

AGRICULTURE

Days suitable for field work were 2.2. There were measurable amounts of rainfall during the week over most of the state. Temperatures were below normal in most areas for the week. Top soil moisture was rated 100% surplus. Activities during the week were draining fields, spraying pesticides and herbicides, and manually harvesting spring vegetables. Barley condition is good, but lodging reported in some fields due to wet conditions. Soybean plants continued to emerge in many fields, while replanting of some soybean fields continued where field conditions allowed. Hay crop condition were rated fair to good. Wet conditions prevented cutting, drying, and baling in many hay fields. Clear weather and heat needed for hay harvest activities to resume. Sweet corn, pumpkin, and snap bean planting continued. Potato plants were flowering and condition was reported as good. Blueberry harvest began in some areas in the south where conditions allowed. Pre-harvest sprays were applied to many blueberry fields. Strawberry harvest continued, but rot mold seen in some strawberry fields. Heavy peach drop seen in some orchards in the central portions of the state due to lack of pollination.

SOIL MOISTURE TABLE

	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	PREVIOUS YEAR
VERY SHORT	0%	0%	0%
SHORT	0%	0%	11%
ADEQUATE	0%	17%	84%
SURPLUS	100%	83%	5%

RANGE AND PASTURE

	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK	PREVIOUS YEAR
VERY POOR	0%	0%	0%
POOR	0%	0%	0%
FAIR	36%	4%	2%
GOOD	38%	67%	95%
EXCELLENT	26%	29%	3%

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR JUNE 23, 2003*

Arugula - Good quality and volume.

Asparagus - The season is just about over. Should finish up next week.

Beets - Good quantities of spring planted product available.

Cabbage - Savoy and Green varieties being seen in good quantities. Red being seen in fair quantities.

Cilantro - Good quality and quantity of spring planted product available.

Collards - Good quality and quantity.

Cucumbers - Good quality and fair quantity available now of tunnel started product. Volume will grow over the next several weeks.

Dandelions - Spring planted San Pasquale variety available in good quantities.

Dill - Great quality with good quantities available.

Escarole/Endive - Good quality with good volume. Will start to taper off in early July.

Greens - Great quality and quantities seen. Kholrabi, Kale, Mustard, Broccoli Raab, and Swiss Chard.

Leeks - Over-wintered product is available now and for some time.

Lettuce - Good, though decreasing, quantities of good quality Red and Green Leaf and Romaine and Boston. Starting to slow down each week as the weather warms.

Parsley - Good quality and quantity of spring seeded plain and curly varieties.

Pickles - Good quality and quantity of tunnel started product entering the market. Increasing volume entering the market over the next several weeks.

Radishes - Decreasing volume available.

Spinach - Good quality and quantity of spring planted available though starting to slow down each week as the weather warms.

Strawberries - The season is winding down for our crop with decreasing volumes for another week or two. Our crop is mainly Chandlers.

Turnips - Volume continuing to increase.

Yellow Squash - Good quality and fair quantity available now. Volume will increase each week.

Zucchini - Good quality and quantity available now. Volume will increase each week.

JERSEY FRESH FORECAST

Blueberries - Things are late this year. Minimal quantities of the early Duke variety will be available around June 23 with volume building quickly after that. While Duke volume may be slightly down this year, the follow-up Bluecrop variety will have volume similar to last year.

Eggplant - Begin to become available towards late July. Volume increasing quickly after that.

Melons - Begin to become available towards late July. Volume increasing quickly after that.

Peppers - Begin to become available by mid-July. Volume increasing quickly after that.

Sweet Corn - Minor acreage grown under plastic will allow for some early product for road stands for the important July 4th holiday, look towards the following week for any quantity.

Tomatoes - Field grown begins at the end of June or early July with limited quantities and higher prices. Volume available by mid-July.

Yellow Peaches - Growers are looking forward to a season with very good quality and size. The early variety Sentry will begin to become available in mid to late July. Redhaven and John Boy varieties available in volume several weeks later.