



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

RUTGERS WEEKLY FORECAST

*Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania
Issued by Rutgers University New Brunswick NJ
7 am EDT Monday October 14, 2002*

Rainfall amounts none through Tuesday.

Winds for spraying, north 10 to 20 mph today, northeast 5 to 10 mph tonight, becoming east 10 to 15 mph Tuesday.

Relative humidity in percent, 35 to 45 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 50 to 60 Tuesday.

Dew points, low 30s today, low to mid 30s tonight, low 40s Tuesday.

Drying conditions good today, fair Tuesday.

Frost freeze or dew, heavy dew south with scattered frost central and north with some freezing temperatures extreme north tonight, no dew but wetting in precipitation Tuesday night.

Percent of possible sunshine, 90 today, 40 Tuesday.

There is a near zero 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.

Late season hay cutting will see good drying today and fair on Tuesday but then significant rain moving in Tuesday night and Wednesday.

Temperatures in the representative cranberry bogs could fall to 21 to 25 tonight but should remain above freezing due to clouds Tuesday night.

Estimated soil moisture in percent of field capacity is near 100 over the entire region. Soil moisture will decrease slightly over the next couple of days before more significant rainfall Tuesday night and Wednesday.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period October 21, 2002 to October 27, 2002 is calling for temperatures to average below normal and precipitation to total below normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am 10/14/02

Temperatures averaged above normal. Extremes were 81 degrees at Atlantic City Marina, on October 8, 2002 and 38 degrees at Long Valley on October 9, 2002.

Weekly rainfall averaged 3.79 inches north, 3.79 inches central, and 1.97 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 2.87 inches at Newton on October 11, 2002 to October 12, 2002.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 90 percent north, 82 percent central, and 64 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 54 degrees north, 62 degrees central, and 64 degrees south.

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING 8 AM MONDAY 10/14/02

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.*			
- Inches - - Degrees - - Base 50°F -										
NORTH										
Belvidere Bridge	4.09	30.97	.96	74	40	55	2	3335	648	99
Canoe Brook	3.63	34.61	3.02	78	42	57	3	3492	787	99
Charlotteburg	DATA NOT AVAILABLE									
Flemington	3.60	34.26	4.16	74	39	55	1	3334	560	100
Long Valley	3.21	25.55	-7.08	60	38	52	0	2548	195	100
Newton	4.44	30.51	1.19	71	39	53	2	3063	688	99
CENTRAL										
Freehold	4.28	30.79	1.52	78	45	58	2	3683	701	100
Long Branch	4.58	33.31	3.67	77	46	59	3	3416	490	99
New Brunswick	4.36	33.53	3.84	78	43	57	1	3520	406	100
Pemberton	DATA NOT AVAILABLE									
Toms River	3.16	32.38	1.95	79	44	61	5	3585	664	100
Trenton	2.57	28.64	.64	76	44	59	2	3617	371	98
SOUTH										
A.C. Marina	.93	22.37	-2.66	81	52	65	7	3851	821	62
Cape May C.H.	2.11	25.71	-.59	78	48	64	4	3896	864	97
Downtown	2.02	26.70	-.77	77	43	60	2	3685	408	94
Glassboro	2.80	25.27	-3.72	77	40	59	2	4019	792	94
Hammonton	1.81	26.41	-2.49	79	43	61	4	3680	449	93
Pomona	1.59	25.95	-.11	79	44	61	5	3666	665	98
Seabrook	2.55	28.65	2.03	79	50	62	4	4111	812	98
South Harrison	2.51	26.68	-1.66	77	46	61	N/A	3920	N/A	N/A

*Departure from normal.

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

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

AGRICULTURE

Temperatures averaged above normal last week. A slow moving low pressure system triggered storms and showers across much of the region on Thursday. Rains were heavy at times, with some localities receiving over three inches before the skies finally cleared Sunday afternoon. Outdoor activities included equipment repair, harvesting vegetables, soybeans, and field corn. Days suitable for field work averaged 4.1. Top soil moisture was rated 87% adequate and 13% surplus. Small grain producers were finishing up fall plantings. Producers reported emergence of winter wheat and barley stands in some areas due to recent rains. Field corn and soybean harvest continued as weather permitted. Corn and soybean yields remain light, with low test weights reported by producers. Vegetable producers continued harvesting broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, and lettuce. Sweet potato harvest was also underway in some areas. Apple harvest was winding down in most areas. Cranberry harvest was in full swing, with crop condition rated mostly good.

SOIL MOISTURE TABLE

	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	PREVIOUS YEAR
VERY SHORT	0%	0%	0%
SHORT	0%	47%	42%
ADEQUATE	87%	53%	58%
SURPLUS	13%	0%	0%

RANGE AND PASTURE

	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK	PREVIOUS YEAR
VERY POOR	0%	0%	0%
POOR	0%	10%	0%
FAIR	67%	80%	56%
GOOD	33%	10%	44%
EXCELLENT	0%	0%	0%

*JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR OCTOBER 14, 2002

Acorn Squash – Smaller sizes being seen due to the early growing season dry heat. Less quantity this year as growers scaled back their fall plantings. Low prices are causing some product to remain in the field.

Butternut Squash – Smaller sizes being seen due to the early growing season dry heat. Less quantity this year as growers scaled back their fall plantings. Low prices are causing some product to remain in the field.

Cabbage – Green, Red, and Savoy available in increasing quantities. The cooler fall temperatures are great for quality. All varieties peaking but low prices are causing some product to remain in the field.

Cauliflower – Quantity and quality available for the next two weeks.

Collards & Escarole/Endive – Increasing quantities available each week. The cooler fall temperatures are great for quality. All varieties peaking but low prices are causing some product to remain in the field.

Cranberries – Look for harvest to begin this week. Quantity will build over several weeks and be at peak during November. Available through Christmas.

Cucumbers - Good quality though minimal quantity available. Less quantity this year as growers scaled back their fall planting plans. Finishing up soon.

Eggplant – Good quality and decreasing quantities through the end of the month. Size has been less due to hot and dry growing conditions. Finishing up soon.

Italian Eggplant – Good quality and decreasing quantities through the end of the month. Size has been less due to hot and dry growing conditions. Finishing up soon.

Sicilian Eggplant – Good quality and decreasing quantities through the end of the month. Size has been less due to hot and dry growing conditions. Finishing up soon.

Greens – The prolonged drought and high heat has caused some growers to scale back on their fall planting plans. Expect a decreased quantity overall of fall greens. Spinach, Boston, and Romaine lettuce are being harvested in quantity now. Fall greens will be harvested until frost next month.

Green Beans – Good quality though minimal quantity and size variability. Finishing up.

Green Onions – Good quality and quantity available.

Herbs – Increasing quantities available now for Basil, Mint, Mustard, Cilantro, Dill, Parsley, Arugula, and Baby Arugula as the cooler fall temperatures will increase quality, and quantity. All varieties peaking. Less fall quantities of herbs as growers have scaled back on their planting plans.

Leeks - Good quality and increasing quantity of June planted varieties available.

Napa Cabbage – Though quantity and size had been less with the hot and dry summer weather, this trend is now reversing as the cooler fall temperatures are increasing quality and quantity.

Peppers – Good quality though minimal quantity available. Finishing up.

Pickles (Kirby cucumbers) – Good quality and minimal quantity. Size has been less due to the hot and dry growing conditions. Finishing up soon.

Plum Tomatoes – Good quality and minimal quantities available. Finishing up.

Pumpkins – Available in increasing quantities each week. Long term heat and lack of rain created tough growing conditions that will mean less quantity and size than last year. Quality should be excellent though as there has been a lack of disease pressure.

Shanghai Bok Choi – Though quantity and size had been less with the hot and dry summer weather, this trend is now reversing as the cooler fall temperatures are increasing quality and quantity.

Sweet Corn – Finishing up.

Sweet Potatoes – Quality and increasing quantities each week.

Tomatoes – Good quality and minimal quantity available. Finishing up.

White Potatoes – Good quantity and quality.

Yellow Squash – Good quality and decreasing quantity available. Size has been less due to the hot and dry weather. Finishing up soon.

Zucchini - Good quality and decreasing quantity available. Size has been less due to the hot and dry weather. Finishing up soon.

**PROVIDED BY THE NEW JERSEY STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.*