



## Peach Blooms Thinned in Most Orchards

Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday, June 13, 2004, were 5.0. There were measurable amounts of rainfall during the week across most of the state. Temperatures were above normal the beginning of the week across the state, but then fell to below normal by the end of the week. Soil moisture and irrigation water supplies were both rated 100% adequate by our survey respondents. Farmers were busy fertilizing, cultivating, planting, spraying, and cutting hay. Soybean planting activities continued across the state. First cutting of alfalfa and other hay harvest progressed in the most fields. Intermittent rains prevented hay harvest activities in some localities. Vegetables were rated in mostly good condition. Harvest of zucchini and yellow squash continued across the state. Peppers were sizing up well, and cantaloupe was vining out nicely in the central district. There was a report of some phytophthora blight on some pepper plants in the south. Harvest of snap beans began in some central district fields. Cabbage harvest continued in the northern district. Cucumber harvest began in some fields in the south. Apple fruit set had finished in the central district, and fruit quality appeared to be good. The peach crop blooms were thinned in many orchards as fruit was sizing well. There was still a lot of bloom on cranberry plants. Blueberry harvest activities began in some fields. Strawberry harvest activities were near completion in the central district, but continued in the north. Livestock producers kept rotating pastures aggressively to take advantage of seasonal forage growth.

### JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR JUNE 14, 2004

Arugula, Spinach, & Dill - Harvesting fair to good quality in decreasing volume with the increased temperatures.

Asparagus - Good quality is still being harvested, though in minimal volume, as the temperatures rise and the season finishes up.

Baby Arugula & Baby Spinach - Harvesting in good quality and volume. Not as affected by the heat.

Basil - Harvesting good quality and volume.

Beets - Harvesting good quality and volume.

Blueberries - The early variety Weymouth started last week. Volume available in a few days. Duke variety started late last week, with volume early next week. Bluecrop variety after that. Fruit quality and size for all varieties is excellent.

Cabbage - Good quality Red, Savoy, and Green being harvested in good quantities.

Cilantro - Harvesting good quality and volume.

Collards - Harvesting good quality and fair volume.

Cucumbers - Harvesting good quality and volume.

Dandelions - Spring planted Pasquale variety available in good volume.

Escarole/Endive - Harvesting a fair volume of good quality Endive and Escarole.

Green Onions - Good quality and volume available.

Leeks - Spring planted starting though it will be a week or two before volume.

Lettuces - Harvesting fair to good quality lettuces in good though decreasing volume. Could be around until early July though warm temperatures could hasten that schedule by a week or so.

Parsley - Good quality and quantity of spring planted available.

Pickles (Kirby cucumbers) - Good quality and quantity available.

Radishes - Finishing up.

Squashes - Good quality Yellow and Zucchini being harvested in good quantity.

Turnips - Harvesting good quality and fair to good volume.

### JERSEY FRESH FORECAST

Butternut Squash - Normally planted for early fall harvest, growers planted them even earlier this year for mid to late July harvest when there's less supply and better prices to farmers.

Cantaloupes - Become available in late June. Volume available at beginning of July.

Eggplant - Planted a little bit later this year due to wet and cool spring conditions, harvest will begin in second or third week of July. Volume increasing each week thereafter.

Nectarines - The early variety Eastern Glo is expected around the third week of July with volume by the end of the month.

Peaches - All varieties are tracking for earlier than normal harvesting. The early yellow variety Sentry will start just after the 4th of July with volume expected a week or so later. The early white variety White Lady is expected around the third week of July with volume by the end of the month.

Peppers - Planted a little bit later this year due to wet and cool spring conditions, harvest will begin the first or second week of July. Volume increasing each week thereafter.

Sweet Corn - Harvest should begin the last week of June. Good quality and fair quantity expected for the 4th of July. Peak of season should be around July 20th. Good wholesale availability until at least the week after Labor Day. Quantity and quality varies after that due to fall insect pressures.

Tomatoes - Field grown begins the third week of June with limited quantities and higher prices. Volume available around mid-July.