



WEATHER AND CROPS

July 29, 2013

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Week Ending, July 28, 2013

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WEATHER: The week began with temperatures slightly above normal, with highs well into the eighties. On Tuesday, July 23rd, a cold front tracked through with a half inch to an inch and a half of rain. Temperatures were a little below normal the rest of the week, with highs in the seventies to lower eighties. Low pressure tracked off the coast Thursday into early Friday with a quarter inch, or less, of rain in Southern New York.

CROPS: There were 5.1 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 3 percent short, 78 percent adequate, and 19 percent surplus. Oats for grain were 17 percent harvested. Condition of oats was 3 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 67 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Winter wheat was 85 percent harvested compared to 96 percent in 2012, and was ahead of the 78 percent five year average. Winter wheat conditions were rated 6 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 17 percent excellent. Hay crops were 10 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. The first clover timothy cutting was 95 percent complete compared to 100 percent in 2012 and behind the 98 percent five year average. The second clover timothy cutting was 55 percent complete compared to 70 percent in 2012. The first alfalfa cutting was completed during the week. The second alfalfa cutting was 70 percent complete compared to 84 percent in 2012, and just below the 71 percent five year average. The first cutting of grass silage was completed during the week. Condition of corn was 11 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 43 percent good, and 21 percent excellent. Soybeans were rated 9 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Many parts of Jefferson County were still dry despite the rain received during the week. Hay fields in the area were reported as excellent. In Niagara County, wheat harvest was nearly complete, with good yields and quality. Oat harvest was well underway, but straw baling was difficult to dry due to wet soils and frequent showers. Dry hay harvest continued in the area at a slow pace due to wet conditions. In Ontario County, intermittent rain showers made it difficult to make dry hay. Field corn was maturing unevenly in the fields. Unexpected showers in Cortland County caught farmers with hay down again. Many farmers struggled to get first cutting while others had a good portion of second cutting complete. Corn looked good in the area; late planted corn reached knee high length. In Madison County, third cutting of grass and alfalfa hay was cut and harvested. At the same time, many farmers finished second cutting, and some still had first cutting left to harvest for mulch or bedding. Wheat harvest was imminent in the northern tier of the county. In portions of the county, wheat production was down and straw was light. Dry weather helped producers in Albany County harvest hay. Corn in the area improved with many fields reaching tassel stage. In Fulton and Montgomery Counties, row crops looked poor and the hay crop was still a mess due to continued wet conditions. Corn was extremely variable in Washington County. Some of the best corn in the county was blown over by wind. One producer in the area reported 100 acres of corn that was blown down due to the weather. Corn was eleven feet tall and still growing, but the root systems were abnormally shallow due to wet soil conditions. Shallow root systems put the corn crop at risk from high winds. Farmers in the county struggled to bale dry hay. Due to low temperatures at night, Delaware County experienced heavy dew on the ground in the morning. The week was a great week to get field work done.

FRUIT: Apple conditions for the week were 5 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 19 percent excellent. Peaches were 11 percent harvested compared to the 47 percent five year average. Peaches were 5 percent poor, 12 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 23 percent excellent. Pears were 11 percent harvested compared to a 29 percent five year average and were 7 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 33 percent excellent. Sweet cherries were 85 percent harvested, 79 percent in 2012, and below the five year average of 95 percent. Sweet cherries were 35 percent poor, 35 percent fair, 27 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Tart cherries were 92 percent harvested compared to 63 percent in 2012, and at the five year average. Tart cherries were 48 percent poor, 48 percent fair, 2 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Grapes were 1 percent fair, 64 percent good, and 35 percent excellent. Strawberries were 33 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 38 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Albany County, apples were sizing well. Several varieties of grapes in the Long Island vineyards in Suffolk County started to ripen. Berries in Pinot Noir started to turn color and soften. Birds will soon be interested in the ripening grapes, so growers will need to apply protective netting in the coming weeks.

VEGETABLE: Sweet corn was 19 percent harvested compared to 9 percent in 2012, and was just ahead of the 18 percent average. Sweet corn was 7 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 20 percent excellent. Onions were 12 percent poor, 12 percent fair, and 46 percent good, and 30 percent excellent. Snap beans were 98 percent planted, compared to 100 percent in 2012, and just behind the 100 percent five year average. Snap beans were 8 percent harvested compared to 18 percent in 2012, and were well behind the 27 percent five year average. Snap beans were rated 15 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Cabbage planting was completed by week's end. Cabbage was 6 percent harvested compared to 15 percent in 2012, and well below the 25 percent average. Cabbage was rated 57 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 5 percent good, and 19 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Ontario County, intermittent rain showers made it difficult to finish planting vegetable crops. Vegetable producers in Albany County harvested a greater variety of summer produce.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture was rated 6 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 11 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 28, 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	87	53	72	-1	153	1717	+321	1.01	+0.31	22.90	+10.02
Watertown Intl	84	46	67	-3	120	1455	+359	0.65	+0.20	13.72	+4.11
Boonville	81	43	63	-4	92	1062	+117	0.85	-0.06	22.32	+5.07
Bridgehampton	86	58	72	-2	154	1503	+211	0.80	+0.13	13.12	-0.96
Binghamton/Broome	83	47	67	-4	118	1425	+234	2.06	+1.29	18.61	+5.35
Buffalo Intl AP	80	52	68	-4	128	1645	+317	0.52	-0.20	17.49	+5.18
Canton	81	44	64	-6	97	1301	+204	0.27	-0.51	16.31	+4.19
Cobleskill	83	45	67	-2	122	1343	+243	1.08	+0.31	18.69	+4.37
Dansville AP	85	48	69	-3	132	1736	+441	0.85	+0.22	12.36	+0.07
Elmira	85	45	68	-3	128	1566	+340	1.22	+0.52	12.98	+0.26
Franklinville	80	43	63	-3	92	1182	+293	1.57	+0.80	18.09	+3.76
Geneva Research	83	49	66	-6	112	1495	+220	0.71	+0.08	17.24	+4.98
Glens Falls AP	84	48	68	-3	130	1501	+286	2.28	+1.58	17.22	+4.82
Honeoye	82	44	65	-8	105	1448	+122	0.72	+0.11	15.97	+3.94
Hornell Almond	84	44	65	-4	104	1268	+193	2.09	+1.45	13.83	+1.56
Jamestown 4NE	83	46	65	-3	106	1399	+397	1.56	+0.67	17.03	+1.08
Niagara Falls	80	51	67	-5	122	1549	+210	0.60	-0.04	19.39	+7.35
Ithaca Cornell	82	44	65	-4	110	1393	+240	3.33	+2.57	15.71	+2.60
New York LGA	91	64	77	-1	192	2199	+376	0.60	-0.31	17.11	+2.25
Morrisville	83	46	66	-2	118	1374	+326	2.14	+1.37	25.47	+11.37
Massena	85	44	64	-6	101	1365	+197	0.09	-0.64	17.00	+5.84
Norwich	84	48	67	-3	120	1343	+240	2.92	+2.21	23.29	+8.98
Oneonta	84	46	66	-2	111	1314	+297	4.84	+4.00	21.91	+6.37
Penn Yan	83	48	67	-4	124	1612	+337	0.86	+0.23	11.63	-0.63
Plattsburgh Intl	81	47	64	-7	102	1337	+93	0.38	-0.36	18.22	+6.76
Poughkeepsie AP	89	58	74	+1	167	1801	+342	1.55	+0.69	18.40	+3.19
Rochester NY	85	50	68	-3	128	1687	+389	0.11	-0.52	17.20	+6.45
Syracuse	85	50	70	-2	137	1694	+383	0.81	-0.03	16.53	+2.66
Wales	79	46	64	-5	101	1353	+287	0.45	-0.32	17.87	+3.14
Warsaw	78	45	63	-5	90	1238	+246	0.58	-0.16	18.98	+4.74

^{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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