



**WEATHER ADVISORY FOR NEW JERSEY
AND SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA
ISSUED BY RUTGERS UNIVERSITY NEW
BRUNSWICK NJ
8 AM EDT TUE MAY 27 2008**

Rainfall amounts quarter of an inch with locally higher amounts today and tonight, none Wednesday. Winds for spraying southwest 10 to 15 mph today, northwest around 10 mph tonight, northwest 5 to 10 mph Wednesday. Relative humidity in percent 50 to 60 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 40 to 50 Wednesday. Dew points low 60s today then dropping to the mid 30s by Wednesday. Drying conditions fair at best today, becoming good Wednesday. Frost freeze or dew, no dew expected tonight but wetting from early showers is possible, light dew Wednesday night. Percent of possible sunshine 10 today, 90 Wednesday

There is a 60 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 should remain above freezing tonight but could drop to 27 to 31 Wednesday night.

Hay cutting runs the risk of wetting today but then drier air will return for Wednesday through Friday.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period June 3, 2008 to June 9, 2008 is calling for temperatures to average near normal and precipitation to total near normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am 5/27/08

Temperatures averaged much below normal, averaging 54 degrees north 56 degrees central, and 57 degrees south. Extremes were 80 degrees at Canoe Brook on May 26, 2008, and 36 degrees at Flemington on May 20, 2008.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.54 inches north, 0.61 inches central, and 0.59 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 0.68 inches at Glassboro on May 20, 2008 to May 21, 2008.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 98 percent north, 95 percent central, and 92 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 55 degrees north, 56 degrees central, and 57 degrees south.

Peach Tree Thinning Begins

Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday, May 25, 2008, were 4.5. Topsoil moisture was rated as 5% short, 85% adequate and 10% surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated as 80% adequate and 20% surplus. There were measurable amounts of rainfall for the week in most localities. Temperatures were below normal during most of the week across the Garden State. Emerged sweet corn began to yellow due to cold weather. Producers continued harvesting hay. Strawberry harvesting continued in north and south New Jersey. Producers thinned peach and apple trees. In the northern district, blueberries have finished the flowering stage. Other activities throughout the state included mowing, planting, and spraying.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, May 27, 2008

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.*			
	<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	0.48	12.93	2.13	78	37	55	-7	313	46	91
Canoe Brook	0.54	12.50	0.57	80	38	56	-6	312	70	94
Charlotteburg	0.58	13.18	1.43	77	37	53	-7	250	91	93
Flemington	0.59	12.25	0.94	77	36	55	-8	304	47	92
Newton	0.49	12.63	2.17	77	38	54	-7	353	158	94
Central										
Freehold	0.68	9.24	-2.04	77	37	55	-9	311	-3	94
Long Branch	0.61	11.12	-0.52	73	41	57	-6	247	-25	84
New Brunswick	0.62	10.95	-0.13	78	37	56	-8	320	-23	92
Toms River	0.54	11.02	-0.24	75	40	56	-7	319	24	79
Trenton	0.60	10.43	0.23	76	40	56	-9	393	13	82
South										
Cape May C.H.	0.54	8.53	-1.36	74	43	57	-7	369	32	78
Downstown	0.56	10.45	0.30	78	40	55	-10	410	17	83
Glassboro	0.75	10.37	-0.42	79	45	59	-6	461	84	83
Hammonton	0.54	8.85	-1.65	79	40	57	-8	441	72	77
Pomona	0.57	10.31	0.50	76	39	56	-8	398	85	78
Seabrook	0.56	10.45	1.16	75	44	58	-7	466	68	83
	0.59	11.11	1.09	76	46	58	NA	453	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 27, 2008

ARUGULA	Good quality and quantity.
ASPARAGUS	Harvesting good quality and quantity.
BABY SPINACH & ARUGULA	Both harvesting in good quality and quantity.
BEETS	Harvesting good quality in good quantity.
CILANTRO	A good volume of good quality Spring planted available.
COLLARDS	Harvesting very good quality in good volume.
DANDELION	Good quality Spring planted becoming available.
DILL	Harvesting very good quality in good volume.
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Harvesting fair to good quantities of very good quality product.
KALE	Very good quality new product becoming available.
LEEKS & GREEN ONIONS	A good 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 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 available now.
STRAWBERRIES	Harvesting a good quantity of very good quality product. The bulk of the crop will be harvested towards the end of the week, with lower volumes to continue through early June.
SWISS CHARD	A good volume of excellent quality Spring planted 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 mid-June.
CUCUMBERS & PICKLES	Harvesting light quantities of tunnel grown by mid-June. Field grown will be available in volume ten days to two weeks later. Tunnel started Pickles should be ready by the first week of June.
SQUASH	Should begin harvesting light quantities of Yellow/Zucchini started in tunnels by the end of the week. Quantities of field grown won't be available until mid-June.
TURNIPS	Should begin harvesting sometime later on next week.