



**Weather Advisory for New Jersey
and Southeastern Pennsylvania
Issued By Rutgers University
New Brunswick, NJ
8 am EDT Monday May 12, 2008**

Rainfall amounts, half to one inch today and early tonight, none expected Tuesday. Winds for spraying, northeast 15 to 25 mph today, north 10 to 15 mph tonight, north 10 to 20 mph Tuesday. Relative humidity in percent, 90 to 100 today and tonight, 40 to 50 Tuesday. Dew points, 40 to 45 today and tonight, upper 30s to low 40s Tuesday. Drying conditions, poor today, good Tuesday. Frost freeze or dew, no dew tonight but wetting in early showers, light dew Tuesday night. Percent of possible sunshine, less than 10 today, 80 Tuesday.

There is a near 100 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.

Temperatures in the representative cranberry bogs will remain above freezing tonight but could drop to 25 to 29 Tuesday night.

Hay cutting is not recommended for today with significant rainfall. Drier air should move into the region for Tuesday and Wednesday but then with more showers possible Thursday.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period May 19, 2008, to May 25, 2008, is calling for temperatures to average below normal and precipitation to total below normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am 5/12/08

Temperatures averaged below normal, averaging 57 degrees north, 58 degrees central, and 60 degrees south. Extremes were 83 degrees at Hammonton and Downtown on the May 8, 2008, and 38 degrees at Freehold on May 12, 2008.

Weekly rainfall averaged 1.64 inches north, 1.42 inches central, and 1.82 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 1.76 inches at Downtown on May 9, 2008, to May 10, 2008.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 96 percent north, 89 percent central, and 84 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 57 degrees north, 57 degrees central, and 60 degrees south.

Vegetable Harvest Continues

Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday, May 11, 2008, were 5.0. Topsoil moisture was rated as 95% adequate and 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated as 100% adequate. There were measurable amounts of rainfall for the week in most localities. Temperatures were variable during most of the week across the Garden State. General ground maintenance continued throughout the state. Apple fruit sets varied due to the weather, while grapes began to grow in southern New Jersey. Harvest of early season vegetables included lettuce, cabbage, asparagus, and spinach. Producers continued spraying, pruning, fertilizing, and greenhouse work.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, May 12, 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.*							
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees			Percent
North										
Belvidere Bridge	1.45	10.63	1.44	80	40	57	-2	226	109	98
Canoe Brook	1.93	10.31	0.19	80	41	58	0	214	114	100
Charlotteburg	1.21	10.88	0.91	78	40	56	0	183	133	98
Flemington	1.43	9.93	0.29	82	40	56	-2	218	110	100
Newton	2.16	10.76	1.89	81	41	58	1	272	201	97
Central										
Freehold	1.42	6.88	-2.70	78	38	56	-4	212	66	100
Long Branch	1.80	8.60	-1.30	76	47	57	-1	153	33	100
New Brunswick	1.51	8.46	-0.86	80	41	59	-1	220	50	100
Toms River	1.26	7.90	-1.73	77	42	58	-2	219	88	94
Trenton	1.13	7.78	-0.90	80	42	60	-1	291	97	94
South										
Cape May C.H.	1.31	6.51	-1.91	80	45	60	0	261	92	100
Downtown	1.79	8.10	-0.56	83	41	59	-2	304	100	96
Glassboro	2.16	7.58	-1.59	81	44	60	-1	336	142	100
Hammonton	1.30	6.75	-2.22	83	42	60	-1	321	134	94
Pomona	1.78	8.25	-0.17	80	43	59	-1	288	139	97
Seabrook	2.55	8.47	0.64	81	44	60	-2	341	133	100
South Harrison	1.68	7.80	-0.62	81	44	61	NA	333	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 MAY 12, 2008

ARUGULA	Good quality and quantity.
ASPARAGUS	Harvesting good quality and quantity.
BABY SPINACH & ARUGULA	Both harvesting in good quality. Spinach harvesting in good volume though arugula in fair to good quantities.
BEETS	Harvesting good quality in fair to good quantity.
CILANTRO	A good volume of good quality Spring planted becoming available.
COLLARDS	Harvesting very good quality in fair to good volume.
DANDELION	Good quality Spring planted becoming available.
DILL	Harvesting very good quality in fair to good volume.
KALE	Very good quality transplanted product now becoming available.
LEEKS & GREEN ONIONS	A fair volume of good quality over-wintered product is available now and for some time.
LETTUCE	Boston, Bibb, Red & Green Leaf, and Romaine all harvesting in very good quality and good quantities.
MINT	Good quality harvesting in fair to good quantity.
PARSLEY	Very good quality Spring planted curly and plain product available in good quantities.
RADISHES	Harvesting a good quantity of good quality product.
SPINACH	Good volume of excellent quality Spring planted becoming available now.
STRAWBERRIES	Early harvests of berries beginning this week, with increasing volume the next two weeks. The bulk of the crop will be harvested towards the end of the month, with lower volumes to continue through early June.
SWISS CHARD	A good volume of excellent quality Spring planted starting to become available now.

JERSEY FRESH FORECAST

BASIL	Likes warmer weather. Should be ready by mid-June.
BLUEBERRIES	Minor quantities of early varieties like Weymouth starting in mid-June. Much more widely planted Duke variety starting 3-4 days later with volume available a week after that.
CABBAGE	Won't be ready until late May.
CUCUMBERS	Harvesting light quantities of tunnel grown by late May or early June. Field grown will be available two weeks later, in mid-June. Pickles should be ready by the first week of June.
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Should begin harvesting around the end of May.
SQUASH	Should begin harvesting light quantities of Yellow/Zucchini started in tunnels by the end of May. Field grown by the 1 st or 2 nd week of June.
TURNIPS	Should begin harvesting around the end of May.