tart cherries were 46 percent poor, 47 percent fair, 5 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Grapes were 2 percent fair, 66 percent good, and 32 percent excellent. Strawberries were 26 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 41 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Dry weather dominated Suffolk County, where total rainfall for the month was less than one inch. Vineyards endured the heat well, where only the blocks on sandier sites required irrigation. Apple producers reported good sizing in Ontario County, but some reports indicated that scabbing may affect quality.

VEGETABLE: Sweet corn was 9 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 51 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. Onions were 23 percent poor, 21 percent fair, and 40 percent good, and 16 percent excellent. Snap beans were 87 percent planted, compared to 98 percent in 2012, and well behind the 98 percent five year average. Snap beans were 5 percent harvested and were rated 21 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 41 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. Cabbage was 99 percent planted, compared to 100 percent in 2012, and below the 100 percent five year average. Cabbage was rated 54 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 9 percent good, and 19 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Cortland County, the first round of locally grown sweet corn was made available. Fruits and vegetables in Dutchess County were pleased with the warm weather conditions throughout the week. Some vegetable fields were being irrigated. Cabbage producers in Ontario County said this year was one of the most challenging years as too much rain has prevented plantings, and many transplants had to be tossed.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture was rated 1 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 10 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 21, 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	96	62	82	+10	224	1564	+323	0.01	-0.69	21.89	+9.71
Watertown Intl	91	56	78	+9	195	1335	+372	0.28	-0.13	13.07	+3.91
Boonville	86	58	73	+8	166	970	+143	0.31	-0.55	21.47	+5.13
Bridgehampton	93	69	81	+10	219	1349	+212	0.07	-0.56	12.32	-1.09
Binghamton/Broome	89	60	77	+8	190	1307	+256	0.00	-0.77	16.55	+4.06
Buffalo Intl AP	92	65	81	+10	217	1517	+341	1.88	+1.21	16.97	+5.38
Canton	90	55	76	+8	183	1204	+240	0.47	-0.30	16.04	+4.70
Cobleskill	92	60	78	+11	200	1221	+248	0.00	-0.77	17.61	+4.06
Dansville AP	94	63	80	+11	212	1604	+456	0.65	0.00	11.51	-0.15
Elmira	95	61	78	+9	200	1438	+352	0.31	-0.45	11.76	-0.26
Franklinville	89	62	75	+10	175	1090	+313	0.87	+0.10	16.52	+2.96
Geneva Research	92	63	78	+8	199	1383	+255	1.48	+0.85	16.53	+4.90
Glens Falls AP	94	59	78	+9	200	1371	+296	0.23	-0.43	14.94	+3.24
Honeoye	91	59	77	+5	188	1343	+171	1.42	+0.83	15.25	+3.83
Hornell Almond	95	60	77	+10	191	1164	+215	0.08	-0.62	11.74	+0.11
Jamestown 4NE	91	61	77	+11	193	1293	+410	0.73	-0.15	15.47	+0.41
Niagara Falls	92	64	80	+10	215	1427	+238	4.04	+3.42	18.79	+7.39
Ithaca Cornell	92	58	76	+8	184	1283	+263	0.58	-0.19	12.38	+0.03
New York LGA	100	77	89	+13	271	2007	+373	0.00	-0.95	16.51	+2.56
Morrisville	92	60	77	+10	192	1256	+334	0.25	-0.52	23.33	+10.00
Massena	92	56	78	+9	198	1264	+235	0.71	+0.01	16.91	+6.48
Norwich	93	58	77	+9	190	1223	+251	0.31	-0.46	20.37	+6.77
Oneonta	92	60	77	+11	192	1203	+305	0.17	-0.72	17.07	+2.37
Penn Yan	93	62	79	+9	206	1488	+360	0.28	-0.35	10.77	-0.86
Plattsburgh Intl	96	58	78	+8	197	1235	+134	0.64	-0.04	17.84	+7.12
Poughkeepsie AP	97	67	83	+12	234	1634	+336	0.02	-0.89	16.85	+2.50
Rochester NY	93	64	80	+11	214	1559	+406	1.04	+0.46	17.09	+6.97
Syracuse	95	62	81	+11	216	1557	+393	0.36	-0.48	15.72	+2.69
Wales	89	63	77	+10	192	1252	+312	2.41	+1.64	17.42	+3.46
Warsaw	86	57	75	+9	179	1148	+275	1.62	+0.88	18.40	+4.90

^{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.

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