

# NEW JERSEY WEEKLY CROP WEATHER

Volume 65 No. 30

Date: October 27, 2003

## New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service

### In Cooperation With:

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
Agricultural Marketing Service  
U.S. Department of Commerce/N.O.A.A.  
Rutgers University

### NOAA WEATHER RADIO STATIONS

Allentown  
WXL-39 on the VHF-FM  
frequency of 162.40 Megahertz.  
Atlantic City  
KHB-38 on the VHF-FM  
frequency of 162.40 Megahertz.  
New York City  
KWO-35 on the VHF-FM  
frequency of 160.55 Megahertz.  
Philadelphia  
KIH-28 on the VHF-FM  
frequency of 162.475 Megahertz.

### NEW JERSEY AUCTIONS

Vineland  
Phone: (856)691-0721  
Sales 10:00AM Daily except Sunday.  
Landisville  
Phone: (856)697-2273  
Direct Sales Daily  
Swedesboro  
Phone: (856)476-0313  
Hightstown  
Phone: (609)448-0193  
Auction Sales Mon-Wed-Fri-7pm

### Apple Harvest Near Completion

Days suitable for field work were 6.3. Temperatures were below normal part of the week in most localities. There were measurable amounts of rainfall across most of the state. Top soil moisture was rated 10% short and 90% adequate. Activities during the week were harvesting vegetables, planting cover crops, harvesting corn for grain and silage, harvesting soybeans, cleaning up fields and orchards, and baling hay. Emerged barley and wheat seedlings were rated in mostly good condition. Pumpkin fields continued to suffer disease damage due to wet weather conditions. Apple harvest activities are almost complete. Cranberry harvest was 67% complete. Cool weather and plentiful pasture forage boosted milk production in most areas.

### Climate summary for the week ending 8am 10/27/03

Temperatures averaged below normal. Extremes were 76 degrees at Hammonton and Pomona on October 22, 2003, and 22 degrees at Charlotteburg on October 25, 2003.

Weekly rainfall averaged 1.02 inches north, 0.30 inches central, and 0.26 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 1.20 inches at long valley on October 26, 2003 through October 27, 2003.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 98 percent north, 93 percent central, and 81 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 47 degrees north, 50 degrees central, and 51 degrees south.

### WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING 8 AM MONDAY 10/27/03

Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures				Growing Degree Days 1/		Soil Moisture 2/
	Last Week	Since March 1		Last Week				Total	Dept.*	
		Total	Dept.*	Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*			
- Inches -			- Degrees -				- Base 50°F -			
<b>NORTH</b>										
Belvidere Bridge	.69	44.93	13.47	72	29	48	-1	2975	273	100
Canoe Brook	.94	43.20	10.07	74	28	49	0	3104	381	100
Charlotteburg	1.33	46.71	12.89	71	22	46	-1	2369	245	100
Flemington	1.12	41.80	10.26	72	28	48	-1	2916	124	100
Long Valley	1.20	43.08	8.81	70	26	46	-1	2315	-41	100
Newton	.84	41.88	11.14	72	28	47	0	2629	253	100
<b>CENTRAL</b>										
Freehold	.20	32.00	1.26	71	27	50	-2	3182	151	95
Long Branch	.13	35.35	4.20	73	32	50	-2	3007	29	88
New Brunswick	.75	38.11	7.02	73	29	49	-3	3132	-35	100
Pemberton	DATA NOT AVAILABLE									
Toms River	.20	37.56	5.49	75	29	50	-2	3200	226	88
Trenton	.23	32.43	3.19	70	31	49	-4	3102	-205	94
<b>SOUTH</b>										
A.C. Marina	DATA NOT AVAILABLE									
Cape May C.H.	.19	28.80	1.19	74	27	51	-4	3135	8	68
Downstown	.34	33.12	4.32	75	29	50	-3	3252	-93	83
Glassboro	.29	34.31	3.88	72	32	52	0	3485	200	93
Hammonton	.22	28.70	-2.08	76	29	51	-1	3410	124	72
Pomona	.30	27.80	.46	76	28	51	-1	3247	198	88
Seabrook	.25	34.37	6.37	74	31	52	-1	3551	183	87
South Harrison	.25	31.36	1.63	72	33	52	NA	3433	NA	NA

\*Departure from normal.

1/ Growing degree days since March 1, total and departure from normal or long term average.

2/ Estimated soil moisture as % of field capacity based on climate data.

## SOIL MOISTURE TABLE

	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	PREVIOUS YEAR
<b>VERY SHORT</b>	0%	0%	0%
<b>SHORT</b>	10%	20%	0%
<b>ADEQUATE</b>	90%	60%	98%
<b>SURPLUS</b>	0%	20%	2%

## RANGE AND PASTURE

	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK	PREVIOUS YEAR
<b>VERY POOR</b>	0%	0%	0%
<b>POOR</b>	0%	0%	0%
<b>FAIR</b>	53%	55%	46%
<b>GOOD</b>	47%	45%	54%
<b>EXCELLENT</b>	0%	0%	0%

### JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR OCTOBER 27, 2003

**Acorn & Butternut Squash** – Fair to good quantity of good quality product. We'll have them available until around Thanksgiving.

**Beets** – Good quantity and fair to good quality available.

**Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts & Cauliflower** – Still harvesting good volume & quality.

**Cabbage** – Savoy, Green, and Red varieties being seen in good quantity and quality. We'll have them into November until a hard freeze.

**Cranberries** – Harvesting a good volume of excellent quality berries this week with slightly higher prices (+ 15%) paid to farmers this year. We do have increased amounts of high quality dry harvested red and white berries available this year. They're also available in a myriad of product packaging options.

**Escarole & Endive** – Good quality product is now being harvested in good volume.

**Greens** – Very good quality and good quantity of Collards, Kholrabi, Kale, Broccoli Raab, and Swiss Chard. We should have these greens into November until a hard freeze.

**Green Onions** – Good quantity and quality should be available into November.

**Herbs** – Good to excellent quality and good quantity for Cilantro, Dill,

Parsley, and Arugula. Baby Arugula is in excellent quality and good quantity. These herbs do well in the cool weather. Basil doesn't like the cooler weather very much and is in poor to fair quality and fair quantity. Mustard and Mint also prefer warmer weather and are now found in fair to good quality and quantity. We should have the harder herbs until the end of the month or into early next month.

**Leeks** – Good quantity and quality available.

**Lettuces** – Even though there are good quantities of good quality Red, Green, Romaine, and Iceberg lettuces around, low prices are causing many growers not to bother harvesting them.

**Pumpkins** – We have 30-40% less supply this year. With all of this summer's wetness, only growers who stuck to their spray schedules seem to have excellent quality this year. Our commercial harvest is over now.

**Spinach** – Good quantity and excellent quality of product available. The quality is at it's best at this time of year and seems to get better by the day. Can handle some frost.

**Sweet Potatoes** – Good growing conditions produced very good quality and good quantity though quantity in total is a bit off this year from last year.

**Turnips** – Good quantity and quality available.

**White Potatoes** - Good quantity and quality will now be available through at least Thanksgiving and beyond. Prices had been so low that a lot of potatoes weren't being harvested. Growers have now decided to harvest, cure, and store them until they're sold.