



NEW JERSEY WEEKLY CROP WEATHER

New Jersey

Agricultural Statistics Service

In Cooperation With:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Agricultural Marketing Service
U.S. Department of Commerce/N.O.A.A.
Rutgers University

NOAA WEATHER RADIO STATIONS

Allentown
WXL-39 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.40 Megahertz.
Atlantic City
KHB-38 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.40 Megahertz.
New York City
KWO-35 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 160.55 Megahertz.
Philadelphia
KIH-28 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.475 Megahertz.

NEW JERSEY AUCTIONS

Vineland
Phone: (856)691-0721
Sales 10:00AM Daily except Sunday.
Landisville
Phone: (856)697-2273
Direct Sales Daily
Swedesboro
Phone: (856)476-0313
Hightstown
Phone: (609)448-0193
Auction Sales Mon-Wed-Fri-7pm

**Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania
Issued by Rutgers University New Brunswick NJ
8 am EDT Tuesday, May 31, 2005**

Rainfall amounts, none through Wednesday.

Winds for spraying, north 5 to 10 mph today then east late, light and variable tonight, southeast 5 to 10 mph Wednesday.

Relative humidity in percent, 40 to 50 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 40 to 50 Wednesday.

Dew points, 50 to 55 through Wednesday.

Drying conditions, good today, good Wednesday.

Frost freeze or dew, light dew tonight and Wednesday night.

Percent of possible sunshine, 60 today, 60 Wednesday.

There is 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.

Temperatures in the representative cranberry bogs should remain above freezing tonight and Wednesday night.

Hay cutting will continue to see good drying for much of the week with modest humidity levels and little threat of rain.

Four inch soil temperatures are in the low 60s north and mid 60s central and south. Soil temperatures will increase over the next several days.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period June 7, 2005, through June 13, 2005, is calling for temperatures to average below normal and precipitation to total below normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8 am May 30, 2005

Temperatures averaged much below normal averaging 58 degrees north, 59 degrees central, and 59 degrees south. Extremes were 83 degrees at New Brunswick and Toms River on May 28, 2005, and 42 degrees at Freehold on May 24, 2005.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.65 inches north, 0.81 inches central, and 0.35 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 0.66 inches at Toms River on May 25, 2005 through May 26, 2005.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 82 percent north, 94 percent central, and 88 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 56 degrees north, 57 degrees central, and 58 degrees south.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending 8 am Monday, May 30, 2005

Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures				Growing Degree Days		Soil Moisture
	Last Week	Since March 1		Last Week				1/		
		Total	Dept.*	Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*	Total	Dept.*	
- Inches -			- Degrees -				- Base 50°F -			
NORTH										
Belvidere Bridge	DATA NOT AVAILABLE									
Canoe Brook	.49	10.11	-2.34	78	47	58	-5	382	89	82
Charlotteburg	.81	12.96	.70	80	43	57	-4	277	77	76
Flemington	.55	12.36	.58	82	47	58	-6	330	20	87
Newton	.77	10.96	.05	79	46	58	-4	297	56	80
CENTRAL										
Freehold	.97	13.51	1.75	82	42	59	-6	370	-2	93
Long Branch	DATA NOT AVAILABLE									
New Brunswick	.86	11.08	-.50	83	47	60	-6	363	-40	96
Toms River	1.04	12.22	.50	83	48	58	-5	289	-58	82
Trenton	.37	9.54	-1.10	82	45	59	-7	367	-77	80
SOUTH										
Cape May C.H.	.33	11.02	.71	80	47	58	-7	234	-161	79
Downstown	.25	10.68	.10	81	46	58	-9	324	-134	80
Glassboro	.33	11.53	.28	81	48	60	-6	429	-11	79
Hammonton	.41	10.78	-.18	82	48	59	-7	354	-78	78
Pomona	.57	11.16	.95	82	48	59	-6	275	-95	86
Seabrook	.21	11.36	1.65	82	49	60	-7	465	2	71
South Harrison	.46	11.66	.60	80	48	59	NA	408	NA	NA

*Departure from normal.

1/ Growing degree days since March 1, 2005, total and departure from normal or long term average.

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

Vegetable Harvest and Field Crop Planting Activities Continue

Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday, May 29, 2005, were 5.6. Topsoil moisture was rated 17% short, 65% adequate, and 18% surplus. Irrigation water supply was rated 100% adequate. There were measurable amounts of rainfall during the week across most of the state. Temperatures were below normal for the week. Agricultural producers continued field preparation for summer crops. Other activities included field crop planting, fertilizing, herbicide and pesticide spraying, tending greenhouses, and transplanting greenhouse crops. Planting of soybeans and field corn continued throughout the state. Wheat heading neared completion. There was a report of leaf beetle in some wheat fields in the central district. The first cutting of hay continued. Planting of sweet potatoes began in the central district. Summer vegetable seeding continued. Sweet corn started to green up in the northern and central districts. There was harvest of leek, chive, arugula, green onions, mustard, dandelion, radishes, cilantro, beets, collards, dill, kale, Boston lettuce, green and red leaf lettuce, Romaine lettuce, escarole, Swiss chard, and mint. Harvest of over-wintered spinach neared completion. Harvest of asparagus continued. Early planted pea plants had passed flowering in some southern localities. Field crops rated in fair to good condition across the state. Cranberry crop began to bloom. Strawberry plants showed good flower set, but harvest was delayed in some northern fields because of cold soil temperatures. Pasture condition was rated mostly fair.

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR MAY 31, 2005

Arugula & Baby Arugula - Being harvested in good volume and quality.

Asparagus - Good quality being harvested in good volume.

Beets - Harvest just began last week but already into good quantity and quality.

Cilantro & Dill - Spring planted available in good quantity and good quality.

Collards - Just begun harvesting in good quality.

Dandelions - Spring planted available in fair quantity and good quality.

Escarole/Endive - Minor quantities of product started under plastic last week but the main harvest has just begun.

Green Onions & Leeks - A bit of over-wintered product is still available. Transplanted product should be available by mid to third week of June. Spring planted varieties due in July.

Lettuces - Harvesting Red and Green Leaf, Boston, and Romaine in good quantities and quality.

Parsley - Spring planted just starting in light quantity and good quality.

Radishes - Being harvested in good volume and quality.

Spinach & Baby Spinach - Both available in good quantity and quality.

Strawberries - The harvest has begun with fair quantities of good quality berries available. The bulk of the commercial crop will be harvested this week with lower volumes to continue through the first week of June. Matted row varieties are just coming into harvest in Central Jersey and should be starting later this week in Northern areas. Our berries are picked when ripe and have more red interior color than white since they're physically more mature and ripe, with a large berry size and excellent taste. The commercial Chandler variety is also grown in raised beds and under black plastic.

JERSEY FRESH FORECAST

Basil - Should start harvesting later next week some time.

Blueberries - Minor quantities of early varieties like Weymouth starting around June 18th. Much more widely planted Duke variety starting 3-4 days later with volume available a week after that.

Cabbage - Harvest should begin in early June.

Cucumbers - Should begin harvesting tunnel grown product by early June. Field grown will become available by mid-June.

Squash - Should begin harvesting minor quantities of Yellow and Zucchini grown in tunnels by the end of the week. Field grown by about the third week of June.

Turnips - Should begin harvesting around the end of May.