



# WEATHER AND CROPS

## July 9, 2007

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Week Ending, July 8, 2007

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**WEATHER:** We started off the month of July rather quiet and cooler than normal as high pressure was in place across the Great Lakes region. This high pressure system moved across the Middle-Atlantic states through the early part of the week with below normal temperatures and no rainfall. That changed on July 4<sup>th</sup> as a warm front from the Ohio River Valley lifted north providing a rather soggy holiday with rainfall amounts averaging from a half inch up to one and half inch with some thunderstorms moving across the area. Then its associated cold front moved across the region on Thursday with additional showers and thunderstorms. By Friday, high pressure moved into the region with drier and more seasonable temperatures. For the week ending July 7<sup>th</sup>, temperatures averaged near to slightly below normal with precipitation amounts near to slightly below normal, especially in areas where no thunderstorms occurred.

**CROPS:** A couple of days of rain provided some much needed relief for the field crops across much of the state. There were 5.4 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated as 10 percent very short, 34 percent short, 54 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. The condition of the winter wheat was 7 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 19 percent excellent. Oat condition was 9 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. The condition of the hay was 9 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 16 percent excellent. Dry beans were 95 percent planted compared with 85 percent from last year and a five year average of 93 percent. The first cutting of alfalfa was 96 percent harvested compared with last year's 83 percent and 91 percent for the five year average. Ninety-six percent of the clover timothy hay mix was harvested compared with 68 percent last year and a five year average of 76 percent. Grass silage was 95 percent harvested compared with 79 percent last year and a five year average of 88 percent. The following comments are from across the state: In St. Lawrence County they received some much needed rain and the corn is still lush and green. Clinton County reported that the rain hampered second hay cutting, but the corn looks terrific. Extreme dry conditions persist in Ontario County where dry hay harvesting continued and the wheat crop is about ready to be combined. In Cortland County the corn is knee high. The wheat and oats in Onondaga County look good but are short, and the second cutting of hay is underway, but it is short also. In Herkimer County the fourth of July showers dampened parties, but helped farmers spirits and crops.

**FRUIT:** Apples were 4 percent poor condition, 10 percent fair, 51 percent good, and 35 percent excellent. Grapes were 8 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 44 percent good and 35 percent excellent. Peaches were 13 percent poor condition, 35 percent fair, 32 percent good and 20 percent excellent. Pears were 8 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 42 percent good and 17 percent excellent. In Onondaga County, strawberry and sweet cherry harvest was virtually over. Raspberry harvest was in full swing. The blueberry crop and grape crop continued to look good. In Albany County, strawberry harvest came to an end, and growers reported a good harvest. The apple crop was off to a good start and the apples were sizing nicely. In the Long Island fruit region, fruit sets appeared to be good in most vineyards. In the research vineyard, Malbec and Gewurztraminer were reported with clusters. Tocai Friulano and Malvasia Bianco had only a few clusters. However, other varieties will keep growers busy cluster thinning in the coming weeks.

**VEGETABLE:** Scattered rains helped some areas, while other areas still reported very dry conditions. Farm stands sold lettuce, cauliflower, zucchini, summer squash and the beginnings of the sweet corn. Planting of tomatoes was completed, compared to 96 percent last year. Lettuce condition was widely variable, ranging from fair to excellent with most of the in western New York in poor condition. Condition of onions was reported to be fair to good. Approximately 99 percent of sweet corn acreage was planted, compared to last year's average of 94 percent. Sweet corn condition was reported to be fair to excellent. Many reports from the field said the sweet corn condition is very good. Snap beans were 87 percent planted, same as last year's average. Cabbage planting across the state was 90 percent complete, compared to last year's average of 94 percent.

**LIVESTOCK:** Pasture conditions across much of the state were estimated to be in good condition. Pasture conditions were rated 10 percent very poor, 22 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 30 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Madison County reported that the pastures were in tough shape for this time of year. The pastures in Albany County are also showing signs of the dry weather with slow re-growth and reduced yields

**Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 8, 2007**

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° <sup>1/</sup>			Precipitation (Inches) <sup>1/</sup>			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm
<b><u>Hudson Valley</u></b>											
Albany	82	50	68	-4	126	1127	+172	0.51	-0.24	13.34	+2.46
Glens Falls	81	42	64	-6	98	892	+77	0.80	+0.16	10.64	+0.14
Poughkeepsie	86	47	68	-4	129	1205	+198	1.87	+0.96	15.61	+2.95
<b><u>Mohawk Valley</u></b>											
Boonville	77	42	61	-5	79	704	+88	0.43	-0.50	11.36	-3.34
<b><u>Champlain Valley</u></b>											
Plattsburgh	76	45	62	-8	87	825	-11	1.45	+0.80	11.29	+1.79
<b><u>St. Lawrence Valley</u></b>											
Canton	78	47	64	-4	99	846	+122	1.64	+0.90	9.51	-0.45
Massena	80	51	65	-4	107	894	+118	0.98	+0.28	8.87	-0.26
<b><u>Great Lakes</u></b>											
Buffalo	81	51	67	-4	121	1104	+204	0.91	+0.21	6.54	-3.83
Wales	79	42	62	-6	85	793	+83	1.41	+0.55	8.45	-4.05
Niagara Falls	83	49	67	-4	119	1061	+147	0.49	-0.16	6.15	-4.09
Rochester	86	50	67	-3	123	1151	+264	0.31	-0.32	6.27	-2.78
Watertown	77	40	64	-4	101	840	+121	0.43	-0.01	5.26	-3.14
<b><u>Central Lakes</u></b>											
Dansville	81	44	64	-7	97	961	+78	1.00	+0.24	6.99	-3.42
Geneva	84	49	66	-4	117	987	+126	0.31	-0.42	7.53	-2.89
Honeoye	82	43	63	-8	93	925	+32	1.13	+0.43	9.91	-0.38
Ithaca	81	43	63	-5	97	883	+107	1.34	+0.53	8.62	-2.30
Penn Yan	82	50	66	-4	116	1107	+246	0.77	+0.04	7.86	-2.56
Syracuse	84	50	68	-3	125	1065	+168	0.08	-0.83	8.97	-2.47
Warsaw	77	45	62	-5	85	801	+145	1.77	+0.93	11.11	-0.99
<b><u>Western Plateau</u></b>											
Angelica	79	36	59	-7	65	700	+60	0.94	0.00	8.89	-2.58
Elmira	84	39	65	-5	103	954	+126	1.00	+0.17	7.38	-3.22
Franklinville	81	36	61	-4	76	721	+143	0.68	-0.20	8.43	-3.64
Jamestown	82	41	63	-4	92	836	+172	0.14	-0.81	10.43	-2.97
<b><u>Eastern Plateau</u></b>											
Binghamton	79	48	65	-4	106	992	+192	0.80	-0.04	10.03	-1.02
Cobleskill	80	47	64	-4	101	857	+118	0.82	-0.03	15.14	+3.04
Morrisville	78	43	63	-4	90	803	+108	0.44	-0.41	10.20	-1.65
Norwich	82	42	63	-5	94	826	+89	0.70	-0.14	11.37	-0.79
Oneonta	86	44	66	+1	114	1005	+328	0.44	-0.47	14.41	+1.38
<b><u>Coastal</u></b>											
Bridgehamton	85	53	69	-2	135	1014	+159	1.75	+1.05	14.56	+2.37
New York	88	60	75	-2	174	1595	+306	1.20	+0.29	19.67	+7.45

<sup>1/</sup> Season accumulations are for April 1<sup>st</sup> to date. Weekly accumulations are through 7:00 AM Sunday Morning.

The information contained in this weekly release is obtained in cooperation with Cornell Cooperative Extension, USDA Farm Service Agency, the National Weather Service, Agricultural Weather Information Service and other knowledgeable persons associated with New York agriculture. Their cooperation is greatly appreciated.

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