



WEATHER AND CROPS

July 30, 2012

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Week Ending, July 29, 2012

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WEATHER: Beneficial rainfall occurred across much of the state as low pressure systems moved across the region producing showers and thunderstorms. Very heavy rainfall occurred on Saturday July 28th from slow moving storms which resulted in urban and small stream flooding across portions of east central New York with flash flooding occurring across the southeastern portion of the state, lower Hudson Valley, the New York Metropolitan area and Long Island.

CROPS: There were 5.1 days suitable for fieldwork during the week. Soil moisture was rated 33 percent very short, 46 percent short, and 21 percent adequate. Hay crops were rated 30 percent poor, 46 percent fair, 22 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Condition of oats were 2 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 66 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Oats were 43 percent harvested compared with 12 percent last year. Wheat was rated 4 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 69 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Corn was rated 13 percent poor, 41 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. Soybeans were rated 8 percent poor, 35 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. The second cutting of alfalfa hay was 85 percent complete compared with 86 percent last year. Clover-timothy second cut was 70 percent complete compared with 71 percent a year ago. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Much needed rains in Jefferson County improved the corn condition. More rain would be welcome. Soybeans continue to look good. Hay crop yields are low and still need more rain. Most of Lewis County received much needed rains which will provide some temporary relief to crops and help with corn pollination. In St. Lawrence County, just over an inch of rain in an all-day event may have saved the season for many farmers whose corn was showing the effects of the extremely dry month. Dry conditions continued in Niagara County. Grasses remained relatively dormant. Alfalfa is short. Some rain finally arrived at the end of the week in Ontario County. Now it is wait and see if it was enough and soon enough for the crops. Some corn was already tasseled, so producers are not sure if the rain was in time. In Cayuga and Oswego Counties, drought conditions reached D1 levels. Well managed operations have completed second and third cutting of hay. Yields are down 80 percent from typical harvest on those acres. Much needed rains reached most areas of Cortland County. Grass is showing some regrowth. Patches of corn are still dry and curled. Many fields reached tassel but were much shorter than usual. Oats are yielding well. Madison County crops are suffering, corn is curling, and soybeans are not growing. Hay crops are severely limited, affected by both the drought and the potato leafhopper. Winter wheat harvest was just about complete while oat harvest was just beginning in the southern tier of the county. Yields for both have been very good. In Albany County, much needed rains improved crops greatly, especially field corn. Much of the early planted corn was tasselling. Some damage to field corn from hail was reported. In Montgomery and Fulton Counties, some corn and soybean crops were too far gone to recover even with recent rains. However, everything is greening up and growing again. In Saratoga County, much needed rain helped field corn conditions. Improvement was also seen in second and third cut hay crops due to the rain. In Broome County, alfalfa fields are showing signs of recovering and the rain has stimulated regrowth. Corn fields that had been stagnate are completing the tassel stage and are showing signs of silking. In Delaware and Sullivan Counties, most corn has tasseled and is currently silking so the rains may be of help for the ears, but most corn is on the short side. Hay fields are greening back up and growth is starting again.

FRUIT: Apple conditions were 46 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 23 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Peach conditions were 22 percent poor, 7 percent fair, 69 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Pear conditions were 20 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Sweet cherry harvest was 80 percent complete, down from 100 percent previous year. Sweet cherry conditions were 73 percent poor, 8 percent fair, 16 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Tart cherry harvest was 66 percent complete, behind the 94 percent harvested this time last year. Tart cherry conditions were 82 percent poor, 9 percent fair, 8 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Grape conditions were 72 percent poor, 8 percent fair, and 20 percent good. Strawberry conditions were 37 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 29 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. In Long Island vineyards, grapes started to ripen. With acids dropping and sugar increasing, fruit will become attractive to birds and other wildlife. Growers will be applying protective netting soon.

VEGETABLE: Lack of substantial rain was affecting vegetable crops. Sweet corn was 12 percent harvested compared to 15 percent last year. Condition of sweet corn was 18 percent poor, 40 percent fair, 39 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Onions were 10 percent harvested compared to 11 percent last year. Onions were 10 percent poor, 20 percent fair, and 70 percent good. Snap beans were at 100 percent planted. Snap Beans were 18 percent harvested compared to 10 percent last year. Condition of snap beans was 7 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. Cabbage was at 15 percent harvested compared to 11 percent last year. Condition of cabbage was 26 percent poor, 45 percent fair, 28 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Tomatoes were 10 percent harvested compared to 10 percent last year. Condition of tomatoes was 3 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 72 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Lettuce was 16 percent harvested.

LIVESTOCK: Pastures were brown with no growth. Pastures were helped by rain storms. Pasture was rated 23 percent very poor, 39 percent poor, 28 percent fair, and 10 percent good.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 29, 2012

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° ^{1/}			Precipitation (Inches) ^{1/}				
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm	
<u>Hudson Valley</u>												
Albany County AP	87	59	75	+3	174	1784	+344	2.20	+1.49	15.56	+2.56	
Glens Falls AP	87	58	73	+4	162	1553	+298	1.39	+0.68	15.16	+2.65	
Poughkeepsie AP	90	56	76	+4	186	1922	+417	1.96	+1.12	12.79	-2.55	
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>												
Boonville	85	51	68	+2	130	1174	+197	1.26	+0.35	14.12	-3.24	
<u>Champlain Valley</u>												
Plattsburgh Int AP	89	55	71	+2	150	1451	+167	1.39	+0.63	9.83	-1.77	
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>												
Canton	88	50	70	+2	143	1374	+239	0.92	+0.12	13.64	+1.36	
Massena	92	50	71	+2	148	1482	+276	0.91	+0.16	11.31	+0.01	
<u>Great Lakes</u>												
Buffalo Int AP	87	59	75	+4	176	1808	+438	0.58	-0.16	7.49	-4.95	
Wales	89	51	71	+4	148	1434	+332	2.10	+1.32	11.30	-3.54	
Niagara Falls	89	57	75	+5	176	1770	+389	0.83	+0.17	8.36	-3.78	
Rochester NY	95	57	75	+5	178	1787	+449	1.84	+1.20	10.44	-0.42	
Watertown Intl	92	49	73	+5	165	1578	+444	1.97	+1.50	9.38	-0.29	
<u>Central Lakes</u>												
Dansville AP	94	55	75	+5	176	1854	+518	2.01	+1.38	10.11	-2.28	
Geneva Research	92	59	74	+3	168	1676	+359	2.04	+1.41	10.42	-1.94	
Honeoye	92	52	72	+1	158	1597	+227	2.18	+1.55	11.13	-0.99	
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	92	50	73	+5	163	1556	+365	0.64	-0.12	10.53	-2.71	
Penn Yan	92	59	74	+4	172	1766	+449	2.29	+1.66	10.62	-1.73	
Syracuse	96	57	77	+7	193	1897	+544	1.40	+0.57	9.43	-4.56	
Warsaw	86	57	70	+3	140	1375	+349	3.06	+2.30	15.15	+0.79	
<u>Western Plateau</u>												
Hornell Almond Dam	91	51	71	+3	147	1411	+300	1.56	+0.93	13.39	+1.02	
Elmira	94	54	75	+5	173	1673	+407	0.52	-0.18	9.54	-3.30	
Franklinville	87	48	70	+5	139	1327	+408	1.64	+0.85	13.90	-0.57	
Jamestown 4NE	89	51	71	+5	148	1474	+438	1.59	+0.68	14.45	-1.64	
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>												
Binghamton/Broo	87	57	73	+4	159	1562	+333	1.09	+0.32	13.75	+0.37	
Cobleskill	87	55	72	+5	157	1480	+344	1.52	+0.76	12.00	-2.43	
Morrisville	89	53	72	+5	156	1341	+259	2.00	+1.23	13.30	-0.93	
Norwich	86	50	71	+3	149	1464	+325	1.54	+0.84	13.32	-1.09	
Oneonta	92	54	74	+8	171	1544	+493	2.10	+1.26	12.50	-3.18	
<u>Coastal</u>												
Bridgehamton	84	63	74	+2	167	1674	+336	0.85	+0.16	13.76	-0.39	
New York LGA	95	70	80	+4	213	2307	+431	0.75	-0.16	15.82	+0.82	

^{1/} Season accumulations are for April 1st 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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