



**Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey
and Southern Pennsylvania**

**Issued by Rutgers University New Brunswick, NJ
8am EDT Monday, April 14, 2008**

Rainfall amounts none expected through Tuesday.

Winds for spraying north 10 to 15 mph today, north 5 to 10 mph tonight and Tuesday.

Relative humidity in percent 40 to 50 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 40 to 50 Tuesday. Dew points mid 20s through Tuesday. Drying conditions good today and again Tuesday. Frost freeze or dew light dew tonight and Tuesday night. Percent of possible sunshine 60 today, 90 Tuesday.

There is less than a 10 percent probability of precipitation during the 12 hour period beginning at 8 am and ending at 8 pm that could adversely affect the performance of pesticides that require a rain free period after application.

Soil moisture levels are high but should decrease over the next several days.

Temperatures in the representative cranberry bogs could drop to 19 to 23 tonight and 18 to 22 Tuesday night. Early season hay cutting will see fairly good conditions over the next few days with no expected rainfall and milder temperatures.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period April 21, 2008 to April 27, 2008 is calling for temperatures to average above normal and precipitation to total below normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am 4/14/08

Temperatures averaged above normal, averaging 52 degrees north, 52 degrees central, and 54 degrees south. Extremes were 76 degrees at several locations on April 11, 2008 and April 12, 2008, and 29 degrees at Flemington on April 14, 2008.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.42 inches north, 0.52 inches central, and 0.61 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 0.99 inches at Downstown on April 12, 2008 to April 13, 2008.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 96 percent north, 96 percent central, and 95 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 50 degrees north, 50 degrees central, and 52 degrees south.

Producers Preparing Fields

Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday, April 13, 2008, were 5.0. Topsoil moisture was rated 85% adequate and 15% surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated as 90% adequate and 10% surplus. There were no measurable amounts of rainfall for the week in most localities. Temperatures were above normal for the week in most areas of the Garden State. Range and pastures are mostly good. Ground preparation continues. Sweet corn planting under plastic underway. Alfalfa is starting to green in central New Jersey. Producers also continued greenhouse work, spraying, and fertilizing.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, April 14, 2008

Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures Last Week				Growing Degree Days ¹		Soil Moisture ²
	Last Week	Since March 1		Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*	Total	Dept.*	
		Total	Dept.*							
	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Base 50°F</i>	<i>Base 50°F</i>	<i>Percent</i>
North										
Belvidere Bridge	0.76	7.30	1.63	76	32	53	4	32	32	96
Canoe Brook	0.42	6.50	0.10	76	34	51	2	29	29	96
Charlotteburg	0.29	8.18	2.05	73	33	51	4	34	34	96
Flemington	0.32	7.00	0.93	74	29	52	3	38	38	95
Newton	0.33	7.09	1.71	75	34	55	8	63	63	93
Central										
Freehold	0.47	4.50	-1.66	76	33	52	2	50	50	98
Long Branch	0.46	5.91	-0.48	74	37	50	0	37	37	98
New Brunswick	0.63	4.94	-0.86	76	35	52	1	37	36	97
Toms River	0.39	6.09	-0.03	76	40	53	3	75	75	95
Trenton	0.66	5.61	0.02	75	41	56	4	73	66	95
South										
Cape May C.H.	0.33	4.20	-1.23	73	41	52	1	73	69	95
Downstown	1.03	5.47	-0.11	76	40	55	3	85	78	98
Glassboro	0.29	4.32	-1.54	75	40	55	3	72	65	86
Hammonton	0.57	4.85	-0.81	76	41	55	3	96	89	97
Pomona	0.86	5.67	0.14	76	42	54	3	88	87	97
Seabrook	0.56	5.01	0.09	73	38	54	2	77	68	98
South Harrison	0.22	5.16	-0.80	74	41	56	NA	83	NA	NA

* Departure from normal.

¹ Growing degree days since March 1, 2008, total and departure from normal or long term average.

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

³ Data not available.

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR APRIL 14, 2008

ARUGULA	Just starting to be harvested in very light quantity. Volume should pick up each week after that.
ASPARAGUS	The early harvest has begun with a very light quantity of good quality product. With warmer weather later on this week, the harvest should ramp up quickly. Volume should begin in several weeks.
CILANTRO	A small volume of fair quality over-wintered product is just starting to be harvested and will be available for at least several weeks. Spring planted should be available by early May.
LEEKS	A small volume of fair quality over-wintered product is available now and for some time.
PARSLEY	Fair to good quality over-wintered curly and plain product is available in light quantities.
RADISHES	Harvesting a light quantity of good quality product. Volume should pick up over the next several weeks.
SPINACH	A small volume of fair quality over-wintered product is available now and for another 2-3 weeks or so after that. Spring planted should be available by the end of the month.

JERSEY FRESH FORECAST

BEETS	Just transplanted recently. Harvest should begin in mid-May.
CABBAGE	Just transplanted recently. Won't be ready until late May.
COLLARDS	Should begin harvesting around the third week of May.
DILL	Should begin harvesting around the third week of May.
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Should begin harvesting around the end of May.
KALE	Good quality over-wintered product should be available next week. Transplanted product available by the beginning of May.
LETTUCE	Should begin harvesting Boston & Red & Green Leaf in mid-May, followed by Romaine around the third week of May.
STRAWBERRIES	Early harvests of Chandler variety berries are expected to begin in mid-May, while the bulk of the crop will be harvested towards the end of May, with lower volumes to continue through early June.
TURNIPS	Should begin harvesting around the end of May.